

BIG SPRING HERALD

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"Reflecting a Proud Community"

50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

FRIDAY

February 2, 2001

WEATHER

Tonight:



PARTLY CLOUDY

TONIGHT 29°-32° SATURDAY 60°-65°

Memorial service set for veterans

Big Spring VA Medical Center will conduct a memorial service Saturday for all veterans who have died in the last year.

Chaplain Dean Thomas will lead the service beginning at 11 a.m. in the chapel.

Family members of all local veterans who have died are invited as is anyone who has lost a family member or friend who served.

Also during the service, Thomas will honor two people who have been recognized for sacrificial giving to veterans during the year. They will be given Legion of Honor certificates.

Those present at Saturday's service will hear the service hymns for each branch of service, and be asked to stand or otherwise indicate which their loved one represented.

WEEKEND TICKET

TODAY

Spring City Senior Citizens country/western dance, 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. All seniors invited.

SATURDAY

Howard County Scottish Rite Club, 8 a.m., Masonic Lodge, 21st & Lancaster. Breakfast served.

The Heritage Museum, 510 Scurry, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The Potton House, 200 Gregg, a restored historic home, is open from 1 to 5 p.m. A one-time admission fee of \$2 for adults and \$1 for children and senior citizens are encouraged.

Big Spring Symphony concert, "2001: A Space Odyssey," 8 p.m., Municipal Auditorium. Tickets are \$10 each, \$8 for seniors, \$5 students.

Dance, 8:30 p.m., Eagles Lodge, 704 West Third.

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Find us online at: www.bigspringherald.com

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.

Local high school musicians to join symphony performance

By DEBBIE L. JENSEN
Features Editor

Ten local high school band musicians will join the Big Spring Symphony for its first concert of the new year on Saturday.

Part of the 8 p.m. concert will feature the familiar music from the movie, "2001: A Space Odyssey," which came from the classical piece, "Also Sprach Zarathustra" by Richard Strauss.

Big Spring High School band members will join the performance in an ongoing effort to recognize the best young musical talent in the community, symphony organizers said.

"These Big Spring High School band students were chosen by director Rocky Harris to perform with the symphony," said Stan Hanes, symphony association president. "We are trying to honor some of our best student musicians."

The young performers are

SPACE ODYSSEY

When: 8 p.m. Saturday
Where: Municipal Auditorium
Tickets: \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors, \$5 for students

Chelsea Churchwell, Breck Simmons, Chelsea Helsley, Jamie Pineda, Valeria Aguirre, Aaron Schooler, Daniel Mata, Ricky Yanez,

Jessica Ray and Krystal Gonzales.

Dr. Gary Lewis of Texas Tech University will conduct the ensemble for the concert, which takes place at the Municipal Auditorium. The symphony will also perform a viola concerto with guest soloist Dr. Mark Neumann of Texas Tech University.

Tickets for Saturday's concert are \$10 each for adults, \$8 for seniors and \$5 for students. They are available at the Big Spring Area

Chamber of Commerce, Heritage Museum, Blum's Jewelers, Dunlap's and First Bank of West Texas.

The season of Big Spring Symphony Association programs will continue on March 24, when Amarillo's Little Theatre will present "Love Always... Patsy Cline."

May 4-5, the Harrington String Quartet and the Lone Star Brass will perform, first for children in the local fourth and fifth grades, then at a community concert.



Misty Starkey of United Blood Services takes blood from VA Medical Center employee Debbie Phillippe on Thursday afternoon. Almost 60 people attempted to give blood during the drive.

Scouts set for annual food drive

By LYNDEL MOODY
Staff Writer

Boy Scouts of America will be coming to your neighborhood early Saturday to pick up donated food bags for their annual "Good Turn Food Drive."

The drive is held to collect nonperishable food for area charity agencies to replenish their stocks following the holidays.

The public can help by filling the H-E-B bag found in Thursday's edition of the Big Spring Herald with can goods. Then they can place

the items on a door so the bag is visible from the street.

According to Clem Jones, project coordinator, food collected in this area will be given to the Salvation Army and the West Texas Food Bank.

"Their food stocks are usually low after the holidays," Jones said.

Beginning at 9 a.m., area scouts and adult leaders will hit the streets of the Big Spring and Coahoma to collect donated food items.

"It's a fun thing for them," said Jones. "They also get to

do something for people who are less fortunate than themselves."

Those who forget to leave their bags out by 9 or the early time is inconvenient for them can bring their donated items to the Big Spring Herald north parking lot on Scurry.

A white horse trailer, donated by Leland Pierce, will be placed on the parking lot to collect the bags. The trailer will be there until 1 p.m.

After the collection, the

See FOOD DRIVE, Page 2A

Stenholm urges 'restraint' in spending budget surplus

HERALD Staff Report

Any surplus that Congress looks at in considering the budget should exclude Social Security and Medicare trust funds, said U.S. Rep. Charles Stenholm, who has introduced a resolution urging budgetary restraint.

"If Congress can show a



STENHOLM

little prudence now, our nation can have the economic benefits of tax cuts, national debt reduction and taking care of basic needs, like the future of Social Security and improved public education," said Stenholm, D-Abilene.

The resolution was filed by Stenholm and Rep. Dennis Moore of Kansas, co-chairmen of the Blue Dog Coalition Task Force on the Budget and Social Security.

It expresses the concern that budget projections are "often inaccurate," and that

spending caps will expire in fiscal year 2002. It further emphasizes that Social Security and Medicare trust funds continue to be counted in general fund revenue.

"We're just asking Congress to acknowledge the need for reasonable and comprehensive budget assumptions before jumping into a course of action our nation may later regret," Stenholm said.

"We need to keep in mind that those rosy budget scenarios are just projections that may or may not materi-

alize," he added. "Congress needs to look at the entire context of obligations and promises, and then agree on reasonable surplus figures as well as their future use among competing priorities."

In making his point, Stenholm noted that the Congressional Budget Office predicted eight years ago that there would be a \$13 billion deficit in 2001.

"But the reality is that we now have a \$236 billion surplus," said Stenholm. "I am glad those projections were

wrong, because it has meant great prosperity for our country. At the very least, this should serve as a cautionary tale for future planning."

The resolution asks that Congress recognize the uncertainty of long-term economic forecasts, account for "realistic" assumptions in the growth of discretionary spending and take into account that the federal government will incur "sizeable, future obligations" upon the retirement of the baby-boom generation.

Enrollment

Spring totals verify student numbers up for Howard College

By LYNDEL MOODY
Staff Writer

Final student enrollment figures for the Howard County Junior College District spring semester is in and shows a growth of almost 300 students compared to spring 2000.

"We had 2,399 students enrolled in the fall compared to the 2,326 students enrolled this spring," said Linda Conway, Howard College vice president for instruction. "Enrollment is down a little bit from last semester but it traditional falls in the spring."

The Big Spring campus has 1,100 students enrolled, an increase of 124 students from last year, while the San Angelo Campus has 943 students enrolled, up from last year by 63 students.

The Lamesa campus increased by 43 students this year with 149 students enrolled while 119 students attending the SouthWest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf shows an increase of 13 students from last spring. Fifteen federal correction



CONWAY

inmates are enrolled in courses, up by one since last year.

Also showing an increase is the number of academic contact hours taken by students.

"We are estimating an increase of 50,000 credit contact hours for this semester alone compared to spring 1999, the last base year," Conway said.

A contact hour is an hour a student is in a classroom with an instructor.

The state legislature uses contact hours along with the average statewide cost rate for each course in a formula to figure funding for each junior college.

The district could enter this legislative biennial budget session with almost 110,000 more credit contact hours than the last base year.

Conway attributes much of the growth in contact hours to an increase of high school students enrolled in concurrent classes.

While the district continues to gain more students, it hopes to add two new offerings — a medical assistant and a surgical technician certificate program — to its vocational training courses.

Also, the district is considering the idea of reinstating a nursing program at the Lamesa campus.

Big Spring man killed in one-vehicle rollover

By CARL GRAHAM
Staff Writer

A 42-year-old Big Spring man was killed in a one-vehicle rollover Thursday, just north of the city.

William Jack Watson, 42, of 1606 Kentucky, was pronounced dead at 3:27 p.m. from injuries he suffered in the accident.

According to Department of Public Safety communications officer Jim Nance, Watson was driving a 1990 Chevrolet pick-up south on U.S. Highway 87 a mile north of Big Spring when the vehicle left the road at around 2:15. Watson apparently made an attempt to

get back on the road but over-corrected, causing the truck to go into a broadside skid. The DPS report stated that the pickup flipped three times.

Watson, who apparently was not wearing a seat belt, was ejected from the vehicle. According to the DPS report, the pickup rolled over Watson before coming to rest several yards from the highway.

Watson was taken to Scenic Mountain Medical Center emergency room where he was pronounced dead by Dr. Carlos Garza.

The accident was investi-

See FATALITY, Page 2A



Big Spring Police Cpl. Ralph Rollins investigates an accident north of the city on U.S. Highway 87 Thursday that claimed the life of local resident William Jack Watson.

FEBRUARY 2001

OBITUARIES

Everett Blackburn

Everett Blackburn, 46, died Tuesday, Jan. 30, 2001, at his residence. Funeral service will be 4 p.m. Friday, Feb. 2, at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. Interment will follow in Trinity Memorial Park.

He was born on Feb. 9, 1954, in Scott City, Kan., and married Gloria Mendez on June 10, 2000, in Big Spring. He came to Big Spring from Emporia State University, Emporia, Kan., and spent 11 years with the Big Spring Independent School District, eight years at the high school and three years at Washington Elementary, before joining Howard College 11 years ago.

Survivors include: his wife, Gloria Blackburn of Big Spring; one daughter, Sandra Mendez of Lubbock; his mother, Gladys Blackburn of Scott City, Kan.; one aunt, Elva Jean Latas of Larned, Kan.; one uncle, Wayne Blackburn of Rozel, Kan.; and cousins, Dale and Betsy Rosenthal, Bill and Debbie Knight, Tom and Richard Maynard and Hillary Allvson and Riley Maynard, all of Garden City, Kan. He is also survived by his father-in-law and mother-in-law, Horace and Pilar Yanez; brother-in-law, Johnny Yanez; sister-in-law, her children and grandchildren, Irma, Valerie, Jeremy, Aron and Isiah Rios; sister-in-law, Velma and her husband, Luis and their children, Priscilla, Jonathan and Bernadette Flores; brother-in-law, Ricky Sr. and his wife, Alma and their children, Vanessa, Ricky Jr., Christopher and Michael Yanez and sister-in-law, Maria and her husband, Jesse Salazar.

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

Funeral service for Beauna J. McGregor, 85, of Carrollton, formerly of Knott, is pending with Myers & Smith Funeral Home & Chapel, 216 & Johnson, 267-3298.

Valdomero E. Jordan, Sr., 76, died Wednesday, Feb. 1, 2001, at his residence. Funeral service will be at 3 p.m. Friday, Feb. 2, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with Dr. Jimmy Watson, pastor of First Christian Church and the Rev. Michael King, pastor of Baker's Chapel A.M.E., officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

He was born on Feb. 9, 1923, in Hamlin and married Jo Nell Faulkenberry on May 5, 1944, in Ackerly. Mr. Griffin had worked for Fina Oil Company, retiring on Jan. 31, 1983. He had umpired Little League Baseball for 40 years, officiated football and basketball for 20 years and was an avid bowler and fisherman.

He was a member of First Christian Church and had served in the United States Army Air Corps from 1944 to 1946. Survivors include: his wife, Jo Nell Griffin of Big Spring; three sons and daughters-in-law, Jack Jr. and Sandra Griffin of Big Spring, Robert and Sherry Griffin of Lewisville and James and Cathy Griffin of Coppell; one daughter and son-in-law, Teresa and Stephen Fenton of San Antonio; one brother and sister-in-law, Joe A. and Dell Griffin of Carlsbad, N.M.; two sisters, Sarah West of Big Spring and Cleola Grigg of San Angelo; one sister-in-law, Fran Green of Big Spring; eight grandchildren, five great-grandchildren, five great-grandchildren, several nieces and nephews and a host of friends.

The family suggest memorials to First Christian Church, 911 Goliad, Big Spring. Arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel. Interment will follow in Trinity Memorial Park.

Funeral service for William "Jack" Watson, 42, of Big Spring, is pending at this time with Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

Mrs. McGregor died Thursday, Feb. 1, 2001, in a Carrollton nursing center.

Luther Meek

Funeral service for Luther Ray Meek, 83, of Hamilton, formerly of Big Spring, is pending at this time with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

Mr. Meek died Thursday, Feb. 1, 2001, in a Brownwood hospital.

William "Jack" Watson

Funeral service for William Watson, 42, of Big Spring, is pending at this time with Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Mr. Watson died Thursday, Feb. 1, 2001, at a local hospital as a result of injuries sustained in an automobile accident.

Valdomero E. Jordan Sr.

Valdomero E. Jordan Sr., 76, was born on Feb. 28, 1924, and passed away on Wednesday, Jan. 31, 2001, in Odessa. Mr. Jordan is also survived by another sister, Luz Gonzales Guzman of Fort Worth.



Jack Griffin Sr.

Jack Griffin Sr., 77, of Big Spring, died on Friday, Feb. 2, 2001, at his residence. Funeral service will be at 3 p.m. Friday, Feb. 2, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with Dr. Jimmy Watson, pastor of First Christian Church and the Rev. Michael King, pastor of Baker's Chapel A.M.E., officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.



nities. "Last year we collecting a little more than 3,500 cans," he said. If a Boy Scout does not come by to collect the bags on your doorstep, call the service center at 263-3407 or Jones at 263-3752.

FATALITY

Continued from Page 1A

gated by DPS trooper Mitchell Jones.

The death was the second vehicle fatality in Howard County this year. On Jan. 22, Cameron Heath Carlile, a driver for Mitchem & Sons Wrecker Service, was killed when his truck ran into the back of an 18-wheeler that was attempting to make a turn into a convenience store. The accident occurred about 1-1/2 miles south of Big Spring on Highway 87.

Funeral arrangements for Watson are pending at Myers and Smith funeral home in Big Spring.

Suspects found in Bush boat burning

AUSTIN (AP) — Central Texas law officers say they have identified suspects in the blaze on a motor boat owned by President George W. Bush and his choice for commerce secretary.

No arrests have been made yet and officers said Thursday they do not know why the suspects set the December blaze at Bush's family ski boat.

"We've got suspects in the case. We're just trying to wrap up any loose ends," Mark Hanna, spokesman for the State Fire Marshal, said. "We don't know if it's a prank or deliberate or what the case is at this point in time."

But Hanna said earlier it was common knowledge at the marina that the cabin cruiser was owned by Bush. Authorities impounded the charred remains of the 22-foot, 300-horsepower HarrisKayot deck boat, known as the "Bush Boat" along Lake Travis, following the Dec. 16 fire at Yacht Harbor Marina on the lake, located 25 miles west of Austin. There were no injuries.

Beatings go unnoticed on train ride across country

NEW YORK (AP) — A grand jury has indicted the mother of two boys who she allegedly beat so severely during a cross-country odyssey that one of them lost part of his lips.

Linda Harley, 38, is charged by the grand jury in Brooklyn with beating sons, Clarence, 7, and Ernest, 8, with a knife, a metal pipe and a stiletto-heeled shoe as they traveled from New York to Los Angeles and back.

