SPRING ,

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TUESDAY

March 27, 2001

WEATHER

Tonight:

CLOUDY

35°-38°

TONIGHT WEDNESDAY

50°-54°

"Reflecting a Proud Community"

50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

College softball complex named

Foundation Field play put on hold

By CARL GRAHAM Staff Writer

Howard College's new softball field has a name, but it will be a while longer before games are played there. on

trustees College



The board did, however, agree to name the new complex Foundation Field.

"We thought it to be an appropriate name considering that the Dora Roberts Foundation was such a major supporter of the project," said Howard College President Dr. Cheryl Sparks.

After hearing from architect Phil Furqueron, trustees also mapped out a plan for renovations of the 1950s'auditorium on cam-

See COMPLEX, Page 2

2001: The Crossroads' Odyssey

A week-long series that takes an in-depth look at our community's past, present and future.

Sunday — Education Monday — Living

Today — Agricultural, Industry and Oil Wednesday — Government

Thursday — Hospitals and Health

Friday — Religion

Senate

Finance Committee approves \$111.7 billion budget with increase in health, education and state employee salaries **HERALD Staff Report**

Senate Finance The Committee on Monday approved a \$111.7 billion budget that provides increases for financial aid,

and human serand state employ-"I believe

this budget DUNCAN sends a clear

message that we are continuing to dedicate a high priority to the health and wellness of our citizens and to excellence in education,' said Sen. Robert Duncan, R-Lubbock.

The committee approved increasing the TEXAS (Toward EXcellence, Access & Success) grant program funding by \$300 million

over the biennium, which

will provide college grants

Rural Texans may be left

with less representation,

to 98,000 students annually, said Duncan.

"Being accepted into college is only the first step. We want to ensure that students can afford to go to college as well," Duncan said. New legislation also raises the household earning cap to expand access to the program to thousands more families. Currently, students from households earning approximately \$25,000 or less qualify for the program. The new funding initiative actually raises the earning cap to almost \$75,000.

The TEXAS grant program was created last session, and some \$100 million was allocated at that' time. TEXAS grants pay for tuition and fees to qualifying college students at a public or private college or university of their choice. Since it was created, it has

See SENATE, Page 2

health vices ee pay

Jury selected for trial in district court

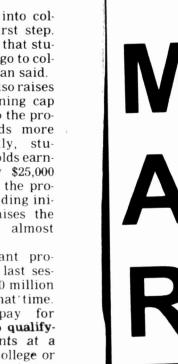
A jury was selected Monday in 118th District Court for a man facing felony criminal charges. Enrique Hinojos is charged with the unlawful possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. He also faces a felony charge of possession of marijuana in a drug free zone or a school zone.

Prosecuting the case will be Assistant District Attorney Robin Orr. Defense attorneys for Hinojos are Wayne Frost of Midland and Juan Porras of Houston.

WHAT'S UP... WEDNESDAY

Optimist Club, 7 a.m., Howard College Cactus room. □ Line dancing, 1 p.m., Senior Citizens

Center Git and Be Fit Chair Aerobics, 10 a.m., Scenic Mountain Medical





Center cafeteria. People 50 and older are invited to participate.

Beginning line dance class, 10:30-11:30a.m., free to beginners. Contact Margarita Durand-Hollis at the Dance Gallery.

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

Big Spring Duplicate Bridge Club, meets every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at 1 p.m. at the Big Spring Country Club.

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

THURSDAY

Gideons International, Big Spring Camp No. U4206O, Herman's Restaurant, 7 a.m

□ The Coffee Club will meet at Gale's Sweet Shoppe at 10 a.m.

□ Kiwanis Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room. Call Billy Smith.

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

INSIDE TODAY...

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Vol. 98, No. 123

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responsible for the medical bills of a Big Spring man who was shot by a Department of Public Safety trooper during a traf fic stop along U.S. Highway THOMAS 87 in

February

Staff Writer

Twenty-two-year-old Johnny Dow spent 24 days at Scenic Mountain Medical Center recovering from injuries after being shot by Trooper Kneel Stallings on Feb. 20, two miles south of Big Spring.

According to authorities, Dow had attempted to point

for the new Advance Auto store on Eighth Street this morning. County to pay medical costs of man

wounded by DPS trooper in traffic stop By CARL GRAHAM

Despite a heavy mist, Jason Golleher of Cline Construction splices in telephone cable

a handgun at the trooper. Stallings, however, saw what was happening and fired his weapon. Dow was injured in the leg and hand. He was released from the hospital on March 15 and is in the Howard County Jail on \$100,000 bond, charged with aggravated assault on a public servant.

"When a prisoner is incarcerated in county jail, indigent health care pays for any hospital care while the individual is a prisoner," said Thomas. "In this case, he was not a prisoner at the time of the incident; however, it is the Attorney General's opinion that since he was wanted by a warrant it would be the responsibility of the county to have to pay for any medical bills that were incurred."

A question had arisen as to which entity would be responsible for the costs because the Department of Public Service (DPS) is a See COUNTY, Page 2

state agency rather than a county agency.

Dow had gone to the Big Spring driver's license office on Feb. 20 to obtain a driver's license. He fled, however, after a routine check revealed he had an outstanding warrant for burglary of a habitation and an assault charge in Florida. Area law enforcement agencies were notified and provided with a description of the suspect's vehicle, a pickup.

Stallings later sighted and stopped the pickup.

"Trooper Stallings saw the vehicle and made a traffic stop because the driver, a female, was not wearing her said DPS belt," seat Communications Director John Barton.

'After he completed his business with her he went to the passenger side and asked Dow to step



Continued growth along the Interstate 35 corridor and loss of population in rural Texas may leave the rural areas with five less voices in the state legislature.

> "It's not pretty, guys COUNTS and girls, Rep. State David Counts (D-Knox City), a member of the House Redistricting

Committee, has said According to Counts, the final numbers from the 2000 census are much worse than originally projected. Two to three state seats west of I-35 and two east of I-35 may be lost in the redistricting process because of declining populations

"I think Sen. Robert Duncan (R-Lubbock) will be in a better shape than other members," Counts said. "I don't see a major shift in his district.

Duncan represents District 28 in the state senate, including Howard, Glasscock and Martin counties.

"U.S. Congressman Charles Stenholm (D-Abilene) doesn't appear to have a lot of change in his district," he continued.

Stenholm represents the 17th Congressional District in the United State House of Representatives.

Counts said the final numbers of some West

See RURAL, Page 2

One task force supervisor from Howard County fired

By CARL GRAHAM

Staff Writer

Oscar Limon, a supervisor with the West Texas Narcotics Task Force, has been relieved of his duties, according to Howard County Sheriff Dale Walker. "All I will say is that he was terminat

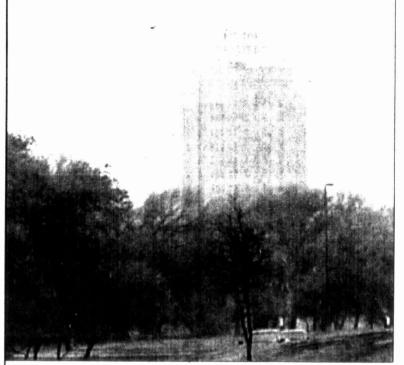
ed for violat WALKER ing department policy," said Walker. "We are cur rently seeking applications at the Howard County Sheriff's Office for that position and we are in hopes of hiring someone locally but the best qualified applicant will be hired regardless.'

According to Walker, the salary for the individual comes from grant funds. Any difference would come from county funds.

The duties of the office will be fulfilled through the Odessa task force office which ranges from the Permian Basin to the Rio Grande, according to the Sheriff

In addition to the one officer assigned from the

See FIRED, Page 2



Misty rain and a little fog frame the Settles Building as seen from the area of the Big Spring Junior High School this morning. A chance of rain is forecast through at least Wednesday throughout the Crossroads area. HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody



2A

OBITUARIES

Sylvia Lovelace

Sylvia Lovelace, 83, of Big Spring, died on Monday, March 26, 2001, in a local hospital. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday, March 28, at the First

United Methodist Church with Ed Dr Williamson, pastor, officlating Interment will follow

at Trinity Memorial Park

She was born on Sept. 16. 1917. in Fort Smith. Ark. and married Willie D Lovelace on June 1, 1936, in Big Spring. He preceded her in death on April 7. 1987. Mrs. Lovelace moved to Big Spring in 1934 with her parents, the Rev. and Mrs. J.E. Peters. She was a homemaker.

She was a member of First United Methodist Church and a member of the Philathea Sunday School Class. She had been a member of Welsev United Methodist Church from 1934 to 1996 and had served as Youth Director for many vears. She had a servant's heart!

Survivors include her son, Bill Lovelace, of Big Spring: her sister, Lillian Gray, of Odessa; her sisterin-law. Gladys Peters, of Lubbock; three grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. She was also preceded in death by her parents and her brother. Vernon Peters.

The family suggests memorials to First United Methodist Church, P.O. Drawer 1229, Big Spring 79721-1229 or American Heart Association, 3525 Andrews Highway Suite 111, Midland 79703

Arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home. www.npwelch.com Paid obituary

Minnie Lee Wells

Funeral service for

Sunday School for many years. A member of the Texas Home Demonstration Club for 64 years, she had been recognized as one of the oldest members. She also rived recognition as an standing Older Texand was active as a 4-H Club leader for 40 vears.

Survivors include: one daughter, Nona Smith of Midland; one brother, Carl Lands of Commerce; 12 grandchildren; 30 greatgrandchildren; and 22 greatgreat-grandchildren.