Harley traveled with the boys back from Los Angeles to New York on an Amtrak train, and no one alerted authorities to the boys' very visible, severely infected facial wounds, The New York Times reported

BIG SPRING AROUND THE TOWN

Friday. The city's Administration for Children's Services had placed her children with relatives in 1996, after she went to jail for stabbing the boys' father, but returned them to her in 1998, when it appeared she was able to turn her life around, the newspaper reported.

Harley had had a history of drug problems, but her family said she had managed to pull her life together and was doing well until late last year. Neighbors described her as deeply religious, but said she appeared to be losing control near the end of last year.

SUPPORT GROUPS

TODAY •Turning Point A.A., 8-9:30 p.m., St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 10th and Goliad. Open to all substance abusers. •AA, 615 Settles, 8 p.m. Big Book Study. •NA 8 p.m., St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 1001 Goliad. Call 268-4189 (pager no.).

SATURDAY •Family support group for current and former patients and their families, 1 p.m. weekly, Reflections Unit of Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Call Beverly Grant, 263-0074. •Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon, 8 p.m., 10 p.m. open meetings, 615 Settles. •NA 8 p.m., St. Mary's Church, 1001 Goliad. Call 268-4189 (pager no.).

SUNDAY •AA, 615 Settles, 11 a.m. closed meeting and 7 p.m. open meeting. IF YOU HAVE A SUPPORT GROUP LISTING, PLEASE SUBMIT IT IN WRITING.

BRIEFS

AARP DRIVERS SAFETY PROGRAM, taught by trained instructors, Feb. 13 and 14. Insurance rate deductions held at the Senior Citizen Center, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Both sessions must be attended. Cost is \$10. To sign up call 267-1628.

THE DISTRIBUTION AND COLLECTION Department, Utilities Division of the city of Big Spring, plans a major water valve replacement in the area of 2nd and Owens Street. The following customers will experience no water pressure or low water pressure beginning Saturday at 1 p.m. until repairs are completed.

City crews will be on-site until customers' water is restored. Thank you for your cooperation. Area affected is: Owens St. from South 10th to North Eighth St. North Sixth St. from State Hwy 350 to North Goliad St.

COMPUTER CLASSES FOR SENIOR citizens will be offered Tuesdays and Wednesdays at the Spring City Senior Citizens Center. Cost is \$5 per participant for the classes, which take place from 3-4 p.m. and

TEXAS LOTTERY

Pick 3: 2,7,0 Cash 5: 2,19,21,23,34

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

cover a variety of subjects including the basics of computing and surfing the Internet.

All senior citizens are welcome. Call the center at 267-1628 for more information.

HAWK FLIGHT BOOSTER CLUB luncheon. Monday, Feb. 5, Howard College Cactus Room, \$5.25 per person. RSVP to Betty Reed at 264-5040.

THE HOWARD COUNTY LIBRARY BOOK CLUB will meet at 7 p.m., Feb. 5, in the Howard County Library. The book to be discussed will be "A Gracious Plenty."

BEGINNING LINE DANCE CLASS 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., starting Feb. 7, at the Dance Gallery. Free to beginners. Call Margarita Durand-Hollis at 267-3977 for more information.

BIG SPRING SENIOR CIRCLE will be having a Valentine's Day lunch at noon, Feb. 14, in the SMMC Classroom. For more information call Pam Stephens at 268-4721.

ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL SCHOOL will have a Scholastic book fair open to the public on Saturday from 9 a.m.-noon at 118 Cedar. Coffee and refreshments will be served to anyone who wants to come and browse or buy.

The school is aiming for a goal of \$3,600 in sales this year, which will allow them to keep 65 percent of the total sales from the week-long fair. The fair has a large selection of books for all ages, from preschoolers to adults.

VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE (VITA) volunteers have been trained by the Internal Revenue Service and will be preparing 2000 Income Tax Returns for individuals beginning Monday, Feb. 5, and each Monday until April 9, from 9 a.m. to noon at the Senior Citizens Center, 1901 Simler Drive.

This is for all citizens, and there is no charge. Please bring your tax booklet received from the IRS, all W-2s, 1099s and other documents received showing 2000 income as well as your 1999 Income Tax Return. If you cannot come at that time or need further assistance, please call Dorothy Kennemur at 398-5522, or the senior center at 267-1628.

POLICE

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activities between 8 a.m. Thursday through 8 a.m. today: •ALYSON BETH SAMS, 20, of Amarillo, was arrested on possession of mari-

juana and local and DPS warrants. •CHRISTOPHER ROBERTS, 23, of 212 S Moss Lake Rd., was arrested on a Brown County warrant. •BETTY NEWBERRY, 33, of 2411 Alabama, was arrested on a charge of public intoxication. •DISTURBANCE/FIGHT was reported in the 1200 block of Lindbergh, in the 400 block of Circle and in the 2400 block of Alabama. •DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE was reported in the 2900 block of W. Highway 80. •DRIVING WHILE LICENSE INVALID was reported in the 2600 block of S. Gregg. •ASSAULT/FAMILY VIOLENCE was reported in the 2400 block of Alabama. •CLASS C ASSAULT was reported in the 600 block of N. Douglas.

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The Howard County Sheriff's Office reported the following activities between 8 a.m. Thursday through 8 a.m. today: •MONICA LOCKBRIDGE, 31, of 808 Ohio, was arrested on a motion to revoke probation from previous charges of possession of a controlled substance and driving while intoxicated. (HCSO) •ANIMAL PROBLEM was reported in the 7400 S. Service Road. •MAJOR ACCIDENT was reported on N. Highway 87.

Records Thursday's high 56 Thursday's low 22 Precip. Tuesday 0.00 Record high *** Record low *** Average high *** Average low *** Month to date 0.00 Year to date 0.84 Sunrise Saturday 7:39 a.m. Sunset Saturday 6:21 p.m. Sunrise Sunday 7:38 a.m. Sunset Sunday 6:22 a.m. ***indicates no statistics available.

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Two a

KARNES CIT The father of prison convict Rodriguez and a arrested Friday of supplying the car to the inmate other former fug law officers said.

Raul Rodriguez Gomez, both of Antonio area, w Karnes County, of \$700,000 bond charges of pern facilitation of said Larry spokesman for Department of Justice.

"We believe Rodriguez want chase the vehicle his son on a plan set for Dec. 12," adding that the was purchased a Wal-Mart park that day but the did not occur un day.

"We believe Rodriguez furn money to buy the from an adverti the newspaper a got Gomez to ma

Lawma details AUSTIN (Education off Thursday defen selves against ar accused the Stat Education of c interest and a la cial expertise the management billion Perman Fund.

Grace Shore appointed chair the State F Education, tried off suggestions board lose cont fund, which gen million a year state's public sch

"I want to em you that the fun shape," Short bers of the Sena Committee who her from a boar across town. "T performing well.

The trust fund from \$13 billion lion over the pa Shore said. L said that rate was not in line booming econom The audit Wednesday s board's managem fund has

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FOOD DRIVE

Continued from Page 1A

Boy Scouts deliver the items to both charity organizations. According to Jones, this year's goal is to collect 5,000 food items from the commu-

Winter Clearance Sale! Terry's KIDS SHOES "Our big concern is little feet." 520-5534 • Midland Plaza (Next to Mervyn's)

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Two arrested for allegedly helping fugitives

KARNES CITY (AP) — The father of recaptured prison convict Michael A. Rodriguez and a friend were arrested Friday on charges of supplying the getaway car to the inmate and six other former fugitives, state law officers said.

Raul Rodriguez and Patsy Gomez, both of the San Antonio area, were held at Karnes County Jail in lieu of \$700,000 bonds each on charges of permitting and facilitation of an escape, said Larry Todd, a spokesman for the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

"We believe that Rodriguez wanted to purchase the vehicle for use by his son on a planned escape set for Dec. 12," Todd said, adding that the automobile was purchased and taken to a Wal-Mart parking lot on that day but the breakout did not occur until the next day.

"We believe (the elder) Rodriguez furnished the money to buy the Suburban from an advertisement in the newspaper and that he got Gomez to make the pur-

chase," said Todd. "We understand she is a family friend of Rodriguez."

The charges against Gomez, 41, and the 61-year-old Rodriguez, are a second-degree felony.

Todd said one of the former escapees being interviewed in Colorado said the convicts delayed their breakout by one day because of the availability of a TDCJ maintenance pickup, which they later used to flee.

"We assume father and son were communicating by letter and possibly a third party who may have visited Rodriguez in prison," Todd said. "We believe they had been planning the escape for at least six months and probably longer."

After using the prison truck to break out from the prison, the inmates then switched to the Suburban.

"We are continuing to look for a third person we believe was involved in the transport of the Suburban to the town of Kenedy," said Todd. "We have not located him yet, but hope to do so soon."

The younger Rodriguez was one of two San Antonio escapees who had been serving long sentences after being found guilty in Bexar County courts.

Rodriguez, 38, was serving a life sentence after he admitted paying a hit man \$2,000 to murder his wife eight years ago in a scheme to collect \$400,000 in life insurance. Joseph Garcia, 29, was serving 50 years after a jury found him guilty of murder five years ago in the stabbing death of a man he offered to drive home after meeting him at a nightclub.

Dallas television station WFAA reported that a fourth person involved in acquiring the vehicle alerted authorities. Investigators say the person was unaware of just what he was involved in until he heard news reports of the escape.

Meanwhile, the San Antonio man who sold the 1989 model vehicle told the San Antonio Express-News in Friday's editions that nothing was out of the ordinary during the sale in which the pair paid \$3,700

cash for the blue-and-silver vehicle.

"I ran an ad in the Express-News, sold the vehicle and thought nothing more of it," the seller, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said.

But the seller said he didn't learn until last week that two days after he sold the Suburban, the fugitives used it as their escape vehicle.

"There was nothing remarkable about them in any way," he told the newspaper in a telephone interview.

Then, two investigators arrived at the seller's office. "I'm just an innocent victim, I guess," the seller said.

Investigators said the fugitives took the Suburban to San Antonio the afternoon they escaped, abandoning the state-owned pickup they'd used to drive out of the prison to the Kenedy parking lot. After spending one night in a San Antonio motel, the fugitives fled cross-country to Colorado, where the journey ended last week with their capture.

Texas Tech associate dean, girl, 18, found dead in car

LUBBOCK (AP) — While Lubbock police were investigating Thursday how a Texas Tech dean ended up dead in his car with an 18-year-old woman, university employees were reeling from the news.

Douglas Birdsall, 53, Tech's associate dean of libraries, and Viola Ross McVade were found dead Wednesday when a bicyclist spotted his car in a tree-lined drainage gully about five miles from the university.

On Thursday, police were trying to figure out how long the vehicle had been in the gully, how the pair died and the nature of their relationship. Autopsies were being performed.

Capt. Thomas Esparza said he couldn't release where the two were found in the vehicle, the condition of their bodies or details about the car's interior.

He did say McVade was not a Texas Tech student.

"There was some visible trauma, but I'm not going to speculate," Esparza said. "All I can say is they were both in the vehicle and they were both fully clothed."

Texas Tech employees said they were in shock.

"Tuesday it was business as usual with meetings and greetings," said Dawn Pierce, outreach director for Tech's library system. "Yesterday when he didn't show up to the office we became concerned. It was very uncharacteristic of him. We knew something had happened — an emergency or something. He is a very reliable person. He's a dean after all."

The employees' worst fears were confirmed Thursday when the police released the identities of the two people found in Birdsall's 1993 Black Saab.

"There are a lot of red eyes today — a lot of tears," Pierce said. "We're really just kind of devastated."

Lawmakers trying to get details in scathing audit

AUSTIN (AP) — Education officials on Thursday defended themselves against an audit that accused the State Board of Education of conflicts of interest and a lack of financial expertise regarding the management of the \$22-billion Permanent School Fund.

Grace Shore, newly appointed chairwoman of the State Board of Education, tried to ward off suggestions that the board lose control of the fund, which generates \$700 million a year for the state's public schools.

"I want to emphasize to you that the fund is in good shape," Shore told members of the Senate Finance Committee who summoned her from a board meeting across town. "The fund is performing well."

The trust fund has grown from \$13 billion to \$22 billion over the past decade, Shore said. Lawmakers said that rate of growth was not in line with the booming economy.

The audit released Wednesday said the board's management of the fund has weakened

because of a misguided distrust of staff members and consultants working on the fund.

While the board is the fund's steward, the Texas Education Agency staff is responsible for managing two-thirds of the fund comprised of stocks, bonds and oil and gas royalties from state-owned lands.

Private money managers hired by the board handle the rest.

The audit also suggested changing the method used to invest the profits from the fund. Several lawmakers have signed on to the idea. Shore said she was supportive of a change and believed that other board members would be too.

A large part of the audit focused on an accusation that Brian Borowski, an Austin financial consultant, served as an informal adviser to member David Bradley of Beaumont and former member Bob Offutt of San Antonio. Offutt lost his re-election bid in the March primary.

Borowski was connected to companies and people later hired by the board to manage the fund.

Air Intelligence Agency joins combat command

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — The Air Intelligence Agency, Air Force's secretive nerve center for intelligence and information gathering operations, joined the Air Combat Command Thursday, marking the first combination of intelligence and combat sides of the military branch.

Gen. John P. Jumper, who helped lead the Kosovo air war last year, recognized the center as a critical role-player in Air Force operations.

"What we have developed over the last 10 years or so right here at Kelly AFB in the AIA is a tremendous information warfare capability, a capability to take out and destroy targets or disable targets doing things besides blowing them up," said Jumper. "And this cyberwarrior skill is unique

to the AIA.

"What we've done is we've incorporated those warrior skills into the rest of our warrior side, the combat side of our Air Force, so that they can be more readily accessed just like we do airplanes that drop bombs." Backed by a staff of 15,000 worldwide, AIA shares information with Air Force commands gathered from satellites, computers and a

variety of other methods the agency doesn't discuss. It's also provided security for the service's computer networks, among other things, and is involved in cyberwarfare.

By realigning the agency, information gathered by satellites, U-2 spy planes and other methods can be relayed faster to pilots before and after they take off.

Austin girl latest to be stricken with meningitis

AUSTIN (AP) — A 3-month-old Central Texas girl has become the latest meningococcal bacteria victim, but authorities say Travis County's first meningitis case in more than a year is not related to the Houston area outbreak that has claimed four lives.

Health officials say Travis County typically reports 10 to 25 cases in a year.

Rose Ann Trevino was pronounced dead at her Austin home Saturday, about four hours after being treated at Brackenridge Hospital for a high fever, according to Friday's editions of the Austin American-Statesman.

Several family members and friends who might have been in contact with the

infant are receiving antibiotics, in an attempt to eliminate the possibility they will develop the disease, said Steven Harris, a spokesman for the county's Health and Human Services Department.

"The disease rate in (the Houston area) is 200 times higher than what we're seeing," Harris said. Two more weekend deaths in southeast Texas have raised the number of state-confirmed cases to 40 in nine Houston-area counties. In Montgomery County, two of the cases have resulted in deaths. Only one case was reported in the county in all of 1999.

The number of confirmed cases in Harris County is 18.

The infection level has only reached the threshold of 10 cases per 100,000 population at which the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends mass vaccinations in Conroe and New Caney, Porter.

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FEBRUARY 2001

EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

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Debbie Jensen
Features Editor

John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEWS

We salute:

Each week, the *Herald* salutes individuals and groups from our community and area who have been recognized for special achievements or accomplishments.

We recognize these special people for working to help make our region a better place to live, work and play.

This week we salute:

- **BIG SPRING RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION**, whose members turned in 15,823 hours of community service in 2001.
- **JAMES WHITE**, who was named Texas Alcohol Beverage Commission Employee of the Year.
- **VANESSA BASURTE**, local winner in the Lions International peace poster contest.
- **HANGAR 25 AIR MUSEUM**, which celebrated another successful year with a membership meeting Tuesday.

Is there an individual or organization in our community that you feel should be saluted? If so, please send us their name and why you think they should be recognized. We must have your name and telephone number and you must provide it in writing.

OTHER VIEWS

The U.S. Supreme Court has wisely confirmed a state's right to impose civil commitments on sexual predators after their criminal prison terms end. The recent ruling, by an 8-1 margin, recognized that a sexual offender's constitutional protections are not violated when such civil confinement is reasonably prescribed for treatment of a potentially dangerous disorder.

Such laws help the authorities maximize protection of the public from sexual predators, a class of criminal with a stunningly high rate of recidivism.

And it is for the states to protect their citizens from chronic sex offenders who are highly likely to resume their brutal ways.

THE POST AND COURIER,
CHARLESTON, S.C.

The 2000 election exposed a number of flaws in the way this country elects our president.

The confluence of errors was embarrassing.

Party affiliation aside, surely no one would approve of the presidency of the United States being decided by the limitations of technology — especially when it's so obvious that we can do better.

That's why it was encouraging...to hear

President Bush and Republican and Democratic members of Congress agree that the electoral process should be improved to decrease the likelihood that voters will be confused and minimize the chance of spoiled ballots.

To Florida's credit, state officials are not waiting on the federal government to suggest changes. At a statewide meeting of election supervisors... a committee was formed to study new voting systems and to establish a statewide system that "makes the will of the voter self-evident."

It's unclear now exactly what federal changes might be recommended and even less clear which ones the U.S. government would be able to legally mandate.

It's important that suggested changes be debated on their own merits. Already, Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott, of Mississippi, is suggesting that any proposals to change federal election regulations be attached to Arizona Sen. John McCain's proposed legislation to enact campaign finance reform.

Campaign finance reform is a separate issue from election reform, and wedding the two issues is likely to bog down the process of meaningful reform.

THE TIMES-PICAYUNE,
NEW ORLEANS

Punch card system doesn't need replacing

State Rep. Dale Tillery is crying over spilled chads. Let's hope his fellow legislators hand him a broom and nothing else.



BILL MCCLELLAN

Tillery is proposing a bill that would ban the use of punch-card voting systems. There are 14 counties in Texas that use the punch-card system. Howard is one of them.

Tillery says of the punch-card system, "We need to stop using a Third World technology if we are going to be the shining star of democracy in the world."

Third World technology? There has only been one major complaint of the punch-card system, and that was in last year's presidential election. It amounted to a few counties in the state of Florida. Even then, the problem was exaggerated by Democrats, who would still be trying to count "dimpled" ballots if the Supreme Court had not intervened and said enough is enough.

There's nothing wrong with the punch-card system, provided that counties use a system of checks and balances as they do in Texas, the machines are

checked before each election, and voters take the time to follow directions.

Too often in today's society, we look for anyone to blame except ourselves.

There's nothing wrong with modernization. But I suspect that in a society where former "professional" wrestlers and dead candidates can get elected, the problem will always rest on flawed voters more so than flawed voting machines.

Perhaps each voter should be required to sign a document that he or she is aware that they are in a voting booth, and not a bingo parlor or the local bar.

1. Yes, I believe my vote to be accurate;

2. Yes, I did have an opportunity to ask for help I needed it;

3. Yes, I understand I can win no prizes, but I get to keep the cigarettes the party or parties gave me for coming here today.

What's wrong with Tillery's proposal, of course, is that eliminating the punch-card voting systems requires replacing them with something else.

There's a cost factor involved. County Clerk Donna Wright says it would cost about a \$432,000 to replace the punch-card system in Howard County.

Howard County is the third least populated of all of the counties in Texas that currently use the

punch-card system. The cost in Harris County, which with 3.1 million residents is the largest populated county which still uses the punch-card system, would be about \$30 million, officials there estimate.

Secretary of State Henry Cuellar says the cost to switch in all 14 counties would be at least \$25 million. Obviously, one of those estimates is way off, but what we do know is that it would cost megabucks to do it.

Why in the world would we spend \$25 million — maybe up to \$50 million — to replace a system that works fine already?

I won't try to speak for Howard County, but I do believe our area could benefit far more by applying a half-million dollars to replace a voting system that isn't broken.

Denver City Council — that's Denver, Colo. — this week approved a \$1.2 million settlement with a burglar who was paralyzed after being shot by a police officer.

The burglar was 12 years old at the time. The shooting left him a quadriplegic.

Here's what happened: Officer Keith Cowgill responded to a report of a burglary. Suddenly, he saw someone running out of a house. What happened next depends on whose story you want to believe.

Cowgill said the burglar, DeShawn Hollis, pointed a gun at him. Hollis admits he had a gun, but said he didn't pull it on the officer. What is certain, however, is that the officer shot Hollis.

Later, Hollis pleaded guilty to first-degree burglary. He got probation.

Hollis' attorney says the city got off cheap because the shooting wasn't justified.

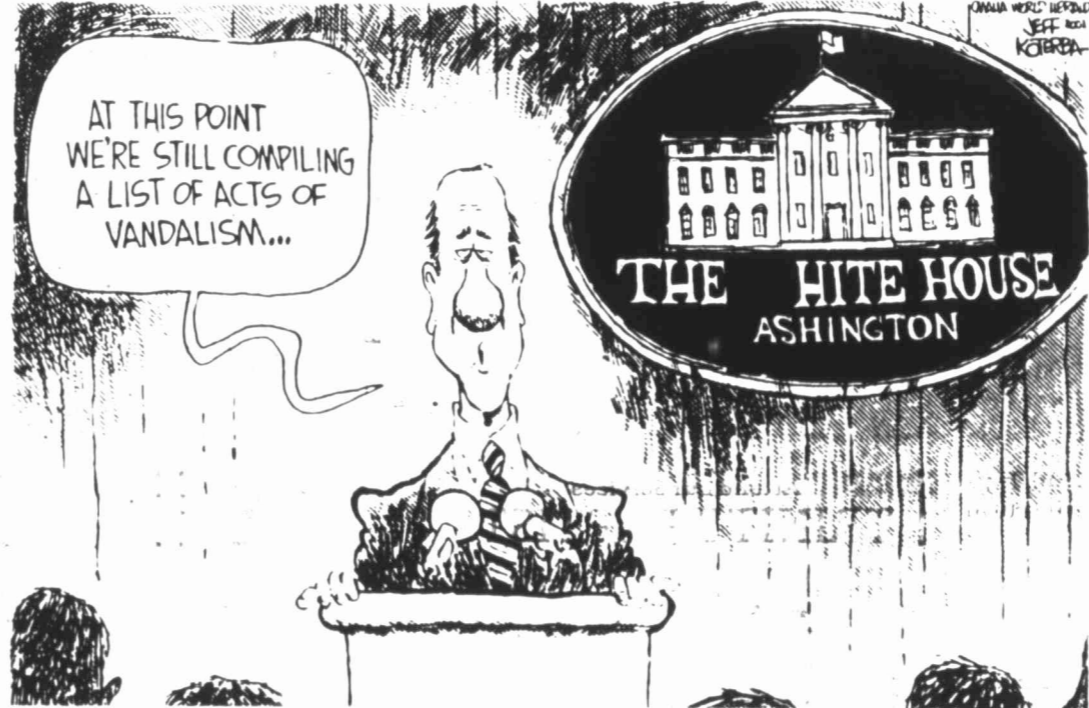
Should Cowgill have fired his weapon? No one but Cowgill can answer that. Apparently he thought it was a life-threatening situation. Perhaps he overreacted.

But the truth is, the city didn't get off cheap, it got robbed. The city is paying Hollis for injuries which occurred while he was doing something that he knew was against the law. Further, he pushed the situation to the limit by carrying a firearm.

We should have compassion for the young teenager, who will be paralyzed the rest of his life. But he shouldn't receive a dime for his injuries. He alone is to blame for committing an illegal act and putting himself in that situation.

Somehow, though, this unfortunate incident has left Hollis as the victim and officer Cowgill and the city as the bad guys.

Bill McClellan is news editor for the Herald.



Faith-based assistance drives liberals crazy

Want to drive liberals crazy? Try suggesting that tax dollars go to faith-based organizations to help the poor, treat drug addicts, or reform criminals. It certainly worked for President Bush. Within hours of the president's announcement this week that he was creating a White House office to distribute billions of dollars to religious and other faith-based organizations to provide social services, he had nearly every liberal interest group in the country foaming at the mouth.



LINDA CHAVEZ

The American Civil Liberties Union warned ominously that allowing government to dispense social services through faith-based groups is a "prescription for discrimination." Americans United for Separation of Church and State denounced the initiative as a "rare" assault on American tradition of church-state separation, "outlining their objections in an 8-page paper. One of the few left-wing

groups not to go on the immediate attack was People for the American Way. But that's probably because PAW was too busy trying to kill attorney general designate John Ashcroft's nomination by accusing him of being a liar. Character assassination is a full-time job.

So what exactly has the president proposed that worked these groups into such a lather? Most of the groups attacking the Bush proposal claimed that the program violates the First Amendment.

But since none of the money will go for religious proselytizing, it's unlikely the program will run afoul of the Constitution. And besides, religious organizations like Catholic Charities and the Council of Jewish Federations have been getting government money for decades to help resettle refugees, shelter the homeless and treat AIDS victims.

No, the First Amendment argument is a red herring. Liberals are unhappy with the Bush proposal because it undercuts their basic belief that powerful social forces are to blame for everything from poverty to criminality. Liberals dismiss as "blaming the victim" any suggestion that bad decisions — such as

having a child out of wedlock, or getting high or breaking into someone else's house to steal a television — create and perpetuate poverty, addiction and crime. Since individuals aren't to blame for their own predicament, there's no point in trying to change individual behavior. Instead, liberals favor treating social problems in the most anonymous, least judgmental fashion.

A few years ago, the state of Maryland decided to disburse welfare through automatic teller machines, for example. Advocates for the program argued that not only would it cut down on the theft of welfare checks common in many poor communities, it also would eliminate any stigma attached to receiving welfare.

Recipients could take their money out of an ATM just like everyone who worked, making them feel less like charity cases — and far less likely ever to give up their welfare entitlement.

But if you believe that individuals should be held responsible for their own actions, as most conservatives do, then helping people often entails getting them to change their behavior. Government bureaucra-

cies are lousy at persuading people to change destructive behavior, however. Welfare offices may be good at dispensing checks, but they're usually terrible at getting their clients off the dole and into jobs. Drug clinics can substitute a prescribed drug, methadone, for an illicit one, heroin, but they track records in getting addicts to abandon drugs altogether is pathetic. Prisons can keep criminals off the street — temporarily — but they're notoriously bad when it comes to reforming those behind bars so that they won't commit more crimes when they eventually go free.

Faith-based groups, on the other hand, minister to the individual, not the social problem. And that usually means trying to get individuals to change their conduct, especially if it contributes to their plight.

President Bush doesn't expect miracles from his new, faith-based initiative, and neither should we. But allowing religious organizations to compete for some of the billions of dollars the government will spend in the next decade to treat drug addicts, or rehabilitate convicts or help poor people seems worth at least a small leap of faith — even by liberals.

How To Contact Us

- In order that we might better serve your needs, we offer several ways in which you may contact us:
- In person at 710 Scurry St.
 - By telephone at 263-7331
 - By fax at 264-7205
 - By e-mail at jmoseley@bigspringherald.com or johnwalker@bigspringherald.com.
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Love, Chantal

Asher

WASHINGTON Newly sworn in general, John Ashcroft promising Department of Justice "fighting" after a brutal "battle" between Democrats and integrity and held conservative. "The Justice will vigorously law guarantee the advancement of Americans," tative former M

Amtra

WASHINGTON America, suff investment g closed with federal money equipment, in and establish rail corridors in a new busi. The federal now dedicate percent of a tion spending passenger rail cials say. Under their would grow decades to 2.5. "We tend hand to mou to year, and, that's no way road," Amtr

Justice crimina

WASHINGTON The Justice civil rights c luded Thurs no criminal ac ing last summ Mississippi authorities rul. Civil rights Jackson and 17-year-old Johnson had local authoriti quickly to rul sibility the lynched by pe approved of h with white g Kokomo, Miss. But a thr statement fro Department s the tragic ne event, the ev Mr. Johns obtained and the Departme does not su criminal act o. The depart explored "eve inquiry," inc viewing nume and enlisti multiple foren

A P Chir



Ashcroft pledges to have fair, politics-free Justice Department

WASHINGTON (AP) — Newly sworn in as attorney general, John Ashcroft is promising a Justice Department "free from politics" after a bruising confirmation battle in which Democrats attacked his integrity and his deeply held conservative beliefs.

"The Justice Department will vigorously enforce the law guaranteeing rights for the advancement of all Americans," the conservative former Missouri sena-

tor said Thursday after winning Senate confirmation on a vote of 58-42.

Three hours later, he was sworn in at the Supreme Court by Justice Clarence Thomas, who "survived a similarly searing confirmation struggle a decade ago. Aides said Ashcroft intended to make an early morning debut at the Justice Department to meet his new staff.

Ashcroft took his oath on three family Bibles, one for

each of his children. His wife, Janet, passed homemade chocolate chip cookies around to a dozen or so friends and aides gathered for the ceremony.

"I will confront injustice by leading a professional Justice Department that is free from politics; that is uncompromisingly fair; a department defined by integrity and dedicated to upholding the rule of law," Ashcroft said in remarks distributed by the depart-

ment.

He also plans to meet soon with critics as well as supporters in the Senate, said Democratic Sen. Patrick Leahy, the top Democrat on the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Four aides already were installed in key agency positions, and Republican sources even before the Senate vote circulated names of likely officials in Ashcroft's Justice Department.

These included Theodore Olsen as solicitor general, the lawyer who represents the administration before the Supreme Court, who represented candidate George W. Bush in the high court during the aftermath of the Florida election that gave Bush the presidency; and Larry D. Thompson as deputy attorney general, the agency's No. 2 official.

Thompson, U.S. attorney in Atlanta during the Reagan administration, was

a key adviser to Thomas during his 1991 confirmation battle.

On Thursday, Democrats claimed a consolation prize, arguing their 42 "nay" votes gave President Bush notice that they could muster enough votes to sustain a filibuster against future judicial nominees deemed too conservative.

It was the strongest opposition to an attorney general nominee in the nation's history.

Amtrak seeks federal funds to close 'investment gap'

WASHINGTON (AP) — America suffers a "rail investment gap" that can be closed with \$30 billion in federal money to modernize equipment, improve service and establish 11 high-speed rail corridors, Amtrak says in a new business plan.

The federal government now dedicates less than 1 percent of all transportation spending to intercity passenger rail, Amtrak officials say.

Under their plan, that would grow over two decades to 2.5 percent.