The family suggests memorials to Home Hospice of Midland, 1802 W. Wall Street, Midland 79701. Arrangements are under

the direction of Gilbreath Funeral Home.

Gladys Shortes

Funeral service for Gladys Shortes, 87, of Ackerly, is pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home. Mrs. Shortes died

Tuesday, March 27, 2001, at her residence

FIRED

Continued from Page 1

Howard County Sheriff's Office, one other officer is assigned from the 118th District Attorney's office and two from the Fig Spring Police Department.

COUNTY

Continued from Page 1

out of the vehicle and asked him for his name and date of birth and then began his check of warrants.

According to Barton, another vehicle pulled up on the scene. The woman and two children got out and began talking with a subject or subjects in the second vehicle.

"At that time Dow turned his back from Stallingsand... he (Stallings) heard the slide of a gun go back and saw the expression on Minnie Lee Wells, 95, of on the faces of the people he was looking at. The gun apparently jammed when Dow turned around and Stallings took a position of cover and fired several shots at Dow, striking him in the hand and in the leg," said Barton.

Duncan said that of the billion budget 111.7 approved Monday, some 27.8 percent is dedicated to education while 49.3 percent is targeted for health and human services.

"I believe this sends a clear message that we are continuing to dedicate a high priority to the health and wellness of our citizens and to excellence in education." Duncan said.

The 2002-03 appropriations bill includes \$787 million more for state employee raises and \$4.83 billion more for health and human services programs, including funds to fully implement the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), Duncan said.

The bill, Senate Bill 1, earmarks \$200 million as a starting point for'teachers' health insurance with a goal of adding an additional \$1.9 billion from all sources for an eventual benefit. Duncan said both the Education Senate Committee and House Select Committee on Teacher's Health Insurance are studying proposals to provide health insurance to Texas teachers

The bill also includes: • \$961 million increase in

federal funds for the Texas Department of Transportation for road construction and other projects; \$523 million for Medicaid prescription drug

and program cost increases and caseload growth: • \$30 million to fund math

and reading initiatives; • \$2.3 million increase to the Office of Attorney

General to hire an additional 36 employees to improve child support enforcement.

COMPLEX

Continued from Page 1

pus. The board chose the construction management process as opposed to the general contractor process. Furgueron told trustees it would give them a "hands on" approach to the renovation project that will include lights, sound and acoustics as well as a complete reconstruction of the auditorium.

BIG SPRING HERALD Tuesday, March 27, 2001

BIG SPRING AROUND THE TOWN

BEGIN accepting applications for new transfers on April 2 at 9:30 a.m. in the Superindendent's office.

LOCAL

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

TO ORGANIZE A TEAM for Relay for Life, the community-wide campout that is a fund-raising event for the American Cancer Society, call Linda Billington at 399-4408, or Gloria McDonald at 263-1234. Relay is planned May 11-12 at Blankenship Field and 65 teams are expected to participate.

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

MARKETS

267-1628

Du Pont

IBM

NUV

TXU

Exxon Mobil

Halliburton

Intel Corp

Pepsico Inc

Phillips Petro

SBC Comms

Texaco Inc

Total Fina

Wal-Mart

AMCAP

Gold

Silver

Europacific

Prime Rate

a.n. today:

(BSPD)

Unocal Corp

IFCO Systems

Patterson Ener 32*

Sears Roebuck 35.26 + .55

Texas Instrument 36.55 +.05

Wal-Mart/Mexico 21's - 22's

SHERIFF

The Howard County

JAMES CLINT

Sheriff's Office reported the

following activities between

8 a.m. Monday through 8

MOORE, 33, of Midland,

was arrested on a charge of

driving while intoxicated.

MICA NEIL SWAF-

FORD, 19, of 4304 Connally,

Noon quotes provided by Edward Jones & Co.

AT&T	23.3 + 78
Archer-Daniels	$13.45 \pm .2$
Atmos Energy	22.113
BP AMOCO	49.19 ± 1.25
Chevron Corp	87.62 +1.18
Compaq	20.45 + .55
Cornell	7.3 nc
Dell	27 + 1

27 × +1

2"

 29° + 1

43.45 - 35

 $54.47 \pm .55$

 43.16 ± 1.91

 65.67 ± 1.17

40.24 + .44

 68.75 ± 1.13

 $34.96 \pm .02$

 $50.2 \pm .6$

 $16.38 \pm .05$

29.21 + .76

8 0

259.60-262.60

4.30-4.37

.Ext. 250

Ext. 230

Ext. 225

Ext. 240

Ext. 256

.Ext. 255

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• First Free Incoming Minute

• Caller I.D. CELLULARONE

America Wireless

2105 Gregg • 466-0243

42.11 + .14

TEXAS LOTTERY Pick 3: 5,0,7

Cash 5: 8,9,15,34,36

MOTOR VEHICLE, 1

Lottery aumbers are unofficial until confirmed by the state lottery commission

possession of marijuana and driving while license suspended. (BSPD) TIMOTHY GLENN

BRETZ, 30, of 538 Westover, was arrested on charges of criminal mischief and reckless driving. (HCSO)

· LARRY DEAN WHITE, 29, of 538 Westover, was arrested on a charge of disorderly conduct. (HCSO)

· HENRY GARCIA, 35, of 544 E. 21st Street, was arrested on a charge of public intoxication. (HCSO)

 JACOB JACKIE RIOS, 33, of Big Spring, was arrested on a charge of violation of drivers license restriction. (BSPD)

· ADAN CHAVERA, 31, of 800 W. Marcy, was arrested on a charge of no liability insurance. (HCSO)

POLICE

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

· LARRY WHITE, 29, of 538 Westover, was arrested on a local warrant.

• BURGLARY OF A **BUILDING** was reported on the Westside.

 CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 400 block of Main and in the

500 block of Westover. • THEFT was reported in the 1900 block of N Highway 87, in the 400 block of E. 4th and in the 2100 block of Gregg.

 DRIVING WHILE **INTOXICATED** was reported in the 500 block of Benton

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following weekend report for the weekend ending

• CRIMINAL MIS-CHIEF, 1 DRIVING WHILE **INTOXICATED**, 1 • DRIVING WHILE LICENSE INVALID, 1 POSSESSION OF DRUGS, 2 • THEFT OF A FIREARM, 1 • THEFT, 18 CONVENIENCE STORE THEFT, 13 GAS DRIVE OFF, 13 BEER THEFT, 0 • UNAUTHORIZED USE **OF MOTOR VEHICLE,** 1 • INCIDENTS, 22

 ACCIDENTS, 5 MINOR, 5 • ARRESTS, 12

FIRE/EMS

The following is a summary of the Big Spring Fire Department and EMS:

1:25 a.m. - 1900 block of Hilltop, medical call, one patient transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

8:41 a.m. - 1900 block of North Highway 87, medical call, one patient transported to SMMC.

9:32 a.m. - 3200 block of Parkway, medical call, one patient transported to SMMC.

9:42 a.m. - 900 block of Goliad, medical call, one patient transported to SMMC.

Records

Monday's high 40 Monday's low 33 Precip. Monday 0.02 Record high 98 in 1971 Record low 19 in 1931

BIG SPRING Tuesday, N

City e of land **HERALD Sta**

Another st viding a sk roller blade citizens con tonight whe City Counci lease agreer YMCA. The lease be a token \$ land for the the YMCA struct and a land is on a acre tract Street, adja YMCA. Council r also conside bid for the C

line replacer Grady

By LYNDEL M

Staff Writer

The Grady science team record of exce turing the Te Science Coa tion meet in S March 17.

Competing Class 1A scho state, the thre seniors Scot Taylor ar Hambleton ea est overall tea meet.

Swift, G School's first l Scholar, took award by hav overall score : tion. He ear scholarship.

Crash

WASHINGT The crash of reconnaissan Germany and ance of two fighter jets are the latest tragic militar recent weeks. An Army F

Stanton, will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday, March 28, 2001, at First Baptist Church in Stanton with the Rev. David Harp, pastor, officiating. Burial will follow at Evergreen Cemetery.

Mrs. Wells died Monday. March 26, in Midland.

She was born on March 12, 1906, in Greenville and married W.T. Wells Sr. on Aug. 9, 1924, in Greenville. He preceded her in death on Oct. 18, 1987. She came to Stanton in 1925 from Commerce. She was a member of First Baptist Church in Stanton and had taught

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL 24th & Johnson 267-8288 Nalley-Pickle & Welch



Sylvia Lovelace, 83, died Monday. Services will be 2:00 PM Wednesday at First United Methodist Chuich Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park

Gladys Shortes, 87, died Tuesday. Services are pending.

Rita (Crickett) Raney, 78. died Friday. Graveside services will be 10.00 AM Monday at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

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Continued from Page 1

Texas cities such as Lubbock and El Paso had much larger losses than expected from the projected numbers.

The task now is to try and keep rural areas from being absorbed into urban districts. That could keep the rural issues from being heard, Counts said.

Democrats and Republics will need to work together in redistricting to keep communities of similar interest together, Counts said. We are just beginning

the hard work on it," he added.

SENATE

ING PEO

Bob's

Continued from Page 1

provided nearly 20,000 new FORSAN ISD WILL grants to Texas students.

263-1211

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Doors/Garage Door

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Woodwork

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Big Spring • 267-5811

· Carpentry

replaced

In other business, contracts for deans and directors were approved for renewal. The board also approved the sale of property near Coahoma that has delinquent taxes against it.