"We tend to live from hand to mouth, from year to year, and, as they say, that's no way to run a railroad," Amtrak President

George Warrington told reporters Thursday.

Warrington said the "rail investment gap" compared with other developed countries represents a missed opportunity to relieve pressure from crowded highways and congested skies.

Congress ordered Amtrak in 1997 to wean itself from federal operating subsidies by 2003. Amtrak has never turned a profit since its creation in 1971 and has consumed more than \$23 billion in federal subsidies since then.

But even as they strive for self-sufficiency, Amtrak officials insist the 1997 agreement never anticipated a cutoff of federal capital

assistance — funds to buy train cars and build tracks, for instance. And they contend it's time for more, not less, federal investment.

To emphasize the point, Amtrak drew up its first long-term capital spending plan, which is being delivered today to Congress and the White House. In it, Amtrak offers two scenarios:

For \$16 billion in federal support over 20 years, Amtrak says it can maintain minimum capital investment in existing services.

That would cover overhauls to the Amtrak fleet, renovations to stations and repairs to fire safety haz-

ards in New York and New Jersey train tunnels. Transportation Department Inspector General Kenneth Mead has called those hazards "appalling."

Amtrak's preferred scenario calls for \$30 billion in federal support — \$1.5 billion a year for 20 years — to expand and modernize. The extra money would pay for new trains and for tracks, signals and grade crossings needed to develop new high-speed corridors where trains can travel faster than 90 mph.

Amtrak predicts states and private companies would match the federal government's investment roughly dollar-for-dollar.

Punxsutawney Phil sees shadow

PUNXSUTAWNEY, Pa. (AP) — With temperatures just below freezing, flurries falling and lingering snow crunching underfoot, Punxsutawney Phil — the world's most famous groundhog — saw his shadow Friday morning.

According to legend, that means winter will stick around for six more weeks. In the past 155 years, Phil has seen his shadow 101 times.

The prospect of six more weeks of winter wasn't welcome news to Miriam Wise, 11.

"I want spring so I can go barefoot and start planting," Miriam said as she walked along a downtown street toward the library

which is the makeshift zoo for the groundhog.

Bill Cooper, president of the Punxsutawney Groundhog Club Inner Circle, was charged with interpreting Phil's predictions. He interpreted Phil's squeaks and body language after the groundhog exited from his hole.

"Groundhogese is like no other language. I can just take a look at his expression and tell," Cooper said. "He decides. I just interpret what he sees."

The Groundhog Day tradition is rooted in a German superstition that if an animal casts a shadow on Feb. 2 — the Christian holiday of Candlemas — bad weather is coming.

Justice Department finds no criminal act in boy's hanging

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Justice Department's civil rights division concluded Thursday there was no criminal act in the hanging last summer of a black Mississippi teen, which authorities ruled a suicide.

Civil rights leader Jesse Jackson and the family of 17-year-old Raynard Johnson had argued that local authorities moved too quickly to rule out the possibility the youth was lynched by people who disapproved of his friendships with white girls in rural Kokomo, Miss.

But a three-paragraph statement from the Justice Department said, "Despite the tragic nature of this event, the evidence about Mr. Johnson's death obtained and reviewed by the Department of Justice does not suggest that a criminal act occurred."

The department said it explored "every avenue of inquiry," including interviewing numerous witnesses and enlisting the aid of multiple forensic experts. It

also reviewed "all available physical evidence" and findings of a medical examiner hired by the Johnson family.

It noted that the Mississippi attorney general, the Mississippi Highway Patrol, the 15th Circuit Court district attorney and the Marion County sheriff reached the same conclusion after separate investigations.

Sandwich contains part of thumb

HYANNIS, Mass. (AP) — A student eating in a high school cafeteria discovered a small piece of a human thumb in her sandwich when she took a bite.

Officials determined the thumb piece belonged to a cafeteria worker who had severed the top of her thumb in a vegetable slicer this week.

The female student spat out the partial appendage while eating her lunch at Barnstable High School Wednesday. She asked not

to be identified.

"Everybody was talking about it all day," said senior Keara Grier, who said she witnessed the incident from a nearby table.

Spokesmen for Sodexo Marriott Services, which serves the school, said they will contact the student who discovered the thumb piece.

"Obviously this is completely unacceptable," said Scott Loretan, senior vice president of operations for the company.

Due to a shipping delay from the manufacturer, the following items appearing in the 1/28 Sunday DrugStore insert are not available.

- Metal Wire Turtle Light Set
- Metal Wire Butterfly Light Set
- Copper Butterfly Votive Candle Holder
- Copper Turtle Votive Candle Holder

We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused.

Cordially Invite You to Attend our Services

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Randy Cotton
Pastor

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Service broadcast Morning Worship.....11:00 a.m.
over KBYG 1400 AM Evangelistic Service....6:00 p.m.
on your dial Wednesday Service.....7:00p.m.

Show your loved ones how much you care with a special Valentine on our Valentine's Greeting Page

Wednesday, February 14

Come by the Big Spring Herald office by Monday, February 12 by 5 p.m.

1x3 Valentine's Greeting Only \$15

Christopher, Happy Valentine's Day Son!
With All Our Love!
Mom & Dad

Bryson, Happy Valentine's Day My Sweetie!
You are beautiful & wonderful & I Love You!
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FEBRUARY 2001

Churches find budgets strained by heating costs

By DEBBIE L. JENSEN
Features Editor

Some local churches are feeling the chill of winter a little more this year, as high energy prices have added an unexpected crunch to their budgets. "We will go to our savings," said Mike Couch, administrator for First Baptist Church, where a recent bill was double that of the same period last year. "I had budgeted about \$10,000 for the year and I am already at \$12,000," he said. But the rise in prices had an unexpected upside. Couch had the system checked for leaks and sever-

al were found and repaired. "Now we're tight, so it should be looking better," Couch said. At First Church of the Nazarene, a jump in the gas bill prompted staff to look into adding more insulation to church buildings, said pastor Roger Huff. "It put a major bite in our budget," he said, noting that energy bills — both electric and gas — for the facilities average \$1,200 a month. "That's about half of a staff salary that I could use," he said. College Baptist Church, recognized for the huge vaulted ceiling in its sanctuary, already has "zone"

heating that is limited to only areas used at any given time, said pastor Ken McMeans. "Compared to last January, though, our bills for all our church facilities had quadrupled," he said. "We budgeted early and well, and we had recognized some things were coming, so we have adequate supply (of funds) to handle it." McMeans and several other pastors said the increase in energy prices has created another challenge — the need for more assistance to families already struggling to pay their bills. "We have a lot of families

that live on a tightrope already," McMeans said. "Now they are really struggling and we have been trying to help where we can." "We are helping people," added Couch. "I am worried about the elderly and the single mothers..." Energas officials have noted the cost of natural gas across the country has increased 100 percent or more over last winter. That, coupled with a much colder winter than the region has experienced in years, is said to be fueling the hike in customers' bills. In response to the need, the Texas Railroad Commission announced

Thursday it has adopted some new rules designed to protect consumers in the event they cannot pay their energy bills. The rules restrict under what circumstances a utility can shut off service to consumers who don't pay. "We want to stress that we want to work with people in helping them to make payment arrangements or deferred payment plans," said Kevin Larpenner, local operations supervisor for Energas in Thursday's *Herald*. Also on Thursday, the Northside Community See BUDGETS, Page 7A

There's no energy crisis with God

No electricity and high gas bills! Is there anybody who is not talking about these two necessities of life? We are all sharing in the cost, some more than others, but in the end we will all bear the cost increases of these two life necessities. Once again, we are confronted with our neglect and lack of conservation of the precious resources God has given to us.

We take too for granted that all the things we have come to enjoy will always be there and always be affordable. Now, I am not one of those environmentalists that believe we have to save every bug and critter that crawls around, but I do believe we have failed to appreciate and consistently thank God for the things in life that make life easier and warmer.

I, for one, have suddenly come to appreciate the warm rooms in my house because of this miracle of underground natural gas. Not only have I thanked God for it, but I have turned down the thermostat. I was appreciating it a little too much.

OK. So what is your point? Simply this. I believe we have not only become lax in our appreciation of God's blessings for energy that run our homes we have also been lax in appreciation of God's spiritual blessings in our lives.

The first time we get a high gas bill, we take it out on the people who provide the gas. The first time we have difficulty in our spiritual life we take it out on God.

We make statements like: "I thought you were a loving God," or "How could you let this happen to me?" Make no mistake about it, difficult things come into our lives. But, also make no mistake about it, God has no energy crisis.

Often the problem with spiritual energy is not with God, it is with us. Just as we take for granted that gas and electricity will always be available and always be affordable and cheap, I believe we also take for granted that God's grace is always there, but we cheapen it by taking it for granted.

Actually, God's grace is free. But it requires a life-long commitment to Him. Just as we realize the importance of planning ahead in order to pay bills for energy and the importance of proper insulation in our homes to help reduce those costs, we must also realize the importance of maintaining an intimate relationship with God and insulating ourselves from those everyday temptations

See HUFF, Page 7A



ROGER HUFF

Mt. Bethel invites the community to worship

By DEBBIE L. JENSEN
Features Editor

When the congregation of Mt. Bethel Baptist Church gathered for a banquet to celebrate the start of a new year recently, their pastor and his wife honored 25 leaders for their service.

Those leaders, in turn, honored others who had helped them accomplish their goals.

The spontaneous award presentation developed into a theme for the year, "Working It Out Together." The church will start putting the theme into action with a community-wide church service on Sunday at the Municipal Auditorium.

...This is our opportunity to lead from the front.
The Rev. Michael Willard

"This came about in part because our church is undergoing some renovations," said the Rev. Michael Willard, pastor of Mt. Bethel, which usually meets at 630 NW Fourth. "But after we had this banquet, everything just fell into place."

He said the church wants to bring the community together for the event, so they are inviting all other local churches, or those without a home church, to join them in worship.

"Everyone is invited," he said, adding that the church wants to build on the community-wide faith events of the past. "We have the tendency to get together now and then, for special events, but this is our opportunity to lead from the front."

The service begins at 11 a.m., and will include preaching by Willard as well as music by the church's well-known choir. "God has blessed us," Willard said of his church. "We want to share that."

For more information about Sunday's service, call the church at 263-4069.

CHURCH NEWS

First United Methodist Church

"The Fountain of Joy" (John 4:1-26) is the title for Dr. Ed Williamson's message on Sunday at the First United Methodist Church. Join us in church at 8:30 and 10:50 a.m.

The youth have a busy schedule at FUMC. Feb. 8-11 the youth will be going on a ski trip to Ruidoso. On Feb. 17, the Harlem World Ambassadors are going to be at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum at 7 p.m. A lot like the Harlem Globetrotters, they are an outstanding group that has a great message and will feature Lade Majic the queen of show basketball. So all of you basketball enthusiasts meet us at the Partee Building at 6:30 p.m.

Our church has a new ministry to the children of our community, Kids Club, a Tuesday afternoon activity program for children kindergarten through fifth grade. More volunteers are needed to help with this terrific outreach.

The Chancel Choir meets each Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. The youth handbell choir meets on Sunday at 4 p.m. in the choir room. Youth choir meets on Sunday at 6 p.m. in the choir room.

The First United Methodist Church is located at 400 Scurry and all visitors and new residents of Big Spring are welcome. Please call the church office, 267-6394, for more information.

Forsan Baptist Church

Join the Forsan Baptist Church Family this Sunday as we worship and adore the Lord. Don't put off going to church any longer. Come and see what the Lord has in store for you.

Sunday School begins at 9:45 a.m. followed by the Morning Worship Service at 11. We also have a Sunday Evening Service that begins at 6.

Need that mid-week pick me up? Then join us for our Wednesday Evening Bible Study and Prayer Meeting at 6. We have both Youth and Children's Bible Studies on Wednesday nights. A nursery is provided for all services.

Forsan Baptist is located at 201 West Main in Forsan. Call 457-2342 for more information.

Immaculate Heart of Mary

Isabel Villarreal has officially been named Director of Religious Education by the Diocese of San Angelo. Having a Masters Degree in Education as a prerequisite, Isabel then attended two years of basic formation classes in Odessa to fulfill the requirements for this position.

We now have 211 children enrolled in our religious education classes at IHM. In this program, third graders receive Confirmation and First Communion in the same ceremony. On May 22, Bishop Michael Pfeifer will be administering these sacraments to the current third grade class.

Anyone may still register for CCE classes. Just see hours were provided for youth.

Big Spring-Howard County Retired Teachers Association has participated in Texas Retired Teachers Association program for a number of years. The Texas RJA has set a goal of 5,555,555 hours of volunteer service the past several years and the retired teachers of Texas have exceeded this figure each year.

Officers of the local Retired Teachers Association include; Dr. Wayne Bonner, President;

Isabel on any Sunday morning.

On Feb. 6-7, the parish office will be closing at 2. The office is closed every Tuesday morning from 10:30-12 for a weekly staff meeting.

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Saturday, Feb. 10. The council members will travel to Odessa to tour St. Mary's for inspiration on improvements that can be made in our own church. They will also visit St. Elizabeth Ann Seton in Midland.

This Monday night, Feb. 5, is the first training class for lectors. Join us in the church at 7 p.m.

First Assembly of God

"Blessed, Broken and Given" is Pastor R.T. Havener's message this Sunday morning at 10:40 a.m. This message will be taken from Matthew 14:15-19.

In the Sunday night services at 6 p.m. Pastor Havener is preaching a series of sermons on "End Time Events." This Sunday's sermon will be on the "Rapture" of the church. The message will look at the Time, Manner and Purpose of the Rapture.

On Wednesday evenings in the 7 p.m. Bible Study, the "Gifts of the Spirit" are being studied.

The Congregation of First Assembly invites you to join them for Spirit-led Worship and Special music in each of these services at Fourth and Lancaster.

Midway Baptist Church

Midway Baptist Church,

(midway between Big Spring and Coahoma on I-20) would love to have you visit our services this Sunday.

Our Sunday morning Bible study begins at 9:45 a.m. followed by a morning worship service at 11. This Sunday Bro. Jimmy Hobby will be preaching in the morning service. Evening services this Sunday will be dismissed to allow everyone the opportunity to attend the

Associational Evangelism Rally at 7 p.m. at First Baptist Church in Big Spring.

We also have a midweek prayer meeting at 7 p.m. on Wednesdays.

First Christian

Tonight, the youth at First Christian will celebrate Ground Hog Day with a lock-in from 6 to 11 p.m. On Sunday, Dr. Jimmy Watson, pastor, will preach the second sermon in a three sermon series on love.

Last week we explored the idea that love is primary. This week Dr. Watson will expound on the notion that love is practical. The sermons are all based on 1 Corinthians 13:1-13.

On Wednesday night, Feb. 7, First Christian will host its weekly Wednesday night schedule of food, fun and fellowship beginning at 5:30 p.m. with youth activities included.

East Side Baptist Church

The East Side Baptist Church invites everyone to attend our services Sunday morning at 10:15 a.m.

The East Side Baptist Church had a send-off party for Bro. Chris Shelley who has enlisted in the United States Navy. Good luck Chris!

Jowilli Etchison is president

Dana Tarter presented yearbooks and the club expressed appreciation for the work she had done in designing and preparing the books.

Dana gave a program on chestnuts, their origin and use in the United States. Recipe leaflets were given to the members.

The club will meet one time monthly, on the fourth Friday. The next meeting will be in the home of Lois Johnston.

Janice Bond, First Vice President; Betty Cox, Second Vice President; Co-treasurers, Clarence Hawkins, Billye Grisham; Recording Secretary, Myrtill Lee and Corresponding Secretary, Jean Warren.

New officers for 2001 will be installed in May.

Extension Club

The Texas Extension Education Association Club met in the home of Jowilli Etchison on Friday, Jan. 26, to receive yearbooks for 2001. Six members attended.

CLUB NEWS

Retired Teachers

Forty-nine members of the Big Spring-Howard County Retired Teachers Association participated in Community Volunteer Service in the year 2000. The volunteer hours included all areas of service to the community.

These 49 retirees turned in a total of 15,823 hours of service. Of this total, 1,506

RELIGION IN THE NEWS

AUGUSTA, Ga. (AP) — Trustees of the International Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention have decided new employees must work "in accordance and not contrary to" the denomination's newly revised doctrinal statement. A new version of the "Baptist Faith and Message" statement was approved last June in line with the denomination's increasingly conservative policies, including opposition to women as pastors.

The leaders of the largest U.S. agency of its kind, with 5,000 foreign missionaries, stated their own "wholehearted" endorsement of the new doctrine. But the trustees did not require new appointees to pledge personal agreement.

GENEVA (AP) — Membership in the Lutheran church increased from 63.1 million to 64 million last year, with the greatest growth occurring in Africa, the Lutheran World Federation reported. A year ago, Asia posted the biggest increase. Of the 835,000 new African members, 766,000 joined Ethiopia's Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus, which now has 3.3 million adherents and is the continent's largest Lutheran body.

Lutheran totals declined slightly in Europe and North America for 2000.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE (VITA) volunteers have been trained by the Internal Revenue Service and will be preparing 2000 Income Tax Returns for individuals beginning Monday, Feb. 5, and each Monday until April 9, from 9 a.m. to noon at the Senior Citizens Center, 1901 Simler Drive.

This is for all citizens, and there is no charge. Please bring your tax booklet received from the IRS, all W-2s, 1099s and other documents received showing 2000 Income as well as your 1999 Income Tax Return. If you cannot come at that time or need further assistance, please call: Dorothy Kennemur-398-5522, or Senior Citizens Center-267-1628.

WELL SAID

Take a chance! All life is a chance. The man who goes farthest is generally the one who will do and dare.

Dale Carnegie

The whole world steps aside for the man who knows where he is going.

Anonymous

No help for girl who can't take fir

COMMUNICATOR
BOSTON (AP) — Jenny doesn't go to like other kids share birthday with her friends.

And now, Roman Catholic rules, she can't her First Communion either.

Jenny suffers disease, which to get sick from gluten, a protein and other grains safely eat rice.

The Archdiocese of Boston has told that the church stitute a rice wafer for the wheat one, c years of tradition.

The Richard now worship Methodist church the rules on are more Methodist bread and wine ic, not the actual blood of Jesus.

"It was hard, make a decision says the girl Janice Richards.

Though Jenny years-away from when most U.S. make First Communion the family star to lay the ground.

Doug and Richardson, who their three children Boston suburb say they were a parish priest, t Twomey, that take communion form of wine bread. They dec

"She feels different ever she goes to be made to feel church," her mother said. The family reter from Cardinal Law, who ex church would r exception. Tw week referred about the mal archdiocese.

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The only trea diet complete gluten. The Cel Foundation es many as 1 in 2 affected by it.

Still, church there are numer they cannot con

The Vatican matter serious that in 1994, it for all bishops Among them hosts (which do gluten) are inv for the celebra Eucharist."

Massachusetts Jane Swift is Catholic and ha ease. She said t plans to send Jenny. Swift w cuss how she disease in chur

Annette Ber dent of the Am Society and a Catholic, says quietly make a to help parish Christian is to ible," she says.

Jenny's moth of the church in the city. I believe have made an she says.

BUDGET

Continued from Center set up local resident heating bills.

The center is businesses, cl residents of th to give to th Energas Cris Northside Center, P.O. Spring, 79721.

No help for girl who can't take first Communion

BOSTON (AP) — Five-year-old Jenny Richardson doesn't go to McDonald's like other kids and doesn't share birthday cupcakes with her friends.

And now, because of Roman Catholic Church rules, she can't have part of her First Communion rite, either.

Jenny suffers from celiac disease, which causes her to get sick from eating gluten, a protein in wheat and other grains. She can safely eat rice.

The Archdiocese of Boston has told the family that the church cannot substitute a rice communion wafer for the traditional wheat one, citing 2,000 years of tradition and faith.

The Richardson family now worships at a Methodist church, where the rules on communion are more flexible; Methodists believe the bread and wine are symbolic, not the actual body and blood of Jesus.

"It was hard. It's hard to make a decision to change," says the girl's mother, Janice Richardson.

Though Jenny is two years away from the age when most U.S. Catholics make First Communion, the family started last fall to lay the groundwork.

Doug and Janice Richardson, who live with their three children in the Boston suburb of Natick, say they were told by their parish priest, the Rev. Dan Twomey, that Jenny could take communion in the form of wine instead of bread. They declined.

"She feels different wherever she goes but shouldn't be made to feel different in church," her mother says.

The family received a letter from Cardinal Bernard Law, who explained the church would not make an exception. Twomey this week referred questions about the matter to the archdiocese.

For people with celiac disease, gluten flattens the villi, the tiny fronds inside the walls of the small intestine that absorb nutrients. That makes celiac sufferers sick, lowers resistance to illness and causes fatigue.

The only treatment is a diet completely free of gluten. The Celiac Disease Foundation estimates as many as 1 in 250 people is affected by it.

Still, church experts say there are numerous reasons they cannot compromise.

The Vatican takes the matter seriously enough that in 1994, it issued rules for all bishops to follow. Among them: "Special hosts (which do not contain gluten) are invalid matter for the celebration of the Eucharist."

Massachusetts Lt. Gov. Jane Swift is a practicing Catholic and has celiac disease. She said this week she plans to send a note to Jenny. Swift would not discuss how she handles the disease in church.

Annette Bentley, president of the American Celiac Society and a practicing Catholic, says some priests quietly make a substitution to help parishioners. "To be Christian is to be more flexible," she says.

Jenny's mother says even if the church were to come around, the family is not sure they would accept it. "I believe Jesus would have made an exception," she says.

BUDGETS

Continued from Page 6A

Center set up a fund to help local residents with their heating bills.

The center is appealing to businesses, churches and residents of the community to give to the Emergency Energas Crisis Fund c/o Northside Community Center, P.O. Box 1974, Big Spring, 79721.

Expert: Science has gone too far

NEW YORK (AP) — The complaint has a familiar ring: Science-driven secularism has simply gone too far. It has arrogantly tyrannized American higher education, shoving religious faith to the margins, and has moved on to colonize huge tracts of American culture, law, media, and even some churches.

This time, however, the lamentation comes not from the religious right but from a foe of that movement: the certifiably liberal dean of American experts on world religions, Huston Smith.

"The culprit is not science itself but our misconstrual of it," Smith, 81, says in his new book, "Why Religion Matters," which he considers a career-culminating work. It was published this month by HarperSanFrancisco.

Smith has introduced four decades of undergraduates and seekers to faiths beyond the Judeo-Christian orbit through his book "The World's Religions," which has sold well over 2 million copies. He became something of a pop figure in 1996 when he was featured on a five part PBS-TV series with Bill Moyers.

Smith says nobody in his right mind would attack science as such, considering its vast contributions to human betterment. He warns that science has been twisted into "scientism," an ideology that tries to take the place of religion and deny it any legitimate place in modern thinking.

The problem became

"The culprit is not science itself but our misconstrual of it."

Huston Smith

obvious to him, Smith recalled in an interview, when he taught philosophy at Massachusetts Institute of Technology between 1958 and 1973.

The atmosphere on elite campuses was "materialistic or naturalistic to the core" and supposed that "there is nothing beyond this physical world, and science is the royal road to truth in discovering the nature of reality."

"I didn't believe that," he says. "I still do not."

The problem has persisted in the years since, he says. In 1997, Smith sent a complaint to a national organization of high-school biology teachers about its official definition of evolution as an "unsupervised, impersonal" process. There's no scientific proof for those words, he argued, and many Americans see them as a threat to their belief that God had a hand in the cosmos.

After vigorous discussion, the association dropped the two words.

Smith champions what he calls the traditional world view, which insists on the reality of things that cannot be known by science, such as values, beauty, the supernatural, the ultimate meaning of our existence and fulfillment of "the basic longing that lies in the depths of the human

heart."

Modern, scientific thinking, he writes, "cannot prevent us from having experiences that feel as if they come from a different world."

If these important matters are suppressed, the stature of the human race is diminished, he insists. Result: a worldwide crisis that runs far deeper than politics and economics.

Smith thinks the same inspiring world view is shared by all religions and by all believers in "God by whatsoever name," whatever their differences.

Most Americans hold on to this great tradition, he thinks, but the intellectual elite largely rejects it. He quotes sociologist Peter Berger, who observed that India is the world's most religious nation, Sweden is the least religious, and America is "a nation of Indians ruled by Swedes."

The now-retired professor has never been a mere outside observer of world faiths. Raised by missionary parents in China, he took an early interest in learning about Confucianism and Taoism. Later, he spent many years working with spiritual masters to experience from inside the life of Hinduism, Buddhism, and Sufism, the mystical branch of Islam. He is, however, a lifelong Methodist churchgoer.

"Christianity has been foundational," Smith says. "I kept my left foot in my own faith, but my right foot was always moving into traditions I was trying to understand."

HUFF

Continued from Page 6A

that would rob us of the fullness of God's grace in our lives.

Colossians 3:5-9 says, "Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. Because of these, the wrath of God is coming. You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived. But now you must rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices...." (NIV)

Every one of these things listed by the writer are "energy robbers." When we allow ourselves to fall into these temptations, we rob ourselves of God's ability to fill us to overflowing with His grace. If we keep living like this, it is not long before our spiritual energy is all used up. God has no place in our heart and life in which to deposit His grace, and we are now paying a high cost for living and running on empty.

We don't leave our windows and doors open when we try to heat or cool our

homes. We can't afford to leave our heart doors open to every temptation that comes our way.

While I can't do much about the high cost and short supply of electricity and gas, I can do something about my short supply of spiritual energy. I can close my heart to the temptations of life, insulate myself from the evils this world, and draw closer to the source of energy...Jesus Christ.

A burning ember, when taken away from the flame, goes out because it runs out of the energy of the full fire. As a Christian I must remain close to the source of my strength or I too will go out.

Is there hope for your gas bill? Only God knows.

Is there hope for your spiritual life? Only you can answer that question.

Unlike the power or gas company who have limited supplies of energy, God has an endless supply, but we must give Him our heart...all of it. Small cost for an endless supply of spiritual power and an eternal home with no power shortages.

Roger Huff is pastor at First Church of the Nazarene.

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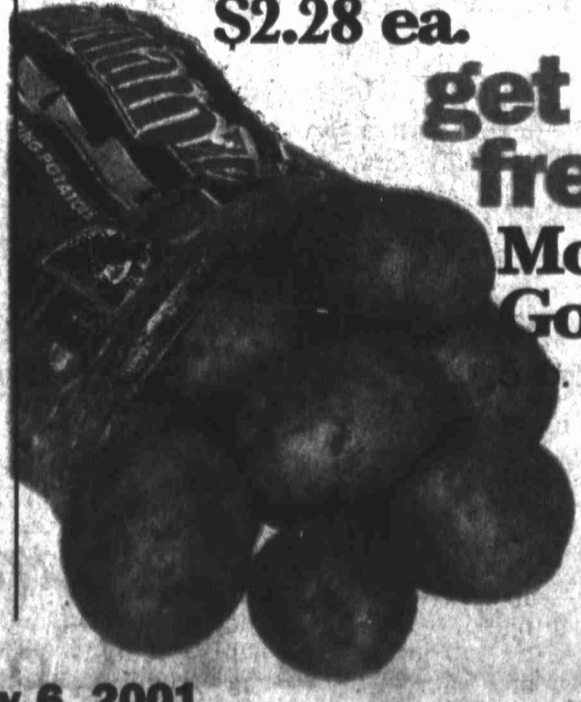
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S

IN B

Howard post in WJAC
 Howard Hawks and Lady Bulldogs rolled to West College Conference wins over College's Bulldogs. In the evening the Lady Hawks trouble in post win over improving the 12-10 on the season 1 in WJAC play. Grace Gantt with 23 points Shamiaka Bud 13 more.
 The night much wilder at Hawks took a 1 time victory. Derrick Tar 26 for the Hawks Zach Moss a Mattear had 18 Doug Whittler with 15 points down eight rebound. Both Howard return to action playing host Plains squads.

Hawk Flight Club luncheon

There will be flight Booster cheon Monday Cactus Room Student Union College. The cost is \$5. son. For more tion call Betty R 5040.

Hunter education course offered

Boyce Hale Poitevint will be ing a two-day h cation course Feb. 24-25 in the ence room of Spring Area Cl Commerce office. The course from 8 a.m. to 5 day. The fee is \$ All hunters b after Sept. 2, 1 complete the co To preregister 6957 or 264-7033.

Lady Steers parents set w

Parents of B Lady Steers soft ers will have a starting at Saturday at Spring ISD Complex. The parents Spring softball p urged to attend.

Area coaches to transmit s

The Herald is Crossroads area and softball co have not provid of their varsity and rosters for 2001 season to quickly as possi Rosters - and can be faxed to tion of Kamillah 264-7205.

AREA G

TODAY H.S. BASKETBALL
 6 p.m. — Big Spring at (VG, VB).
 6:30 p.m. — Seagraves at (VG, VB).
 • Forsan ta Star VB).
 • Grady at Ira, (USA, Ch. 38.
 • Garden City at County, (VG, VB).

ON THE

Television COLLEGE BASKET
 6 p.m. — Memphis, ESPN, C PGA
 2 p.m. — Feb National Pro-Am, USA, Ch. 38.
EXTREME SPORTS
 8 p.m. — Winter ESPN, Ch. 30.

IN BRIEF

Howard posts sweep in WJAC action

Howard College's Hawks and Lady Hawks rolled to Western Junior College Athletic Conference (WJAC) wins over Clarendon College's Bulldogs and Lady Bulldogs.

In the evening's opener, the Lady Hawks had little trouble in posting an 88-45 win over Clarendon, improving their record to 12-10 on the season and 4-1 in WJAC play.

Grace Gantt led the way with 23 points, while Shamieka Buckley added 13 more.

The nightcap was a much wilder affair, as the Hawks took a 107-104 overtime victory.

Derrick Tarver scored 26 for the Hawks, while Zach Moss and Darius Mattear had 18 apiece and Doug Whittler chipped in with 15 points and pulled down eight rebounds.

Both Howard teams return to action Monday, playing host to South Plains squads.

Hawk Flight Booster Club luncheon slated

There will be a Hawk Flight Booster Club luncheon Monday in the Cactus Room of the Student Union at Howard College.

The cost is \$5.25 per person. For more information call Betty Reed at 264-5040.

Hunter education course offered

Boyce Hale and Steve Poitevin will be instructing a two-day hunter education course beginning Feb. 24-25 in the conference room of the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce office.

The course will run from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day. The fee is \$10.