It was also approved by the board to go with TASB Risk Management Fund of Austin for property and liability insurance for the college. In addition, the board gave permission to accept bids on playground equipment for the child development center at the college. Prior to the start of the meeting, Dr. Sparks

expressed the sadness in the death board member Rob Etheridge of Coahoma. She also acknowledged the contributions of Mary Randle who died several weeks ago. She is the wife of board member Adrian Randle.



THE BIG SPRING HIGH SCHOOL Academic Challenge students will be working at the Sonic Drive In on Gregg St. to raise funds for their trip to state competition.



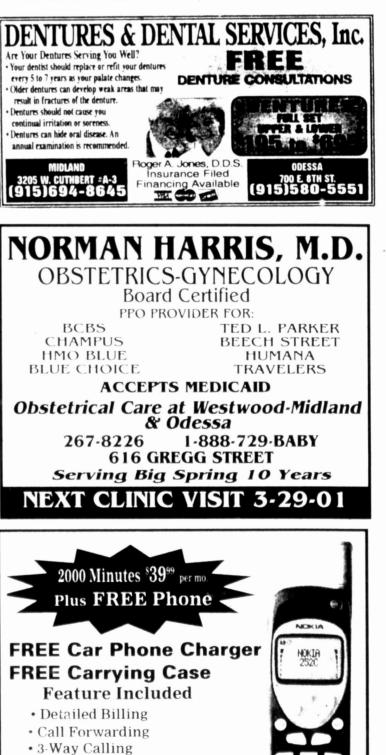
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 80.26 ± 2.01 • ASSAULT. 3 38.26 - .71 • FAMILY VIOLENCE, 2 • BURGLARY OF A 98.15 ± 2.75 **HABITATION**, 1 • BURGLARY OF A 9.11 - .04

Monday, March 26:

Average high 71 Average low 43 Month to date 0.44 Year to date 2.70 SunriseWednesday 6:40 a.m. Sunset Wednesday 7:03 p.m.



engine prop used to detect locate enem electronic cor crashed Mone about eight Nuremberg, k pilots on spokeswoman said from 5th quarters at He German ar authorities were attempt the pilots' ren crash scene, I There was r cation of what crash, Patton

Survey s America

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WASHINGT Americans deprived wor only about a the recomm hours a night percent say th ble staying a job, accordii released Tues The surve National Slee

said America ing more time less time hav they did five y

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The 2001 Slee poll of 1,004 that 63 percen eight hours about 31 perc than seven h the poll found up on sleep (ends, but ev average slur hours, still les While they less time slee

cent of those p are working than five year average work hours, while 3 they worked more a week. Forty perce become so slee day that their

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LOCAL/GENERAL NEWS

City council set to OK lease House to hear emergency appropriations bill

of land for skate board park

HERALD Staff Report

Another step toward providing a skate board and roller blade park for local citizens could be taken tonight when Big Spring City Council considers a lease agreement with the YMCA.

The lease amount would be a token \$1 annually for land for the park, which the YMCA plans to construct and maintain. The land is on a one-third of an acre tract along Owens Street, adjacent to the YMCA.

Council members will also consider awarding a bid for the Capehart sewer line replacement project to

Coker Pipeline Rehabilitation. Other new business includes approval of a grant application for the

Drug Abuse Assistance Education (DARE) program, approval of the Howard County Tax Assessor's budget and a resolution approving active bank accounts for the city.

Following regular business, the council will adjourn into executive session for the evaluation of the city manager, city attorney and city judge.

The meeting will begin at 5:30 p.m. in council chambers at 307 East Fourth Street.

AUSTIN (AP) Lawmakers are expected to pause today from writing the 2002-2003 budget to take care of a shortfall in the current state budget.

The House Appropriations Committee was scheduled to hear an emergency bill that would pay for as much as the \$700 million in cost overruns in the state's prison and Medicaid systems.

Most of the money was expected to come from agencies that did not spend all of their 2001-2002 appropriated funds.

Another \$157 million was to be funneled from the budget lawmakers are currently writing for the next biennium.

Since the legislative ses-

sion started in January, another area." budget writers have been raking through agencies' current budgets trying to find any unspent funding that could help plug the many holes in the current budget.

Among the money likely to be used is \$35 million that the Texas Education Agency did not spend for prekindergarten programs two years ago, Rep. Scott Hochberg told the Austin American-Statesman for its Tuesday editions.

"It's a variety of mostly small items," said Hochberg, D-Houston, a member of the appropriations committee. "It's not unusual when we're short in one area to spend it

Last session, the Texas Department of Health and the Texas Department of Criminal Justice miscalculated Medicaid enrollment and prison populations, causing lawmakers to underfund those agencies. That difference has to be

made up this session. In the bill scheduled for

discussion this afternoon, \$46 million was appropriated to cover the additional Medicaid costs.

Another \$74.6 million was sent to TDCJ to pay for additional prisons and \$35.7 million went to the agency to fund the emergency pay raises given to prison employees last summer.

The emergency appropriawhere there are needs in tions bill comes when law-

makers are trying to squeeze every available dollar out of the 2002-2003 proposed budget.

Unexpected increases in health care costs in several state programs have eaten away at any expected surplus this session, when legislators are faced with trying to fund several high-profile, big-dollar items.

Those include statewide school employees health insurance plan that could cost as much as \$6 billion a biennium.

Making it easier for children to enroll in Medicaid, a \$400 million proposal, and funding state employee pay raises, which could cost more than \$500 million, are among the other issues on the table.

Grady High School students shine at meet

By LYNDEL MOODY

Staff Writer

The Grady High School science team continued its record of excellence by capturing the Texas Math and Science Coaches Association meet in San Antonio on March 17.

Competing against 15 Class 1A schools across the state, the three-man team of seniors Scott Swift, Kaci Taylor and Kristyn Hambleton earned the highest overall team score in the meet.

Swift, Grady High School's first National Merit Scholar, took the "Top Gun" award by having the highest overall score in the competition. He earned a \$1,000 scholarship.

WASHINGTON (AP)

recent weeks:

Swift also earned the overall top scores in science and physics. In the senior division, he placed fourth in mathematics, fifth in calculator and 10th in number sense

Also in the senior division, Taylor placed eighth in science and Hambleton place second in science and 11th in mathematics. This was Taylor's first schoolrelated competition, said Billy Medley, science team coach.

Medley was designated the class 1A science coach of the year at the competition but credits his award to the work of his students.

"These students expressed the desire to do this and have done the majority of the work," he said.

Crashes leave two dead, two missing

"These are bright, courteous young people that realize the dedication and hard work needed in high school and beyond," Medley commented.

This is Grady High science team's second state championship as the team the University won Interscholastic League state championship two years ago. The team placed second in state UIL last year.

"All these young have expressed an interest in science beyond high school," Medley said.

Swift is considering becoming an inventor; Taylor is interested in forensic science; and Hambleton has decided to go into the physical therapy field.

Committee considers utility refund bill Rep. slow it up; it doesn't tinker the value of nuclear power AUSTIN (AP) ----Sylvester Turner, Dwith it."

Houston, pleaded with members of the House State Affairs Committee on Monday to approve his bill forcing utility companies to refund customers an estimated \$7 billion in overcharges allowed under the electric deregulation law passed last session. "We are the ones who

must bite the bullet," Turner said of ratepayers. "The utilities have the benefits of the new market, plus they hold on to a windfall.

Turner said his bill "doesn't stop electric restructuring; it doesn't

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1702 GREGG

263-1381

The committee wasn't expected to take a vote on

Lawmakers dissected the grueling economics of the electric deregulation bill, which allowed utilities to charge customers higherthan-necessary rates to make up for money they were expected to lose through investments in nuclear power and coal plants, which were expected to lose value in an unregulated market.

But soaring natural gas prices made gas-fired power plants more expensive to operate, increasing

and coal plants and result ing in extra profits for utilities.

Tom Baker, president of TXU Electric & Gas, argued against Turner's bill, saying that refunding customers now might mean rate increases later if the value of nuclear power and coal plants go down.

"Customers would be ill served by any refund now which would be based on a PUC estimation model using incomplete and inaccurate data," Baker commented.

Consumer advocates argue that no figures are completely accurate.

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The plane and pilots were assigned to The crash of a U.S. Army the 205th Intelligence reconnaissance plane in Military Brigade at Wiesbaden, Germany and the disappear-Germany. The pilots' identiance of two U.S. Air Force fighter jets over Scotland ties were being withheld are the latest in a string of until their families could be tragic military mishaps in notified

At roughly the same time An Army RC-12, a twin- Monday, the Air Force dis- left Lakenheath around closed that two F-15C fighters were overdue on a return flight to their home base at Lakenheath in southern England after conducting low-level flight training in Scotland. Hours later the Air Force said a search and rescue mission had been suspended due to a snow storm; there was no word from the two pilots nor any confirmation of their fate. The lack of communication suggested a strong possibility that they had crashed in the mountainous terrain, officials said.

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Maj. Stacee Bako, a U.S. Air Force spokeswoman at Lakenheath, said the search would be resumed at first light Tuesday. There was no indication Monday of what happened to the planes, she said

The two single-seat F-15s 12:30 p.m. (6:30 a.m. EST) for

the bill.

engine propeller aircraft used to detect, identify and locate enemy radar and electronic communications, crashed Monday in a forest about eight miles from Nuremberg, killing the two pilots on board, Army spokeswoman Hilde Patton said from 5th Corps headquarters at Heidelberg.

German and American authorities at the scene were attempting to recover the pilots' remains from the crash scene, Patton said.

There was no initial indication of what caused the crash. Patton said

Survey shows Americans don't get enough sleep

WASHINGTON (AP) Americans are sleepdeprived workaholics, with only about a third sleeping the recommended eight hours a night, and about 40 percent say they have trouble staying awake on the job, according to a poll released Tuesday.

The survey by the National Sleep Foundation said Americans are spending more time working and less time having sex than they did five years ago.

"Instead of working to live, they are living to work, a shift that has had a profound impact on their personal lives," the foundation said.

The 2001 Sleep in America poll of 1,004 adults found that 63 percent get less than eight hours a night and about 31 percent get less than seven hours. Many, the poll found, try to catch up on sleep on the weekends, but even then the average slumber is 7.8 hours, still less than ideal.

While they are spending less time sleeping, 40 percent of those polled say they are working longer hours than five years ago. The average work week was 46 hours, while 38 percent said they worked 50 hours or more a week.

Forty percent say they become so sleepy during the day that their work suffers.

a three-hour sortie over the Scottish Highlands.

The jets were over the Cairngorm Mountains in the Scottish Highlands when they lost contact with ground controllers at Lakenheath, 75 miles northeast of London, Bako commented.

Air Force spokeswoman Capt. Almarah Belk at the Pentagon said a search and rescue mission was launched from RAF Kinloss in Scotland. The search was conducted by air and on the ground, officials said.

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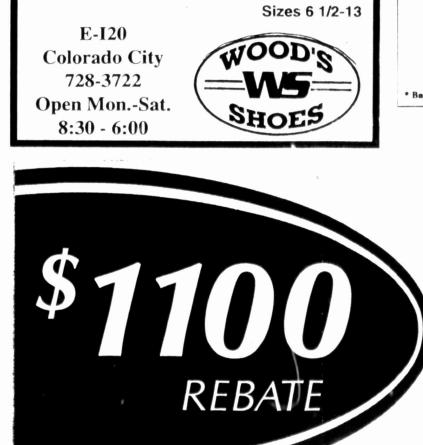
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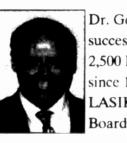
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OPINION

BIG SPRING HERALD Tuesday, March 27, 2001

DITORIAL

"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

Debble Jensen

Features Editor

Bill McClellan

News Editor

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

John H. Walker

Publisher

John A. Moseley Managing Editor

OUR VIEWS

Tipping our hats to area ag producers

the Crossroads area has an opportunity to recognize some of its hardest-working families in just a couple of days — it's time again for the annual Ag Appreciation Luncheon.

At that event, set for noon on Thursday at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum, the Ag Producer of the Year will be announced. A new award will be presented as well – to the Agribusiness Person of the Year.

Yet another highlight will be hearing from the speaker, keynote Texas Agriculture Commissioner Susan Combs.

The luncheon is free to area farmers and ranchers but they do need to pick up tickets in advance at the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce or local farm and ranch supply deal ers. Others are also welcome to attend the lun cheon. Tickets for non-producers are \$8 each and can be obtained at the chamber."

In conjunction with the luncheon will be the annual Ag Expo, where dealers and others will have booths featuring information on products for the farm and ranch. The Ag Expo is 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and is free to the public. Other activi ties include a Howard County Agriculture Extension Service program for producers at 9 a.m., and a second Extension Service program at 2 p.m. for the general public. For farmers and ranchers and their families, this is a time to "bask in the sun" a bit and enjoy the appreciation of your neighbors, have some good food and honor some of your own For others it's an opportunity to say thanks to those who till the soil and make it possible to put clothes on our backs and food on our tables. We hope to see you there.

Federal policies reshaped for the right

By RON FOURNIER **Guest Columnist**

From abortion and workplace safety to the environment and judicial nominees, President Bush is reshaping federal policies with bold conservative strokes while tempering his actions with words and gestures aimed at the political middle.

Bush's right-leaning agenda has drawn criticism that the new administration and its Capitol Hill allies are beholden to GOP special interests, particularly big business. Just two months into a

term he narrowly won, the president has loosened environmental restrictions on industries, banned federal spending on abortionrelated activities overseas and cut the liberal-leaning American Bar Association out of vetting federal judges. Those and other actions

are evidence of a dramatic change in direction from President Clinton's eightvear term. "Their special interests

are running the government," said Democratic Party Chairman Terry McAuliffe, whose party's special interests held considerable swav under

Clinton. "The public won't stand long for this."

But the president's strong poll numbers suggest Bush is succeeding in pleasing his core supporters while reaching out to moderate America.

As Clinton tried from the left and President Reagan tried from the right, Bush's strategy is to soften his political edges without abandoning his ideological core

"President Reagan acted and talked bipartisan, but behaved like a conservative," said Christopher Deering, political scientist at George Washington University. "Bush is working from the same playbook.

Analysts say most voters probably do not realize the scope of Bush's conservative agenda, and are neither turned off nor suprised by what they hear about it. It was a close election, but "the people of America know they elected a Republican," GOP consultant Rich Galen said.

Bush has advocated a host of business-friendly actions with the support of banking, business and industry lobbies that donated millions of dollars to GOP campaigns. He proposed a \$1.6 tril-

lion, 10-year tax cut plan that dedicates much of the savings to wealthy Americans.

He signed a bill to repeal Clinton-era rules designed to make the workplace safer, saying the regulations posed "overwhelming compliance challenges" for business.

And he stands ready to sign a measure passed by the GOP-led Congress to make it more difficult for people to erase their debts in bankruptcy courts.

"What the president has done ... are things that are good for employers, good for employees and good for the economy," said Lonnie Taylor, senior vice president of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

Under pressure from energy industry officials, Bush broke a campaign pledge and decided against regulating carbon dioxide emissions at power plants.

The Environmental Protection Agency plans to revoke a Clinton administration rule that would have reduced the acceptable level of arsenic in drinking water, citing the high costs of compliance to states, municipalities and industry.

The Interior Department, bowing to mining groups,

decided to suspend new hard-rock regulations for public lands that would have strengthened environmental standards.

He stripped the bar association of its half-century role in reviewing judicial candidates, egged on by conservative lawmakers still bristling by the group's mixed review of Robert Bork which helped derail his Supreme Court nomination under President Reagan.

His administration is reviewing medical privacy rules opposed by the health industry, and critics wonder if anti-tobacco legislation and the antitrust case against Microsoft will lose steam under the new presidency.

About 60 percent of voters give Bush high marks for his performance. Political scientist Deering said Bush projects a sense of kindness and fair-mindedness, which may be more important than a single policy.

Clinton earned high approval ratings by balancing his left-of-center policies with poll-tested rhetoric and methods.

Ron Fournier has covered the White House and national politics for The Associated Press since 1993.

Addresses

GEORGE W. BUSH The White House Washington, D.C.

 RICK PERRY Governo State Capitol, Room 2S.1 P.O. Box 12428 Austin, 78711 Phone: (512) 463-2000 PHIL GRAMM U.S. Senator 370 Russell Office Building Washington, 20510

Phone: 202-224-2934. KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON

U.S. Senator 703 Hart Office Building Washington, 20510

Phone: 202-224-5922 · CHARLES STENHOLM **U.S.** Representative 1211 Longworth Office Bldg.

older to play softball. Registration i teams are now i For more in call Alicia Buzl 0216





IN BR **Bulldogettes**

at weekend n The ACU C

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Junior varsity drops doublel

Big Spring jui ty baseball tear a pair of losses : The fell 10-5 a Andrews' Must will travel to Friday.

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School track to

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Women's soft

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The Big Spri

Girls Softball A

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OTHER VIEWS

There is a new twist to an age-old practice. High school students are cheating. That isn't unusual. The new part is that the Internet seems to be making it easier for them to cut corners and harder for school authorities to catch on

When the Center for Academic Integrity at Duke University interviewed 500 students in five New Jersey high schools, it found that nearly half admit to using the Net to cheat. The most common trick is for students to engage in what the center's founder, Don McCabe, calls "cut-andpaste plagiarism" where students copy sentences, paragraphs and even whole term papers. About a fifth of students went further by purchasing completed assignments from any one of a number of sites that offer this commodity

Why is Internet cheating so popular? It's easy to get away with it, say the kids. Some say that teachers are less likely to know their

way around the Net than they are more traditional portals of information like books, magazines and newspapers

And even when teachers do recognize it, researchers say, they are not bothered by it. While college instruc tors see "cut-and-paste" for what it is cheating high school teachers may chalk it up to "research.

That needs to be addressed. Secondary schools should mark down papers that rely heavily on borrowed work. Educators may beat cheaters at the game with old-fashioned common sense, by watching carefully to see if the cadence of sentences in papers changes noticeably or if a student's work on paper doesn't match the student's efforts in person.