All hunters born or after Sept. 2, 1971, must complete the course.

To preregister call 267-6957 or 264-7033.

Lady Steers softball parents set work day

Parents of Big Spring Lady Steers softball players will have a work day starting at 10 a.m. Saturday at the Big Spring ISD Softball Complex.

The parents of all Big Spring softball players are urged to attend.

Area coaches asked to transmit schedules

The Herald is asking all Crossroads area baseball and softball coaches who have not provided copies of their varsity schedules and rosters for the 2000-2001 season to do so as quickly as possible.

Rosters and schedules can be faxed to the attention of Kamillah Ward at 264-7205.

AREA GAMES

TODAY H.S. BASKETBALL

- 6 p.m.
 - Big Spring at Levelland, (VG, VB).
- 6:30 p.m.
 - Seagraves at Coahoma, (VG, VB).
 - Forsan to Stanton, (VG, VB).
 - Grady at Ira, (VG, VB).
 - Garden City at Irion County, (VG, VB).

ON THE AIR

Television COLLEGE BASKETBALL

- 6 p.m. — Marquette at Memphis, ESPN, Ch. 30.
- PGA
 - 2 p.m. — Pebble Beach National Pro-Am, 2nd round, USA, Ch. 35.
- EXTREME SPORTS
 - 8 p.m. — Winter X-Games, ESPN, Ch. 30.

Rod Woodson an all-time great, now a champion, too

HONOLULU (AP) — Rod Woodson's first appearance in the Super Bowl was the result of perseverance and a supportive coach.

His second was even more satisfying because he won a championship ring.

"I can't tell you how good it feels," Woodson said of the Baltimore Ravens' 34-7 victory over the New York Giants. "You just never know what's going to happen in this league. Luckily for me, we played well enough to get into the playoffs and then made that run."

"We went from a .500 team last season to Super Bowl champions this year. I'm just glad I was on the winning side. It was great to play in a Super Bowl and win it. It's the one

thing I wanted to accomplish before I finish playing."

Woodson, who turns 36 next month, has certainly accomplished a lot in his 14-year career. Set to play in his ninth Pro Bowl game Sunday, he was named to the NFL's 75th anniversary team a few years ago and seems a lock to be a first-ballot Pro Football Hall of Famer.

That might not be for a while, since retirement is not on his mind.

"I'm going to take it year by year," Woodson said Thursday. "I feel good, I'm still healthy, I think I'm still playing at a level that's helping our team in Baltimore. I'm satisfied when I look at myself in the mirror. You can never be ashamed of getting older, it's part of

human nature."

Woodson, who played cornerback for 12 years before moving to safety in 1999, isn't ready to call the Ravens' defense the best ever, as some have, but said he might be soon.

"It's the best defense I've ever played with, I'll tell you that," he said. "Hopefully, next year, we can repeat what we did. If we can do that, you would have to say we're one of the best in the history of the NFL."

Woodson has certainly done his share. He had four interceptions this season to raise his career total to 58 and recovered three fumbles, made 65 tackles and assisted on another 10.

"He's still bringing it," Denver Broncos wide receiver Rod Smith said. "He got a chance to be a part of a great team, finally got that ring. I'm lucky enough to already have two. You want to see someone like that succeed."

"He's definitely an all-time great. He changed the way the game is played. He played at corner, moved to safety, covers like a corner and gets a chance to hit."

Smith, who grew up a Pittsburgh Steelers fan, remembers the first NFL game he ever attended in person — at Arrowhead Stadium between the Steelers and Kansas City Chiefs.

He was a Missouri Southern student at the time.



Coach Steve Ward and the members of Big Spring's Steers golf team are ready to begin the spring season. Today the Steers will open the season at the Snyder Invitational Tournament.

BSHS linksters getting in full swing

By KAMILAH WARD
Sports Writer

After spending the first semester with tryouts and getting into the swing of things, the Big Spring Steers and Lady Steers golf teams are ready for their spring openers.

Led by head coach Steve Ward and assisted by Tony Truelove, the Steers will travel to Snyder, which is expected to be one of Big Spring's toughest opponents at the Invitational which begins play today.

Last season the Steers finished fourth in District 5-4A.

This year Big Spring golfers will compete in a more populous District 4-4A, so head coach Steve Ward isn't making any projections just yet of where the Steers, and Lady Steers, for that matter, figure to place in the new league's mix.

The Steers are going through drills, working in groups and doing a lot of chipping and putting in preparation for the 4-4A tournament where they hope to qualify for competition at the regional meet on the first weekend in April.

"These preseason invitationals are important because you can measure

the competition and have a good idea of where you may stand in district," said Ward.

This year the Big Spring team lists 22 players including with three returning golfers from the 2000 Steers squad — Jared Simmons, Issac Willborn and Nick Read.

For the Snyder Invitational, Ward has selected sophomore Mario Rodriguez and freshman Ryan Rodriguez to join his three returning players on the Steers varsity.

Snyder and Andrews as always boast strong, experienced players on their teams this season, meaning Big Spring's young team that contains just one senior will have its work cut out for it.

The positive side of Big Spring's collective youth, however, is that Ward can look forward to a bright future in his players' future.

The season starts next week for the Lady Steers when they and the Steers play the role of host for the Big Spring Invitational at the Comanche Trail Golf Course and the Big Spring Country Club.

Currently the Lady Steers roster includes five players, but two more players are expected to join the squad

after basketball season comes to a close.

The Lady Steers lost three-time district medalist Ashlie Simmons to graduation last season. She now plays as one of McClennan Community College's top players.

The Lady Steers are also a young team with one senior. She is joined by junior Leslie Hicks, sophomore Brittany Griffin and freshmen Angela Pain and Jessica Hicks. This year the Lady Steers are expecting to have a better team score with the new additions.

The Lady Steers' strong point figures to be the experience its young players earned last season.

The Steers are looking at six invitational tournament before district play is set to begin. They'll face just almost all of their District 4-4A opponents over the next month before teeing off on March 26 in the first round of the district tournament at Levelland.

Ward said the Steers' strategy for today's opening round of the Snyder Invitational will be mental toughness.

"Golf is 90 percent mental and 10 percent physical," Ward explained. "If you think you'll hit a shot, you'll hit it."

XFL knows no one ever went broke selling sex and violence

No one ever went broke selling sex and violence.

Football is another matter.

The National Football League is the 800-pound gorilla of sports leagues at the moment, but the jungle is littered with the bodies of imitators.

The American Football League survived nine years on its own before being arm-wrestled into a 1969 merger. The original World Football League, despite stars like Larry Csonka, Jim Kick, Paul Warfield and Danny White, folded 10 weeks into its second season. That was 1975. Things were so bad at the end that the Birmingham, Ala., sheriff's department ambushed the winners in the locker room after the World Bowl and confiscated their uniforms. The Birmingham Americans were in arrears.

Some 10 years later, the United States Football League boasted players such as Doug Flutie, Steve Young, Herschel Walker and Jim Kelly. George Allen coached.

Donald Trump owned. But not for long. The USFL folded its tent in 1986, after three seasons.

So guess what the XFL will put front and center?

"I'm afraid their cheerleaders will make the Dallas Cowboy cheerleaders look like Amish girls," said Allen Sanderson, who rarely dabbles in hyperbole.

Sanderson is an economist from the University of Chicago, a bottom-line guy who has written extensively about how sports leagues make money and how much. Like most of us, he has no idea whether the XFL will make money over the long haul. But he does have a rooting interest.

"I hope they don't make it," Sanderson said, "not as an economist, but just because of what I think the league says. I don't think we need to lower the bar on entertainment."

Too late, Al — if you count the promotional spots already on NBC showing plausibly naked XFL cheerleaders getting out of the showers. The violence is not far behind, judging by the teams playing in Saturday night's season opener: Hitmen vs. Outlaws.

The least shocking thing about the XFL is that the founding fathers found each other. NBC

Sports boss Dick Ebersol was still sore over his network's loss in the television-rights fight for the NFL. McMahon was looking for another way to peddle trash. In the past, guys with egos this big have started wars. Maybe we should be grateful they stopped at football — or at least something that resembles it.

The rules have been tweaked to ensure the maximum number of collisions. There are no fair catches, no point-after kicks and no quarterback-in-the-grasp stoppages. There is a rumor going around that instead of the opening coin toss, a ball will be placed at the 50-yard line and one player from each team races 20 yards to claim it. It's not in the rule modifications posted on the XFL Web site, but it sounds like a good idea. That way, not only does McMahon get the smash opening he craves; there's the possibility of a serious injury before the game even begins.

Already, plenty of sound and fury have greeted the XFL. Columnist George Will worried that the league will lead to the "further coarsening of America" and railed against its "puerile vulgarity, vicarious danger and derivative manliness for couch potatoes."

Whew.

Knowing how McMahon operates, he's probably posted Will's column in its entirety on bulletin boards in the locker rooms around the league.

But the XFL won't lack for motivation, just talent. The cheerleaders will be working mostly for the exposure — in some cases, literally — and the players make on average \$40,000. They get to date each other. Yet nobody gets benefits, which prompted NFL players' union chief Gene Upshaw to sniff, "I don't know if it's football yet."

In a sense, he's already answered the question. The truth is that anybody who would risk life and limb for \$40,000 can't be that good. Ultimately, that's what is going to sink the XFL. McMahon can cart in all the JumboTrons, stereo speakers, klieg lights and microphones that money can buy, but he won't be able to find enough washed-up ex-jocks to stage a plausible football game. For all the sizzle, there will never be enough steak to go around.

After a few games, it's going to dawn on all but the wrestling geeks in the audience that they've seen this stuff before. Anybody who hasn't can go down to

See LITKE, page 2B

FEB 2 2001

SPORTS EXTRA

TOP 25 - MEN

Table listing top 25 men's basketball teams with columns for Rank, Team, and Record.

NBA STANDINGS

NBA Standings table with columns for Conference, Division, Team, W, L, Pct, GB.

Temple 84, Duquesne 58

Temple 84, Duquesne 58. Vermont 81, New Hampshire 72. SOUTH. Alabama 65M, Tenn. Martin 69.

Xavier 75, Florida St. 72

Xavier 75, Florida St. 72. SOUTHWEST. La. Monroe 67, San Houston St. 60.

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL. American League. Minnesota at Cleveland. National League. St. Louis at Houston.

BASEBALL

Thursday's Games. Minnesota at Cleveland. St. Louis at Houston. Friday's Games.

NHL

Thursday's Games. Montreal at Boston. Philadelphia at Tampa Bay.

WOMEN'S GAMES

Thursday's Games. Minnesota at Florida. Denver at Washington.

LITKE

Continued from page 1B. Blockbuster, which is already beating the stuffing out of NBC on Saturday night.

Super Bowl pitted a quarterback who was a recovering alcoholic against a middle linebacker who was just a year removed from being charged in a double-homicide.

COLLEGE SCORES

PHILADELPHIA FLYERS. Named Terry Murray coach. PITTSBURGH PENGUINS. Acquired C Wayne Primeau from Tampa Bay.

4A BASKETBALL

The Class 4A high school basketball playoffs continued for the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches.

NCAA

Continued from page 1B

Duke coach Mike Krzyzewski had no beef with the late foul call by official Mike Woods.

"You would like to see something with a shot involved, but hey, they saw it. We're big boys," Krzyzewski said.

Forte scored 24 points, had a career-best 16 rebounds, six assists and three steals. His rebound total was the most ever by a North Carolina guard.

Forte and the Tar Heels never got rattled in steamy Cameron, while the Blue Devils had one of their worst shooting games of the season.

Jason Williams led Duke with 32 points, but he missed six of 10 foul shots and couldn't really get this club in an offensive groove.

"I think our offense affected our defense," Krzyzewski said. "The fact that we didn't see the ball go in on some open shots had a negative impact on our defense."

The Tar Heels were up by seven at halftime, and Duke led on just five possessions of the second period before Mike Dunleavy's 3-pointer with 3.9 seconds left tied it at 83-83.

Battier then fouled Haywood, who wasn't really supposed to touch the ball.

"The play was designed for Joe to catch it on the run and go up the sideline and get the best shot he could," Haywood said of the inbound play following Dunleavy's game-tying shot.

WOODS

Woods' knee caused him to miss the game, but he was able to play in the Pebble Beach Pro-Am.

"I should have known how to play in the early Thruway," Woods said. "I should have known how to play in the early Thruway."

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WOODS but just stroke... PEBBLE (AP) — D... knee cause... out fan, Ti... all along h... to play in... the Pebble... Pro-Am. I... know how... "I should... 90," Wood... ing up on... the early Thru... He made... there was a... the sun s... Monterey F... it almost n... this tourna... town, than... well. Alas... California... awash in... Woods bro... One day awkwardly... hound and... knee, Wood... pain to ma... in his rou... just 2 strok... held by Dav... "I knew... Woods cor... sore, yes, b... to play, it's... friend of... there's a di... pain and in... Only Wood... badly he sp... ment in hi... there were... during H... Spyglass H... Standing... he reached... left leg a... ground twi... a 321-yard... the fairway... favored his... a 3-wood... yards, pin-l... the green... birdie on h... At the e... stride. Woods, w... one green i... shed with... birdies. Imagine... have done... knees. "Probabl... said with a... Woods... Spyglass... wound up... Pebble Bea... Am by two... after he ove... deficit wit... play with... par-birdie f... A year... strokes be... first roun... trails Berg... as he goes... Friday, th... on the rot... has five pa... Berganio... Spyglass... toughest of... es, and got... a bogey in... That tied t... for tourna... Dan Forsm... Hardly an... "He's... Berganio s... "They're g... him wheth... nail or a... knee. I k... play." Woods w... tive while... two holes... read his fl... got strong... on, and so... "It's def... said. "It v... the begin... started pla... part was g... the end i... sore again. The onl... was evide... ward fini... on the fl... downhill I... tried to cri... 529-yard s... hit that on... up another... "The fir... kind of d... said. "It's... than war... range. Yo... swing, th... game-time... Watchin... gallery w... Butch Har... left side at... don't thi... Harmon s...

Woods sore, but just two strokes back

PEBBLE BEACH, Calif. (AP) — Despite a gimpy knee caused by an overzealous fan, Tiger Woods knew all along he would be able to play in the first round of the Pebble Beach National Pro-Am. He just didn't know how well.

"I should be able to break 90," Woods said after warming up on the practice green early Thursday morning. He made it sound like there was a better chance of the sun shining on the Monterey Peninsula, which it almost never does when this tournament comes to town, than of him playing well.

Alas, the rugged California coastline was awash in sunshine, and Woods broke 90 by 24 shots.

One day after he stepped awkwardly on an autograph hound and sprained his left knee, Woods set aside the pain to make eight birdies in his round of 6-under 66, just 2 strokes out of the lead held by David Berganio.

"I knew it was OK," Woods confessed. "It felt sore, yes, but when it's time to play, it's time to play. A friend of mine told me there's a difference between pain and injury."

Only Woods knows how badly he sprained the ligament in his left knee, and there were only a few signs during his round at Spyglass Hill.

Standing on the first tee, he reached back with his left leg and tapped the ground twice before belting a 321-yard drive that split the fairway. He winced and favored his leg after hitting a 3-wood that sailed 274 yards, pin-high just right of the green, setting up a birdie on his opening hole. At the end, he hit his stride.

Woods, who missed only one green in regulation, finished with three straight birdies.