It will take a sharp eye and firm guidance, but the goal still should be to teach students to think for themselves and express themselves

> THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS



Tax moratorium: How it won't be

hairman of the Senate Finance Committee Sen. Pete Domenici, R-N.M., has recommended an immediate



some facts, ANDERSON then the answer

Pavroll taxes (Social Security and Medicare) are the largest taxes paid by most Americans. The bite is 15.3 percent, and it comes out of everyone's paycheck up to the first \$80,400 of income. In 1937, when the Social Security tax was first assessed, it amounted to a mere 2 percent of the first \$3,000 of income But before we get tangled

in statistics, let it suffice to say that this onerous, anti progressive tax dramatical ly affects those citizens who can least afford to pay it. And do not kid yourself. The idea that your employer pays half the tax is hogwash. Anything – we - that repeat, anything

your employer pays on your behalf, whether it is taxes, health insurance or any other benefit, is regarded by the employer as part of your compensation. The employer cannot view it any other way. An employee costs the employer X number of dollars. Period. In fact, the employer would much prefer to simply pay the full amount to the employee and let the employee pay his or her own taxes. Social Security. Medicare, health insurance, dental insurance, etc. The fact is that you are

paying 15.3 percent of your gross income in taxes. This contrasts with income taxes which are paid on net income, which is calculated by subtracting exemptions, credits, expenses or the standard deduction from vour gross income

Now for the answer to our question about why the three-month moratorium is such big news. Taxpayers earning \$3,500 per month. for example, will see an immediate \$267.75 increase in their paychecks Further, they will be fully justified in asking their employers to match that amount, bringing the total to \$535.50 a month — a significant sum. And once they are used to receiving it, they will not easily be convinced to go back to the

way it was

Overnight, the American tax structure will irrevocably have been altered. Suddenly, the idea of funding Social Security and Medicare out of general revenues — instead of targeted, dedicated taxes on low-income earners — will take hold. Suddenly, the \$1.6 trillion tax cut will have been applied where it should have been applied in the first place: on relieving lower-income earners of the unfair burden of paying for the bulk of the previous generation's Social Security benefits. That's correct: You are not paying for your retirement. You are paying for the previous generation's retirement, because the Social Security tax is an intergenerational transfer tax. The government is transferring it from you to retirees

That is why the moratorium is so important. Lowerincome Americans will finally discover how much they are really paying, and they will not want to pay it any longer. A demand to make the moratorium permanent will emerge, and Congress will likely pay attention.

Our senators and representatives will be compelled to end the most unfair, nonprogressive aspect of the tax code.

Washington, 20515. Phone: 202-225-6605. ROBERT DUNCAN Senator Texas 28th District 401 Austin, Suite 101 Big Spring, 79720.

Phone: 268-9909; (800) 322 9538 (512) 463 0128 DAVID COUNTS Representative Texas 70th District P.O. Box 338 Knox City, 79529 Phone: (940) 658 5012

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4652; Work (Howard College) 264-5000

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Industrial lea softball sign-u

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For more in contact Sally Gr 5237 or 268-4728

Athletic depa offers physica

The BSISD department is athletic physica one in the 6th 11th grade (7th vear).

The athletic are required fo who wish to par Athletics enter or 9th grade or do not already Physicals wil at BSHS a

Saturday at 9:4 6th graders, 10: 8th -11th grader

Men's assoc hold golf tour

The Comanc Golf Course N Association w tournament Fr 6-7. For more ir call 264-2366.

Area G

TODAY H.S. SOFTBALL

 Big Spring at H.S. BASEBALL Big Spring at



Television

NBA 7 p.m. — Toror at Miami Heat, ES COLLEGE BASKE 6 p.m. - NIT Detioit va Mah

8 p.m. - NI Memphis, ESPN,



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- By fax at 264-7205

• By e-mail at jmoseley@bigspringherald.com or ohnwalker@bigspringherald.com.

• By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, Texas 79721



BIG HERALD SPRING

Junior high Lady Steers squads shine at Frenship meet

Do you have an interesting sports item or story idea? Call Kamilah Ward, 263-7331, Ext. 233.

> Page 5 Tuesday, March 27, 2001

IN BRIEF

Bulldogettes place at weekend meet

The ACU Classic in Abilene was cancelled Saturday but a couple of fielders Lauren Nichols and Stephanie Sparks managed a third and fourth place finish.

Nichols took third with a 92' mark while Sparks finished fourth with a 86' mark.

Junior varsity baseball drops doubleheader

Big Spring junior varsity baseball team suffered a pair of losses Saturday. The fell 10-5 and 12-5 to Andrews' Mustangs and will travel to Levelland Friday.

HERALD Staff Report

Big Spring Junior High's Lady Steers track teams turned in impressive performances at the Frenship track over the weekend.

The eighth grade runners won the meet outright with a total of 188 points, while the seventh graders placed second with a total of 166 points.

Cycelye Tuitt set the tone for the Lady Steers eighth, winning the 200 meter s in a time of 26.46 seconds, while teammate Stefani Scott finished fourth in a time of 28.79. Vanessa Bustamante finished fourth in the 100 meter in a time of 13.05

Tuitt, Scott and Bustamante combined with Arianne Brown to win the sprint relay in a time of 52.64. Tuitt, Bustamante and Brown then joined Kendal Adams to take win the 1,600-meter relay in a time of 4:30.

Brown ran the anchor leg on the Higgins finished fifth.

800-meter relay team that included April Salazar, Cindy Padron and Elida Rodriguez, and they combined for third place in a time of 1:58.

Salazar, Adams and Veronica Villarreal took second, third and fourth place in the 400 meters. Rodriguez placed fifth in the 300meter hurdles in a time of 56.8 right behind Shannon Higgins who finished fourth in a time of 55.6. Higgins also finished sixth in the 100-meter hurdles in a time of 18.72. Ashley Martinez won the 1,600 meters in a time of 6:29 while Holli Mayfield placed fourth in a time of 6:34. Martinez also ran 10:08 for second place in the 2,400 meters. Mayfield finished sixth in the 800 meters.

In the field events, Tuitt won the long jump with a 14-9 3/4 effort and finished sixth in the high jump. Scott and Bustamante finished fourth and fifth. Bustamante also took second in the triple jump while

Amisha Vanderbilt won the shot finished 71.0, while Evans was a put with a 33-21/4 heave. Alex Watkins followed in third place and Heather Vassar finished fifth.

The threesome swept the discus, with Vassar's 90-1 throw earning the win. Vanderbilt was second and Watkins third.

The seventh grade team's second place finish included 16 top three finishes including first-place finishes in the sprint relay and the 1,600meter relay.

The team of Raegan Ritchey, Indgrid Pudliner, Lynsey Chalker and Carmen Lewis won the 400meter relay in a time of 53.1. They returned in the mile relay to win it in a time of 4:39.

The 800-meter relay team of Courtney Rodriguez, Ashton Evans, Heather Policky and Priscilla Bustamante posted a time of 2:13 for fifth place

Brenn Swinney and Evans added a few points after taking first and third in the 400 meters. Swinney

second behind.

Lewis added another win in the 100 meters dash in à'time of 12.93. Pudliner won the 300-meter hurdles in 53.6 while Policky finished sixth. Ritchey took second place in the 100-meter hurdles, Chalker placed second in the 200 meters and Becky Cheyne finished second in the 1,600.

Cheyne also placed third in the 2,400-meter run while Amy Grant finished fourth in the 800 meters.

In the field events, Moshae Hurrington was the top finisher in the discus, winning the event with 70-11 throw and taking second place in the shot put. Monica Fierro placed third in the shot put and was sixth in the discus.

Lewis took second place in the long jump while Ritchey followed right behind in third and Chalker was fifth.

Chalker rebounded for second wi h in the triple jump, while Lewis was fifth and Ritchey sixth.

CHS junior high track team to run Friday The Coahoma junior

high track team will run at the football stadium beginning 4 p.m. Friday. The field events will begin at 4 p.m. and the running events are set for a 5 p.m. start.

Coahoma High School invitational Saturday

The Coahoma High School track teams will host their invitational track meet at Bulldog Stadium on Saturday.

The field events will begin at 9 a.m., running preliminaries are set for 11:15 and the finals start at 2:30 p.m.

Women's softball seeking players

The Big Spring United Girls Softball Association is seeking woman 20 and older to play fast pitch softball.

Registration is \$30 and eams are now forming For more information call Alicia Buzbee at 264-0216

Lady Hawks sweep Sul Ross

By KAMILAH WARD Sports Writer

It was a sweet sweep for Howard College's Lady Hawks Monday afternoon, as they collected a pair of non-conference softball wins over Sul Ross State University

The cold, bitter weather didn't damper the Lady Hawks, who were coming off of a five-win, one-loss tournament performance in Midland during the weekend.

The momentum from that tournament showing just continued to build for Howard as the Lady Hawks were able to put away their opponents with a pair of shutouts - a 8-0 run ruling in four innings and a 4-0 decision in the doubleheader's nightcap.

The Lady Hawks jumped out to an early lead after Devon Melby, who finished 3-for -3 in the first game, singled, swiped a base and eventually scored on Diana Faulkner's RBI triple to left. Faulkner would then turn score on Valerie Goetz's RBI single to right. Howard extended its lead to 5-0 after Samantha Ward, Rose Tirre and Melby all scored runs in the second. The Lady Hawks then added another pair of runs and almost the closed out the game in the third.



Tiger now takes aim at Masters PONTE VEDRA BEACH,

(AP) Fla. Congratulations Tiger, you The Players won Championship. Now, what can you do for an encore at the Masters?

It took about five minutes and five questions - to change Tiger Woods' focus from the crystal Players trophy on the table in front of him to the possible Green Jacket waiting at Augusta National in two weeks.

"I figured that," Woods said Monday after holding off Vijay Singh to win by a stroke on the TPC at Sawgrass Stadium Course.

The Masters has been golf's most anticipated tournament since Woods defeat ed Bob May in a three-hole playoff at the PGA last August for his third straight major triumph. Can Woods make it four in a row?

Industrial league softball sign-ups

Anyone wanting to participate in the softball league, the sign-ups and entry fees deadline is Friday, April 6.

The entry fee is \$385 and there is a 20 roster sign-up limit.

For more information contact Sally Grant at 393 5237 or 268-4728.

Athletic department offers physicals

The BSISD Athletic department is offering athletic physicals for any one in the 6th through 11th grade (7th-12th next vear).

The athletic physicals are required for students who wish to participate in Athletics entering the 7th or 9th grade or those who do not already have one.

Physicals will be given at BSHS auditorium Saturday at 9:45 a.m. for 6th graders, 10:30 a.m. for 8th -11th graders.

Men's association to hold golf tournament

The Comanche Trail Golf Course Men's Golf Association will hold a tournament Friday April 6-7. For more information call 264-2366.

AREA GAMES

TODAY H.S. SOFTBALL

• Big Spring at Plainview H.S. BASEBALL

• Big Spring at Lake View.

ON THE AIR

Television NBA

7 p.m. — Toronoto Raptors at Miami Heat, ESPN, Ch. 30 COLLEGE BASKETBALL 6 p.m. — NIT, semifinal Demoit va Alabama ESPN

8 p.m. - NIT, Tulsa vs.

Memphis, ESPN, Ch. 30.

The Lady Hawks scored the winning run in the fourth on an RBI double from Faulkner. They managed to score in every inning, earning all eight

of the Lady Hawks's doubleheaders sweep of Sul Ross's Lady Loboes. The Lady Hawks took 8-0 and 4-0 wins. runs on nine hits. De'Shaun Drake chalked up the pitching win, giving up only three hits, while her teammates played error-free defense behind her The closest Sul Ross came

to a threat was when Amy Esparza singled to left and moved into scoring position by stealing second Erika Luna managed a hit

off Drake, but was tagged out trying to turn the single into a double; and Kelly Owen, the only other Sul

Ross player to hit safely, was erased when the Lady Hawks turned a double play

Howard College's Ruby Barron (16) beats the throw to second during the second game

The Lady Loboes' Mary Balderaz took the loss, giving up five runs on seven hits before being relieved by Karrie Ritchie.

In the nightcap, Brandy Smith and Amanda Michael combined for a nohitter while Sul Ross' Ritchie gave up four hits and had to watch as her teammates committed three errors

Faulkner added to her first-game exploits with an RBI double and a stolen base, while Ruby Barron and Laughlin Hoskinson both went 1-for-2 and drove in a run apiece.

HERALD photo/Jim Flen

The sweep improved the Lady Hawks' season record to 26-10. They will return to Western Junior College Athletic Conference play in a weekend series against El Paso Community College's Tejanas beginning at noon Friday at the Big Spring ISD Softball Complex.

Woods faces the question from fans, friends and himself almost every day.

"In all honesty, I'm going to treat it just like I do every major," he said. "Just go in there with the same mindset, the same game plan, play as hard as I can, try on every shot, and hopefully, I will have a chance coming down the back nine on Sunday.

To win the Players, Woods took advantage of every chance on the final nine holes.

He extended his lead to 2 shots with a birdie on the 10th hole. When Singh birdied the 13th to tie it. Woods rolled in a birdie on the 12th hole moments later Singh fought back, going

PALM DESERT, Calif. "On the sportsmanship, NFL executives (AP)must be feeling like high school principals these days. Or drill sergeants. Leading the list of topics

being discussed at these owners' meetings is on-field discipline. There are a few things pro football policy makers are seeing that they don't like.

Such as taunting, late hits, scuffling and the like.

They aim to stop it with stronger penalties.

it's a lot more than taunting," commissioner Paul Tagliabue said Monday. "Cheap shots in the pile ... special teams play where on the opening kickoff everyone is hyped up and you are getting guys who grab the face mask and twist your helmet, pushing you back down. They are unsportsmanlike, unnecessary.

"We think the solution is some early flags in the preseason and early flags in the

NFL tells players no more taunting allowed regular season - even if it ates a misconception of is on the first play, which you don't like to see, but that's where we will put an end to it. Penalize someone 15 yards on the first play of the game and it will probably stop. If it doesn't, disqualification of a player or two early in the game would put an end to it.

> "Some of these demonstrations, such as stomping on an opposing team's logo and that type of stuff just has no place in the game and cre-

what the NFL player is and what the NFL player repre sents Even people involved in

the sport on other levels are looking to the NFL to curb such practices

"High school coaches are saying, 'You represent the highest level of the game and whatever you let take place on Sunday, our guys are doing it on Monday," Minnesota coach Dennis Green said.

eagle-birdie on the 16th and 17th holes after a triple bogey 7 on the 14th hole. But Woods dramatically let the world know he wasn't losing this title, as he did a year ago to Hal Sutton, with a birdie on No. 16.

"Being 2 shots back from Tiger, he's not going to make any mistakes," Singh said. "He's too good of a player to do that.

Griffey injures left hamstring, status for opening day uncertain

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

First, Ken Griffey Jr. pulled up lame. Then, he fell on his back and grabbed his left leg.

Not exactly what the Cincinnati Reds wanted to see a week before spring training.

Griffey had to be helped off the field after straining his left hamstring while running the bases in the seventh inning Monday of the Reds' 3-2 loss to Kansas City at Haines City, Fla.

"You look forward to starting the season, and right now, I can't do it," Griffey said. "That's right now. Things could change day by day, though.

The Reds didn't rule him out for next Monday's opener at home against Atlanta. The team planned to wait a day before making a guess the star between 10-to-16 weeks.

at how long the All-Star center field er will be sidelined.

The immediate future isn't look ing so good, either, for Boston star shortstop Nomar Garciaparra.

The two-time AL batting champion, slowed by a painful right wrist, was examined by hand specialist Dr. Frank McCue at the University of Virginia.

"He was able to tolerate it, and he is a very tough-minded individual to tolerate it. I think he has reached a stage where he can't tolerate it anymore," McCue said.

Asked if Garciaparra needed surgery, McCue said, "I think he probably does.

Garciaparra and the Red Sox will decide whether to have the surgery, which general manager Dan Duquette has said could sideline



Brandon Hart, Wesley Hart, Gus Jacobs and Rusty Hart display their catch at camp along the Nueces River just north of Corpus Christi. The group of makes the trip down to the river camp about twice a year, usually during Thanksgiving and spring break.

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BIG SPRING HERALD Tuesday, March 27, 2001



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HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Wednesday, March 28, 2001:

Use your energy and magnetism to manifest the life you want. You are on the verge of creating something very important in your life. You might find obstacles tossed into your path at times. Use them to increase your potential and abilities. Curb a tendency to worry about taking risks. Get past rigid thinking. If you are single, a relationship might become far more rewarding than you ever thought possible. If you are attached, work on the quality of your relationship. Head for an important goal together. TAURUS can be tough to deal 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)

**** Early morning news could set you off. Be determined to sort through a problem. Success greets you, but you might need to disappoint another. You understand a lot more than those around you. Don't feel as if you have to explain. Tonight: Pay bills or do taxes -- you pick!

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

**** An associate might let you down when you least expect it. Keep plans with friends, even if you are somewhat out of sorts. You'll feel better as the day progresses. Your imagination fuels your work. Listen to another's suggestions. Accept responsibility. Tonight: Slow down.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) *** A misunderstanding colors your work and your personal life. The sooner you get past the confusion, the better you will feel. Detach by taking a drive or listening to a favorite piece of music. Regain your equilibrium by distancing yourself. Use your mind to solve problems. Tonight: Help an elder or shut-in with household chores

CANCER (June 21-July 22) **** Getting what you want could take more time and effort than you want to give. Follow through with a nice, easy pace. Unexpected developments occur when vou go in to work. 'Deal with bosses and superiors with deference. Find out what another needs. Tonight: Be supportive. LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) *** Others push your limits. Let a child know that you're not an endless money tree. Unexpected developments touch a new level. Another knows how to weave himself into your

imagination. Reach out for someone at a distance. New beginnings become possible. Tonight: In the lime-

light **VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) **** Another's agitation unnerves you. Get into your work and relax. You might want to try something innovative. Check it out with experts before you commit to this course of action. Don't stand on ceremony with someone at a distance. Make the call. Tonight: Read a good book.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) *** Another tests your limits financially and emotionally. You might need to tell a child or loved one "no," even if you don't want to. Establish stronger boundaries. Someone responds in a special way. Expect the unexpected with a loved one. Tonight: Could be nice. SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

ple *** Sit back and decide not to get involved if you aren't comfortable with what is going down. Deal with the confusion that's surrounding your finances. Use a stronger hand with spending. Your ability to intuit work, knowing, what is ages right, draws applause. Tonight: Listen to someone who might not be OK. SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-

Dec. 21)

*** Tension surrounds you. Deal with a family member directly. Unexpected developments take you in a new direction. An associate might have a gripe that you need to listen to, even though you might not be able to help. Do something special for a child or loved one. Tonight: Off to the gym

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 Jan. 19)

**** Opt not to discuss what is on your mind. Others might not be as responsive as you would like right now. Unexpected financial developments could toss you into a tizzy. Talk to a family member and get a different perspective. Evaluate a real estate investment. Tonight: Take time with a child or loved one

of а disagreement. Discussion might be uncomfortable, but it gives you long-awaited understanding. A financial hunch pays off. Yes, buy that lottery ticket! Tonight: Don't make it a late night.

HOROSCOPE

BORN TODAY Actor Dirk Bogarde (1921), actress Dianne Wiest (1948), dramatist Maxim Gorky (1868)

For

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 http://www.jacquelinebigar.com.