Imagine what he might have done on two good knees.

"Probably a 73 or 74," he said with a smile.

Woods had a 73 at Spyglass last year and wound up winning the Pebble Beach National Pro-Am by two strokes, but only after he overcame a 7-stroke deficit with seven holes to play with an eagle-birdie-par-birdie finish.

A year ago, he was 7 strokes behind after the first round. This time, he trails Berganio by 2 strokes as he goes to Poppy Hills on Friday, the easiest course on the rotation because it has five par 5s.

Berganio also played Spyglass, considered the toughest of the three courses, and got through without a bogey in his round of 64. That tied the course record for tournament play set by Dan Forsman in 1993.

Hardly anyone noticed. "He's Tiger Woods," Berganio said with a shrug. "They're going to talk about him whether he has a hangnail or a hyperextended knee. I knew he would play."

Woods was slightly tentative while walking the first two holes and crouching to read his first putt. His knee got stronger as the day went on, and so did his game.

"It's definitely sore," he said. "It was more sore at the beginning when I first started playing. The middle part was great, and toward the end it started getting sore again."

The only time any pain was evident was the awkward finish after his 3-wood on the first hole from a downhill lie, and when he tried to crush a drive on the 529-yard seventh hole — he hit that one 333 yards to set up another easy birdie.

"The first few drives were kind of difficult," Woods said. "It's a little different than warming up on the range. You have a range swing, then you have a game-time swing."

Watching among the gallery was swing coach Butch Harmon.

"Over to his left side as quickly, which I don't think hurts him," Harmon said.

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CEDAR RIDGE CHURCH OF CHRIST
2110 Birdwell
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MIRACLE REVIVAL CENTER
600 East FM 700
SPRING TABERNACLE
1209 Wright St.
CHURCH OF THE HARVEST
1311 Goliad 267-6747

NON-DENOMINATIONAL

CHRIST'S COMMUNITY CHURCH
1909 Gregg 263-5683
TEMPLO L BIBLIA ABIERTA
604 E. 13th St. 268-1998

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS

Corner of FM 700 & 11th Place
264-0734

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS

1803 Wason 263-4411

EPISCOPAL

ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL
1001 Goliad 267-8201

JEHOVAH WITNESS

KINGDOM HALL JEHOVAH WITNESS
1500 Wason Rd.

LUTHERAN

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN
810 Scurry 267-7163

METHODIST

BAKERS CHAPEL AME METHODIST
911 North Lancaster 267-7158

METHODIST

COAHOMA UNITED METHODIST
Main at Central
FIRST UNITED METHODIST
400 SCURRY 267-6394
w.s. 10:50 a.m.
IGLESIA METHODISTA
Unida Northside
Goliad & NE 6th St.
NORTH BIRDWELL LANE
UNITED METHODIST
2702 N. Birdwell 263-2536
WESLEY UNITED METHODIST
1206 Owens 263-2092

NAZARENE

FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
1400 Lancaster

PENTECOSTAL

JESUS NAME PENTECOSTAL CHURCH
1004 Locust

PRESBYTERIAN

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
701 Rannels 263-4211
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
205 N. 1st Coahoma

OTHER

GOOD SHEPHERD FELLOWSHIP
Abrams & 7th St.
POWERHOUSE OF GOD IN CHRIST
711 Cherry
THE SALVATION ARMY
811 West 5th 267-8239
TOLLETT ALL FAITH CHAPEL
Big Spring State Hospital
FRIENDS OF UNITY
303 E. 5th St.
(915) 263-6311

Knowlton Automotive

Complete Car Care
Foreign & Domestic
267-5738
306 State St. Big Spring

Sherry Wegner Agency

Life & Health • Farm & Ranch • Commercial Ins.
267-2555
2121 Lamesa Hwy • Big Spring

BATTERIES • BRAKES • TUNE UPS • TIRE REPAIRS & BALANCING

BIG SPRING TIRE TRUCK & PASSENGER • NEW & USED
JAMES SALVATO, OWNER
601 GREGG • BIG SPRING • 267-7021

FEED & SEED FERTILIZER

AGRICULTURAL CHEMICALS
Big Spring Farm Supply, Inc.
Ronnie Wood
263-3382 Lamesa Highway

QUALITY GLASS & MIRROR CO.

The Finest in Your Glass Needs
Residential Commercial Automobile
263-1891
505 E. 2nd

DON'S TIRE & TRUCK SERVICE

267-5203
ENGINES • CLUTCHES • BEARINGS
BRAKES • OIL & LUBE SERVICE
NEW & USED TIRES
24 Hour Road Service
South Service Road I-30 Exit 178

Blums Jewelers

Big Spring Mall
Big Spring, Tx. (915) 267-6335

Don's Tire & Truck Service

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NEW & USED TIRES
24 Hour Road Service
South Service Road I-30 Exit 1

Herald Classifieds

AUTOS

92 Mercury Topaz 4 door, 108K, runs perfect, great mileage. \$4,250. OBO Call 394-4334.

PICKUPS

1992 Chev. Cheyenne super. **SOLD** One owner. Call 915-261-0148.

298 Chev. 271 pickups \$11,500 each. Call 267-3126 or 238-7650.

'87 GMC SB 3500 FI, custom paint, lowered. Runs perfect. \$6,000. OBO. Also '85 Chev. '81 LB New GM 350, rebuilt trans & rear end. Propane system. Good work or ranch truck. \$1500. Call 394-4334.

TRUCKS

1996 International 3 ton oilfield gang truck. Completely loaded out. Good condition. 83,190 miles. \$23,500. Call 915-267-6654 ask for Mike or Don. Weekends 664-2132.

TRUCKS & CARS

Several 2000 Model Trucks & Cars Available At Huge Discounts. BOB BROCK FORD 500 W. 4th

HELP WANTED

People just like you read the Big Spring Herald Classifieds. Call us today at 263-7331 and place your ad.

Health Care Professionals

New Horizon Nursing Center is accepting resumes for the following positions:
* Activity Director * Social Worker
We offer an excellent salary and benefits are available. If you are a person dedicated to providing quality patient care please contact:
Martin Hubbard
New Horizon Nursing Center
3510 W. 8th
Odessa, TX 79763
PH (915) 333-4511 FAX (915) 333-6078

DRIVING SCHOOL

GET YOUR DRIVERS LICENSE AT THE MALL!
REGISTRATION Feb. 22nd & 23rd
CALL 268-1023 OR 270-4610
C1200

INSTRUCTION

Private Piano Lessons
Beginners through Advance Years of teaching experience.
2607 Rebecca. Call 263-3367.

HELP WANTED

"2001 JOBS"
Local Gov't Jobs to \$27.95/hr + Postal & Wildlife - No Experience Sun - Sat. 9am - 10pm.
(888)423-3021 XT# 234 1st. Come 1st. Served!

Access to a computer? Put it to work! Up to \$25 - \$75 PT/FT. 1-888-260-6599. www.HBCash.com

Accountant position open. Send Resume to PO Box 1431/622 Big Spring, TX 79720.

Big Spring Care Center
* Weekend RN
* Medication Aide & CNA's
* PT Social Worker
Apply at 901 Goliad

Cemetery Maintenance. Full time with benefits. Apply in person @ Trinity Memorial Park South Hwy 87.

HELP WANTED

Assistant Manager/collector needed. Security Finance is now taking applications for the above position. We offer an excellent benefit package with competitive pay and advancement opportunity. Apply in person or send resume to:
SECURITY FINANCE
204 S. Goliad
Big Spring Texas 79720.

Delivery Driver's needed. Great part time job. Come by 2202 Gregg
Domino's Pizza

Driver for wrecker FT/PT. No smoking while on duty. Clean driving record. Apply at 700 W. 4th.

Full time accounts receivable position available. Applicants must have computer experience in billing & be able to work in a fast paced environment. Knowledge of Word & Excel also. Benefits include 401K, vacation, medical. Mail resume to: Basic Energy Services PO Box 2887 Big Spring TX 79721 or fax to 915-267-1293.

Currently hiring contractors for wireless cable installation in Big Spring and surrounding areas. Please call 915-466-0160.

Local company now hiring for nighttime work. Some travel required. Must have valid driver's license. Will train. Call 267-5449.

Utility trailer manufacturer needs welders & painters. Call 267-6347.

Local company now hiring for nighttime work. Some travel required. Must have valid driver's license. Will train. Call 267-5449.

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HELP WANTED

"COME GROW WITH US"
Texaco Star Stops are now taking applications for full and part time help. Apply at 2501 S. Gregg, 800 E. 120. 400 S. Gregg & 4806 W. Hwy 80, between 8am & 2pm M-F. We are a drug free work force.

Covenant Malone and Hogan clinic has openings for the following positions:
LVN - Ideal candidate will have 3 to 5 years' clinical experience.
Salary is commensurate to experience and a full benefit package is available. Only qualified applicants need apply to the Personnel Office of Covenant Malone and Hogan Clinic, 1501 W. 11th Place, Big Spring, Texas 79720, or fax resume to 915-267-1137.

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HELP WANTED

The Texas Workforce Center in Big Spring is seeking applicants for following positions:
Administrative Coordinator
Director of Nursing-BA in Nursing
Dietary Manager-Certified Activity Coordinator-with certificate
Human Resource Manager-experience required
Building maintenance Roughnecks
Oilfield operators
Case Manager
Cashiers
Food Service Director
Customer Service Reps
For information come by Texas Workforce - 310 Owens St. EEO Auxiliary aids available.

Utility trailer manufacturer needs welders & painters. Call 267-6347.

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HELP WANTED

HEAD OF SCHOOL
St. Mary's Episcopal School
Big Spring, Texas

Relevant educational and administrative experience required. Master's degree preferred. Early Pre-K through sixth grade-130 students. Salary based upon qualifications and experience. Available March 1, 2001. Open until filled. Send cover letter and resume to: P. O. Box 1051, Big Spring, TX 79721.

NAPA needing counter help. Experienced preferred, but will train. Full or Part-time. Excellent benefits. Apply at 306 S. Gregg.

Now taking applications linemen, operators, electricians, CDL license required. Notify Glenn Ferguson 915-238-3497.

Position for LVN: Vacation, sick time, holidays, health insurance, retirement. Contact Elia Gonzalez 915-238-2634

Valley Fair Lodge Colorado City, TX 915-728-2634

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Valley Fair Lodge Colorado City, TX

HELP WANTED

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PROTECTIVE AND REGULATORY SERVICES
Protective Services Specialist I-IV
R-09-01-077
Provides administrative support to unit supervisor and staff by providing case related information to Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory (PRS) staff and the general public.
Minimum Qualifications: Graduation from high school or equivalent. Preferred Qualifications: bilingual in both English and Spanish. Monthly Salary: \$1621.00
Vacancy Location: Big Spring, TX.
For a copy of the complete job announcement or an employment application you may visit our web site at www.tdprs.state.tx.us or call (512)719-6135. Interested applicants should submit a State of Texas application for Employment to the address below or fax the application to (512) 719-6180.

The Texas Department of Protective & Regulatory Services
Human Resources Office, Suite 450
8100 Cameron Road, Austin, TX. 78754
Receptionist position open. Apply in person @ 1001 E. F. M. 700.

Relief Taxi driver. No smoking while on duty. Clean driving record. Apply at 700 W. 4th.

Secretary/bookkeeper needed. Salary D.O.E. Hours 7am-5pm. Call 915-756-2201 ask for Jackie.

JOBS WANTED

Mowing, tree trimming, hauling, interior-exterior painting. Call 267-5460 lv message.

LOANS

DELTA LOANS
Loans from \$50-\$450
Se Habla Espanol
Phone Apps. Welcome
115 E. 3rd. 268-9090

MIDWEST FINANCE
Loans \$100-\$430 Open M-F 9-6pm. 612 Gregg
263-1353 Phone app's welcome Se Habla Espanol

NEED CASH NOW OPEN
E-Z Cash
\$100 to \$1000.00
No Credit Check
Checking Acct.
Required
263-4315

NEED HELP WITH HOLIDAY BILLS & INCOME TAXES
COME SEE US
No Credit - No Problem
Loans \$100-\$467
Apply by phone 267-4591
or come by
SECURITY FINANCE
204 S. Goliad • Big Spring

DOGS, PETS, ETC.
A special dog free to a special person. Call 267-5420.
To give away, a cute male mixed breed puppy. Rusty brown in color. Call 270-0308

Wanted: Stud service of Reg. Chinese Pug. Will pay cash or pick of litter. 915-263-3930

EQUIPMENT
1990 Ditch Witch riding trencher 2310 model with trailer. \$7,500.00
Lee Rental Center
915-263-6925

For Sale: 4 1/2 50 drill pipe yellow band 145 JTS 4495 ft. test by Tuboscope. Have papers. 3.50 per ft. 267-3126. Ask for Mike Evers.

GARAGE SALES
New Estate Sale.
Decorations. 505 Scott Dr. Fri. - Sat. 10-7

1100 Cameron. Kitchenware, baby stuff, clothes, furn., material, toys. Fri & Sat 8-7

8:30 - 4pm. Friday & Saturday. 4200 W. Hwy 80. Antiques, collectibles, fishing gear, misc.

Garage Sale: Fri. & Sat. 8:00 till. South Service Road Miller B Road Sand Springs.

Garage Sale, Sat. 8-7. 1109 Johnson. A little bit of everything.

HUGE Rummage Sale: Sat. 7-7 2205 Goliad in Fellowship Hall. Tamales, Burritos, drinks.

Inside Sale Fri & Sat. 9-5. 505 E. 18th. Sofa \$125, cook stove \$30. Tables & chairs, odds & ends.

PJ's Resale: 2210 Main. Fri. & Sat. King size mattress/box springs, bar stools, occas. chairs.

"It Pays To Read Big Spring Herald Classifieds"

FURNITURE

E-Z Rentals
120 days same as cash!
Name brand TVs, VCR's, furniture, appliances, etc.
263-4315

MISCELLANEOUS

For sale: 5 Chihuahua puppies, a pop-up camper, a freezer, P295/55/R15 tires, Spanish style chrome spoke wheels, couch & a vault door. Call 263-1701

WEDDING CAKES!!
Arches, silk bouquets, catering. Order now to reserve your date.
The Gishams
267-8191

White twin canopy bed and 2 matching chests \$150. OBO. Call after 6 267-5725

ACREAGE FOR SALE

MARTIN COUNTY
10.351 Acres near West Stanton on Cr 2300 E. 8.64% interest. \$117/MO. Owner Finance Forest America Group. 800-275-7376

BUILDINGS FOR RENT

For lease, small building on Snyder Hwy. with overhead door. \$200/mo + \$100/dep. Call Westex Auto Parts, 263-5000

Small building w/out on 4th st. \$150/mn + deposit. Call Westex Auto 263-5000.

HOUSES FOR SALE

3 bdr 1 1/2 bth. attached garage. by owner \$40,000 263-4253 or 470-4208. 3237 Duke

For sale by owner. 2602 Lynn. 3 bdr. 2 bth. completely remodeled. Kentwood addition. 263-0786.

For Sale By Owner: 3 bdr. 2 bth. 2 car garage, carport, fireplace, & more. 505 Highland Drive. Call Joe @ 263-3916

Large older home in good location. 3 bdr. 2 bth. beautiful kit. den. comb. formal din. room. liv. room detached. Garage & workshop. fenced back yd. \$43,900. \$1,350 down. Call 267-8078

FURNISHED HOUSES

Furnished 3 room house \$900/mo. Call 263-1234

OFFICE SPACE

Office space for rent. All utilities paid. For more info call 267-9455

UNFURNISHED APTS.