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Encoding center offers tips on properly addressed mail

Dear Ann Landers: I work at one of the U.S. Post **Office Remote Encoding** Centers. We try to decipher mail the scanners aren't able to process. Now that the holidays are well behind us, it would be helpful if you would

remind peowhat they should and should not do when addressing mail. Maybe next year, their letters and pack will reach their destinations. 1. If you aren't sure of

a state's abbreviation, there is a list in your

local telephone directory. I have seen a lot of mail directed to Little Rock, AK (Alaska), instead

of AR (Arkansas). 2. Use the full name of the city. The scanners don't recognize city abbreviations, and many times, we humans do not know which city you mean. There are seven different designations in Washington state that begin with "Sea.

3. If possible, please type your envelopes. If not, print in block, capital letters -legibly.

4. Please don't use those preprinted, tiny gummed abels to address an envelope. The printi is too small to read

5. Don't draw cute little pictures on the envelope. It nakes it really hard to find the address. 6. Always include your return address -- even on postcards. (And you wonder why Aunt Mary never said anything about your trip to Bora Bora.) 7. Businesses should put their return address in the upper left-hand corner of the envelope. Many of them have the address going down the side or at an angle. The machines cannot read those, and sometimes, neither can I. 8. Many wedding and party invitations have fancy, ital icized lettering. Please choose patterns that are easy to read. Many times a 3" looks like an "8," a "5" resembles a "6," and "1" and "7" are indistinguishable. 9. Use those zip codes. The nine-digit code is best and will get your mail to its destination quicker Thanks, Ann, for helping us get the word out. Bleary-Eyed in PDX Dear PDX: Here's your let ter. I hope it helps. And now, if you don't mind letting me say a few words on your dime, here are a few requests from ME Dear Readers: Please do not send letters written in white ink on dark blue, purple or black stationery White ink often flakes, and I can't read half of what you have written. Please do not enclose sticks of gum, pieces of candy or samples of your hair, asking if I think the dye job looks natural. I do not eat any food that comes taped to letters, and I cannot judge hair color from the samples. Please do not send me one of-a-kind photographs of your baby, your dog, your cat or your parents, and ask me to return them. It is too great a responsibility. Send only photos I don't have to worry about. Thank you, dear readers, for paying attention to all of the above. You will have made my work a lot easier. Dear Readers: The following appeared in the Prairie Rambler and was my Laugh for the Day. Maybe it will be yours

An AP release from Jefferson City, Mo., tells of a state agency that records causes of death. It recorded the following: "Went to bed feeling well, but woke up dead." Another said. "Died suddenly of nothing serious." And finally: "Cause of death unknown. He never had been seriously ill

Dear Ann Landers: I would like to respond to the letter from "Night Owl Married to an Early Bird," whose husband is constantly tired and falls asleep before 9 p.m. You suggested he see a sleep specialist. On behalf of the American Diabetes Association, I recommend that this gentleman ask his doctor about being screened for diabetes.

One of the risk factors of type 2 diabetes is a sedentary lifestyle, and one of the symptoms is fatigue. A simple blood test done at the doctor's office will help determine if this man is one of the 16 million Americans who have diabetes, a chronic disease with severe complications -if left untreated, diabetes can cause blindness, kidney failure, amputations, heart disease and stroke. As many as half the people

with diabetes may not realize they have it. On March 27. the American Diabetes Association will sponsor its 13th annual American Fiabetes Alert Day - a one day call-to-action to help

people determine their risk for diabetes. Readers can

before." ANN LANDERS

The City of Big Spring will be testing for the position of Police Officer at 8:30AM on Thursday April 26, 2001 at the Police Training Center at 307 E. 4th. Applications are being accepted through Friday 20, 2001 Preference will be given Certified Police Officers. For further information and detailed qualifications contact City Hall personnel at 310 Nolan, Big Spring, TX 79720 or call 915-264-2346. The City of Big Spring is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Wanted: Machinist. 3 vears experience required. Salary DOE Call 264-6600 "Work at Home" FREE REPORT 877-967-5781 ***Work From Home* Mail Order/Internet

\$25-\$75/HR PT/FT (800) 456-3049 www.ificansocanu.com

JOBS WANTED

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

LOANS

DELTA LOANS Loans from \$50-\$450 Se Habla Espanol Phone Apps. Welcom Doing Tax Returns Back in 2 to 3 days Come visit Jeannie Gloria or Juanita. Open for your convenience. Tues & Thurs. 8:30am to 9:00pm. 115 E. 3rd. 268-9090. MIDWEST FINANCE

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

NEED A NEW LOOK

FOR SPRING & FASTER? WE CAN HELP! No Credit - No Problem Loans \$100-\$467 Apply by phone 267-4591 or come by SECURITY FINANCE 204 S. Goliad . Big Spring NEED CASH NOW OPEN

E-Z Cash \$100 to \$1000.000 No Credit Check Checking Acct. Required

263-4315

APPLIANCES 2-Commercial Maytag gas dryers & Maytag washers. \$600 Call 267-6845.

System of Glasscock County will hold a public meeting on April 5, 2001 at 5 00 pm in MOBILE HOMES Glasscock County Courthouse. The purpose is to \$369 MO. 4 bdrm. 2 bth. receive public comment on the s/s fridge, freezer proposed Drought Contingency Plan for the waher/dryer dishwasher & much water system Call today For more information contact 1-800-698-8003 10% dn; Alan Dierschke, Water System 360mn; 8.5 apr; cpm Administrator at 915-354

4BR/2 bath Mobile 3131 March 27, 2001 home on 1 ac. w/storage



EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject I the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1988 which makes it illegal t advertise "anv preference limitation of discrimination based or race color, religion, sex or national origin, or an intention to make any such preference limitation or discrimination

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for rea estate which is in violation of the law. Ou readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are

available on an equal opportunity basis UNFURNISHED



Guess All Bills Paid which advertiser 00000000 used the



Results! Call 263-7331



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

*** You give off many confusing vibes right now. You might want to consider your actions more carefully. You could be more agitated than you realize. Relax, and then your communication will carry more weight and be less scat tered. Tonight: Take a walk to help clear stress. PISCES (Feb. 19-March

*** Deal with someone you normally put on a pedestal. You could be on the verge take a simple seven ques tion test over the telephone or via the Internet. Please let your readers know they can participate by calling our toll-free number, 1-800-DIABETES (1-800-342-2383), or visiting our Web site (www.diabetes.org). The test is available in both

English and Spanish. Thank you for your efforts to help educate the American public about this very serious disease. --Marian A. Parrott, M.D., M.P.H., National Vice

President of Clinical Affairs, American Diabetes Association, Alexandria, Va.

Dear Dr. Parrott: I appreciate the opportunity to let my readers know about this risk test. Please, folks, American Diabetes Alert Day is tomorrow, Tuesday, March 27. Make time to call the toll-free number listed above, or check out the Web site and take the ADA risk test. It will not take long, and it could be the most important thing you will do all year.

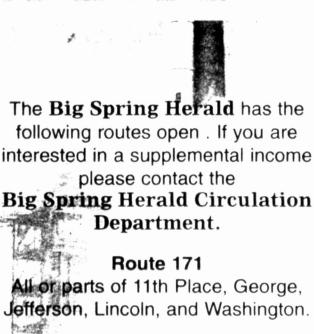
That first kiss, that first embrace ... Remember all things that brought th

and your loved one together? "How We Met" is a collection of sentimental love stories will make a terrific gift for that special someone. For a copy, please send a self-addressed, long, business-size envelope and a check or money order for \$5.50 (this includes postage and handling) to: How We Met, c/o Ann Landers, P.O. Box 11562, Chicago, IL 60611-0562 (in Canada, \$6.50). To find out more about Ann Landers and

read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at www.creators.com.

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



All applicants must have the following:

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

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Comics

BIG SPRING HERALD Tuesday, March 27, 2001

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6		Cosby (CC) Spin City (CC)		World's Greatest	News Ent. Tonight	News (CC) Fortune	News Seinfeld (CC)		Carita de Angel	Movie: Rent- a-Kid (CC)	Miami Vice	(:15) Movie: Dick (CC)	· · · ·	Movie: Crazy in Alabama	News John Hagee	Law & Order (CC)	Nature World of Mitsuaki	Pretender (CC)	Medical Medical
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8 [:]	M Dharma-Greg About Joan	Dark Angel (CC)	Nova (CC)	Scariest Places	60 Minutes II (CC)	Dharma-Greg About Joan	Frasier (CC) Three Sisters	Toronto Raptors at	Mi Destino Eres Tu	The Borrowers	Movie: Hooper (CC)	Movie: Risky Business	Bride (CC)	Movie: Wit (CC)		City Confi- dential (CC)	New Detectives	Benjamin	Superhumar Body
		Arrest & Trial Nanny (CC)	Frontline (CC)	Early Edition (CC) (DVS)	Judging Amy (CC)	NYPD Blue (CC)	Dateline (CC)	Miami Heat Insde NBA	Aqui y Ahora	(CC) (:20) Movie:		(CC) (:45) Movie:	Resurrection Blvd. (CC)		Hour of Healing	Investigative Reports (CC)	FBI Files	Movie: Private	Superhumar Body
10	M News (CC) Nightline	Jerry Springer (CC)	News-Lehrer	700 Club (CC)	News (:35) Late	News (CC) Nightline	News (:35) Tonight	Movie: First Targe'	P. Impacto Noticiero Univ.	Rent-a-Kid (CC)	18 Wheels of Justice (CC)	Big City Blues (CC)	Queer as Folk	Sopranos (CC)	News Dr. Massey	Law & Order (CC)	Justice Files	Benjamin	Trauma: Life in the ER
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12	M Paid Program Paid Program	Judge-Brown Cops (CC)	Presents (CC)	Paid Program Paid Program	Show (CC) Street Smarts	(12:06) Oprah Winfrey (CC)		Movie: Platoon	El Premio Mayor	Walt Disney Presents	Starsky and Hutch	Borrower	Malkovich (CC)	Beach (CC)	Faith Pleases God	City Confi- dential (CC)	New Detectives	Old Times	Superhumar Body