Barcelona Apartments
Call For Move In Specials!
All Bills Paid
538 Westover Rd. 263-1252

BEAUTIFUL GARDEN COURTYARD

Swimming Pool
Private Patios
Carpports
Appliances
Most Utilities Paid
Senior Citizens Discount
1 & 2 Bedroom
Unfurnished
PARKHILL TERRACE
APARTMENTS
800 W. Marcy Drive
263-8555 263-5000

LOVELY NEIGHBORHOOD COMPLEX

Swimming Pool
Carpports
Most Utilities Paid
Senior Citizen Discounts
1 & 2 Bedrooms &
1 or 2 Baths
Unfurnished
KENTWOOD APARTMENTS
1904 East 25th Street
267-5444
263-5000

DON'T PAY expensive electricity charges for winter warmth when GAS HEAT and WATER are included at NO EXTRA UTILITY COST in the rental of the most pleasant rental residences in town. Large 1, 2, & 3 bedroom apartments, unfurnished or furnished, lease or short term rental... and REMEMBER... YOU DESERVE THE BEST. Coronado Hills Apartments, 801 Marcy Drive, 267-6500.

UNFURNISHED APTS.

1 BR starting at \$175.00
2 BR \$275
Central heat & air
\$99 Deposit
267-4217

UNFURNISHED HOUSES

1 BR 1 bath, 1102 Sycamore. Call 267-3841 or 270-7309.

1203 Stamford
2BR, 1 bath, garage
\$300/mo. - \$100/dep.
263-1792 or 264-6006

1204 Lancaster
2BR, 1 bath, garage
Fresh paint, large rooms
Very nice & spacious
\$325/mo. - \$150/dep.
263-1792 or 264-6006

2 bdr. 1 bth. CH/A, gar., new carpet & paint, no indoor pets. Call 263-4375

207 Jefferson
3 BR 2 bath,
CH/A, fireplace
Totally remodeled
Near Washington
\$600/mo plus deposit

712 Goliad
2 or 3 BR 1 bath
CH/A, w/d conn. Fenced
Near Jr. High
\$350/mo plus dep.

You pay bills.
No HUD
267-2296

3 bdr. large den w/fireplace garage, CH/A, storage shed. 1801 Alabama 263-1281.

3 BR 1 bath, 2202 Runnels. Call 267-3841 or 270-7309.

3BR, 1 1/2 bath, 2 living areas, garage. \$475/mo. Call 268-9573

3BR 1 bath, CH/A. Nice neighborhood. 1205 Pennsylvania \$450/mo plus deposit. Call 263-6997

Abandoned homes: In Big Spring Take up remaining payments. 5 bdr. 2 bth. \$220/mn. 3 bdr. \$200/mn. 264-0510

Clean 1Bdrm. \$200/mo. Deposit & references required. Call 263-2382

Clean 3/2 1/1, Near Moss Elem., CH/A, fenced yard, R.O., covered patio. Call 817-460-0554

Clean, sharp 1 BR house near church. Fenced yard, w/d connections, \$265. Non-smoking. No pets. Covered parking. McDonald Realty. 263-1234

College Park 3/1/1. Appliances. \$495. Call 267-2070.

Executive 3 bdr. 2 bth home in Highland. \$400/dep. \$850/mn. Call 263-4528

For rent: Unfurnished 3 br. 1 ba. in Coahoma \$295/mn. 2 br. 1 ba mobile home on private lot - water & gas furnished \$375. 2 br. 1 ba. house in B. S. \$250/mn. Deposit and references required. Call 267-5952

Furnished eff. apt. 1 block from college. utilities, wd, garage. \$350/mn. 267-2269.

In quiet neighborhood. 604 W. 15th. 3 bdr. 2 bth. CH/A, landscape yard. \$595/mn. 263-1281

TOO LATES

For Sale: Ditch Witch \$2400 and 2 concrete finishing machines. 263-4435 or 267-2137

2 bdr. 1 bth. w/ CH/A, fenced bk. yd., 2 car garage.
Sell Or Rent
Owner Finance
Consider Rent to Own
267-3905

3913 Hamilton - 3 bdr. 1 bth. living room, large den, appl., w/d conn., CH/A, fenced yd. \$400/mn. \$200/dep. 267-2112 or 270-2035. Lv. message.

Need Someone to answer, take message, misc. other duties. Will train. No smoking while on duty. Apply at 700 W. 4th.

For rent, 2 bedroom house & 2 bdr. mobile home, refrigerator & stove furnished. 106 Lockhart. 268-1159 or 267-7895.

Gillis Fried Chicken has immediate openings for day & evening shifts. Must be able to work weekends. Apply in person: 1101 Gregg St.

360 fenced acres near Vealmoor. Corral, barn, water well, dirt tank. \$225/ per acre.
Booze Weaver
Real Estate 267-6640

Evening kitchen position open. Full time, Mon.-Sat.
Apply in person
Red Mesa Grill
2401 Gregg.

Garage Sale, Sat. 8-7. 1301 Colby. Lots of winter clothes, Rockies, furniture & more.

Need Someone to answer, take message, misc. other duties. Will train. No smoking while on duty. Apply at 700 W. 4th.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Saturday, Feb. 3, 2001:

Communication remains key this year. Don't get frustrated if you have to reiterate something. Sign up for a class to help you express yourself more effectively. Your intuition strengthens over the next several months. Use your experience with money. Allow your circle of friends and children could get on your nerves. Is it you, or is it them? Learn stress busters, and relationships will benefit. If you are single, do not attempt to turn a friendship into a love relationship. Someone special will come to you this year. If you are attached, ask for your sweetie's help in working through pressure. Develop more understanding. GEMINI is fun to hang out with.

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)
Rushing around will get you nowhere. A significant person might not agree to a purchase. Ultimately, you're likely to appreciate that you didn't make it. Moderation is the key word. Possible compromise with a female is in the offing. Tonight: Make love, not war.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
Another's career can keep you from expressing your individuality. Don't take what a friend says personally; this person values your opinion. You'd like to learn more, but not today. Be patient. Tonight: A little chocolate won't hurt.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
Chatter surrounds you. Is someone planning a wedding or an important occasion? You might be inclined to jump in and take charge. Keep your emotions in check if communication gets muddled. You are more expansive than usual. Tonight: Go with the flow.

CANCER (June 21-July 21)
Contacts with friends can be off the mark, or maybe you just can't reach them. Your patience is being tested. Don't let children annoy you. There is plenty of time to set goals for the future. Curb your strong determination and seek out answers now. Tonight: Relax in a hot tub or a bubble bath.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
Someone in your life needs attention or assistance. As a result, how you see this person could change. Schedule your day lightly to avoid being annoyed by interruptions. A young person might have

HOROSCOPE

a good idea. Tonight: Where you are, the party is.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
Deal with those in charge. You might need to fine-tune a moneymaking idea, or you might need additional information in order to make a decision. Organizational efforts work well at home as long as you are the one making the effort, but leave time for conversation. Tonight: Opt for a romantic novel.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
There could be a delay in vacation plans due to finances. Try to come up with solutions. Romantic curves occur, whether you want them to or not. Is your hobby satisfying, or should you try something new? Tonight: Mellow out with a favorite activity.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
You have little control over what is going on at home. There is either not enough clarity or you just don't have the energy. Get into exercise or a physical activity. Someone close to you can benefit from your resourcefulness. Tonight: Relax with a favorite pal.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
A secret pops out. Be sure to verify information. Discussions with your partner can be productive, but don't drag it out. Create more fun together. Make your point another day.

You can only control yourself - forget about others. Tonight: Let another call the shots.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
You might want to purchase a computer game or maybe even a new computer. You might not be sure the price is worth it. After you've spent the day talking, enjoy the peace and quiet at home. An old friend might be thinking of contacting you. Tonight: Popcorn and a video.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
What's the new look you want? Think carefully before you take the plunge. A new house or a remodeling project might be on your mind. Expect a blast from your past sometime in the next few weeks. Be easygoing, and get into a favorite activity or pastime. Tonight: Let plans flip-flop. Do what you want.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
Visualize. Don't limit your ideas. Someone might want to treat you to lunch or a movie. If a family member asks for your advice, give him assistance without being wishy-washy. Consider options to deal with an aggravating person. Tonight: Introduce yourself

to a Harry Potter book...

BORN TODAY
Author Gertrude Stein (1874), author James Michener (1907), actress Morgan Fairchild (1950)

For America's best extended horoscope, recorded by Jacqueline Bigar, call (900) 740-7444, 99 cents per minute. Also featured is

The Spoken Tarot. Callers must be 18 or older. A service of InterMedia Inc., Jenkintown, Pa.

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at http://www.jacquelinebigar.com.

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Protect pets by hanging towels out of sight

DEAR ABBY: I am grief-stricken. Yesterday my husband and I faced the awful experience of putting our 3-year-old chocolate Labrador to sleep. For two or three days, he wouldn't eat or drink, and was lethargic and vomiting. We took him to the emergency vet hospital. The vet examined him and found "something" in his abdomen, which would require surgery to remove. What they found in his intestines was part of a kitchen towel. Unfortunately, the tissue around the towel was infected and dead from the lack of blood supply to his intestines. The damage was worse than anticipated, and he began bleeding internally. He was too weak to make it, and we had to put him to sleep. To say that we're devastated is an understatement.

I always hang a kitchen towel on the handle of the oven on which to dry my hands, remove things from the oven, etc. The towel probably smelled like food, which prompted him to chew it. To top it off, when we came home from the surgery, our 1-year-old puppy threw up the other portion of the towel!

Abby, please make other pet owners aware of this potential hazard. If sharing my story can spare someone else the devastation of losing a pet to something so avoidable, I'll gain some comfort. KELLEE IN TEMECULA, CALIF.

DEAR KELLEE: Please accept my sympathy for the sad loss of your dog. I'm printing your letter as a warning to pet owners. While I thought what happened to your beloved pet was a freak accident, a staff member recalled that something similar had happened to a dog belonging to one of his relatives.

DEAR ABBY: The passenger side door of my friend "Rodney"'s truck does not close easily. A few weeks ago as I left the vehicle, I closed the door, but not completely. The locking mechanism prevented me from opening the door to reclose it, so I decided to push on it to force it closed. I pushed the door with my posterior and heard a ringing, metallic popping sound. I leaned away from it and saw I had dented the door with my rear end!

Rodney had recently paid for two collisions with this truck, so I offered to pay for the damage I caused. I got estimates from two repair shops, and it will cost close to \$1,000 to fix the door.

My girlfriend insists that it was not entirely my fault, and that I should tell Rodney to make a claim on his insurance for it.

Abby, what is your advice? - WATCHING MY ASSETS

DEAR WATCHING: Rodney should not have to file a claim on his insurance, as that could increase the cost of his premium or possibly result in it being canceled. You damaged his vehicle, and you should pay to have it repaired. Fair is fair.

DEAR ABBY: Your column about displaying pictures of deceased spouses reminded me of the time our minister asked if anyone in the congregation thought that he or she was perfect. No one stood up, so he repeated the question. A man finally stood up. "Do you really think you are perfect?" the minister said. "No," the man replied, "I'm

just standing up for my wife's first husband." - VERNON BENSON, ST. LOUIS PARK, MINN.

DEAR ABBY: This letter is for "Smiling in the Carolinas," and the many other mothers who have placed their babies for adoption.

One of my daughters was unable to have children. With medical assistance from specialists, she tried unsuccessfully for nearly 15 years without achieving motherhood.

We are eternally grateful to the biological mothers who enabled our daughter and her husband to finally have a family. I never think of the adopted children as being different in any way. They are God's most wondrous blessing to me and my family. I tell my grandson he gets his sense of humor from me, and my granddaughter that she takes after my mother with her dark eyes and hair. My husband was so proud of our first grandson, he wheeled him from door-to-door to introduce him and show him off to our neighbors.

Abby, please tell those wonderful, giving mothers that they have brought great joy to the families they made complete with their unselfish gift. They need have no fear that they didn't do the right thing. I thank all of the courageous women who placed their babies for adoption so these children could have a good life with people better able to care for them.

GRATEFUL GRANDMOTHER, LONG ISLAND, N.Y.

DEAR GRATEFUL: You have said it very well. I hope your letter will reassure young, single mothers-to-be who may be struggling with the question of whether or not to keep their baby.

DEAR ABBY: Speaking as a physician, I want you to know that the issues you raised in your recent (Dec. 11) column about the subject of babies, touching and germs are controversial.

Of course we should wash our hands, avoid sneezing in people's faces, and generally act as responsible social individuals. But remember, if you don't get your cold from Sally Sneezey, you'll probably get it from Peter Presymptomatic.

And if we overuse antibacterial products, we run the risk of generating resistance germs to replace the benign, helpful variety, in a fashion similar to overuse of antibiotics. (Fortunately, the public is finally beginning to accept the principles of responsible antibiotic usage.)

Finally, there is evidence that excessive protection of our kids from germs and other allergens may increase their risk of allergic problems and asthma. It may turn out that folks should, in fact, encourage family, friends and admiring strangers to touch their kids. - GUY ANTHONY ROWLEY, M.D., M.P.H., CHICAGO

DEAR DR. ROWLEY: Perhaps. Since as you say, the topic is controversial, parents who are in doubt about it should consult with their pediatrician about the safest way to proceed.

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.)

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ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

LOOK TO THE BIG SPRING HERALD FOR ALL OF YOUR LOCAL NEWS, SPORTS AND INFORMATION

GARAGE SALES
Recycle your unwanted items!
Call 263-7331 today

TOO LATES

P/T truck driver needed. Apply at Salvation Army, 811 W. 5th, 9-4, Mon.-Fri. Immediate opening.

1 bdr. stove & ref. furnished. Carpeted and clean. Call 263-2382

PUBLIC NOTICE

West Texas Centers for MHMR, 409 Runnels has the following vehicles for sale:
1991 Pontiac station wagon
1991 Chevy 4 door sedan
1994 Dodge passenger van
1981 Chevy pickup
If you are interested in viewing these vehicles and submitting a bid, please contact Jeff Janca, Purchasing Agent at 264-2650 extension 231. All vehicles will be sold as is and on a sealed bid basis. All bids must be turned into the Purchasing Agent by 5:00 pm February 8, 2001.
3059 February 1, 2 & 4, 2001

PUBLIC NOTICE

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
The Big Spring Independent School District shall receive sealed bids until 2:00 p.m., February 21, 2001, for the following athletic areas:
Cross Country Track
Supplies
Football Supplies
Tennis Supplies
Volleyball Supplies
Specifications and bid documents may be secured from the school district's Business Office, 709 Eleventh Place, Big Spring, Texas 79720-4610, phone number (915) 264-3640. Bids will be publicly open and read immediately following the deadline for receiving the bids in the Business Office of the Big Spring Independent School District. Bidders are invited to be present at the bid opening. Bids received after the opening date and time will be returned unopened. Bids will be presented for consideration to the Board of Trustees on March 8, 2001, at 5:15 p.m. at their regularly scheduled board meeting. The Big Spring Independent School District reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids.
3059 February 2, 2001
February 8, 2001