DENNIS THE MENACE

FAMILY CIRCUS



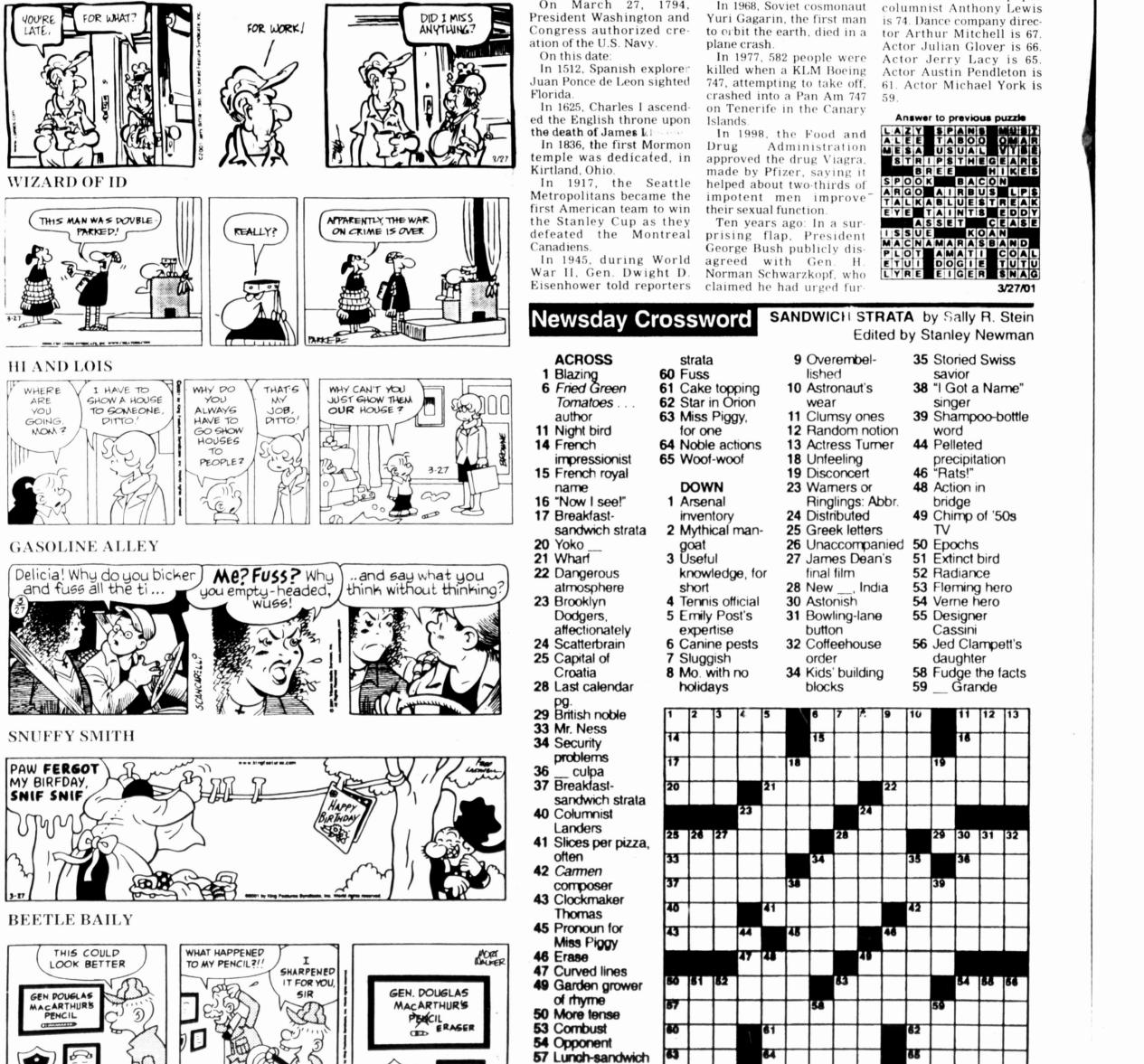
+HOW DO YA EXPECT ME TO STAY CLEAN, WHEN I'M SO CLOSE TO THE DIRT?"

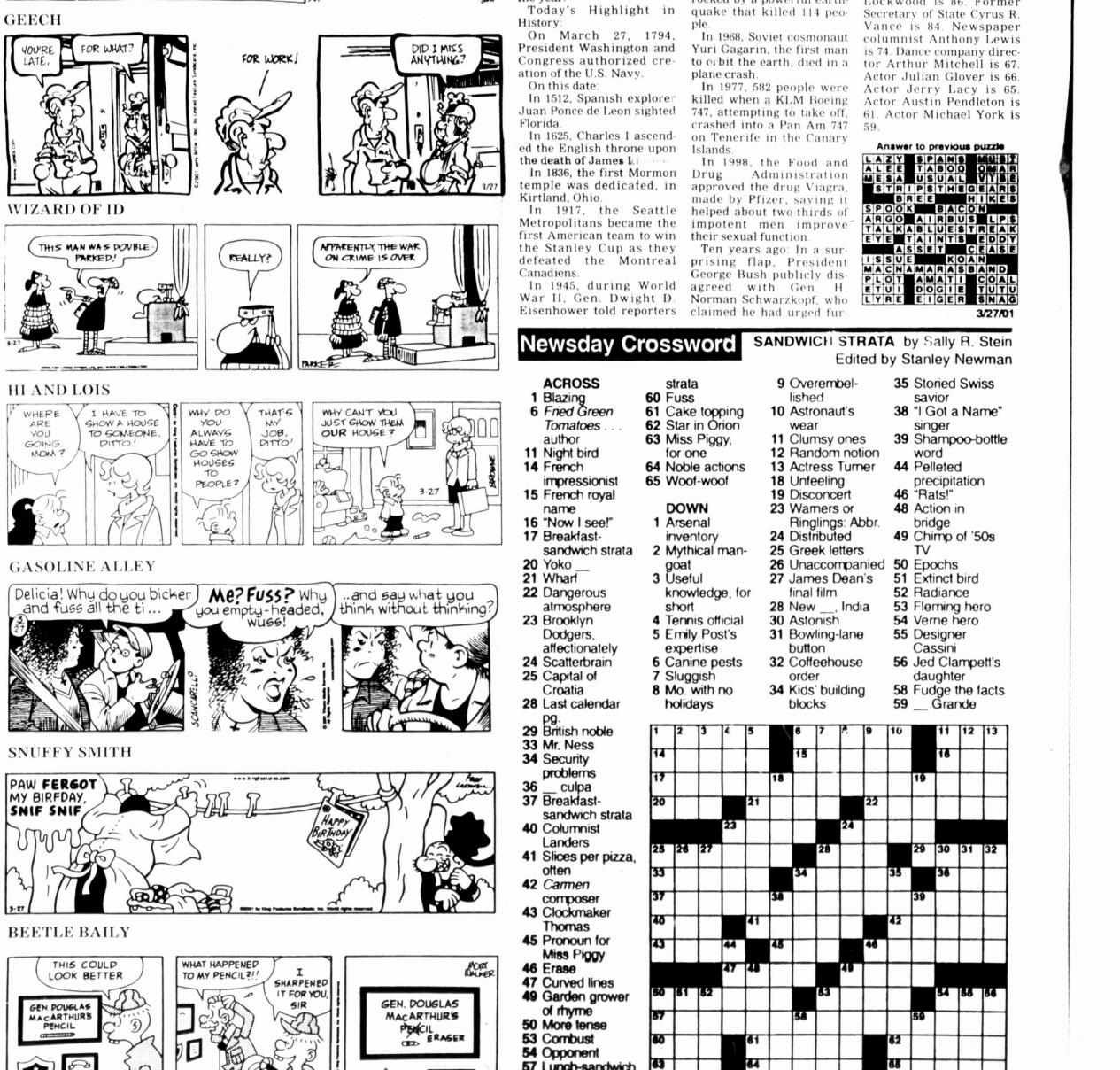




B.C.







THIS DATE **IN HISTORY**

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

Today is Tuesday, March 27, the 86th day of 2001. There are 279 days left in the year.

Front had been broken.

In 1958, Nikita Khrushchev became Soviet premier in addition to first secretary of the Communist Party

In 1964, Alaska was rocked by a powerful earth-

CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2001 STANLEY NEWMAN

in Paris that German ther fighting in the Persian defenses on the Western Gulf War at the time Bush ordered a cease-fire. (Schwarzkopf later apologized to Bush.)

Today's Birthdays: Lord Callaghan, former British prime minister, is 89. Blues musician Robert "Junior" Lockwood is 86. Former

Drilling. "I work sev week, on call 24 so my social much," said V "But I have ne paycheck in 45 the oil busin

something." He's also har day of work, count the 45 day in 1985 for a k plant. Once he doctors. bv Warneke head where he want working in the — and he ne back.

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By DEBBIE L. J

Features Editor

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HEB Contral Check-Out manager Kyle Newton, right,

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By LYNDEL MOO

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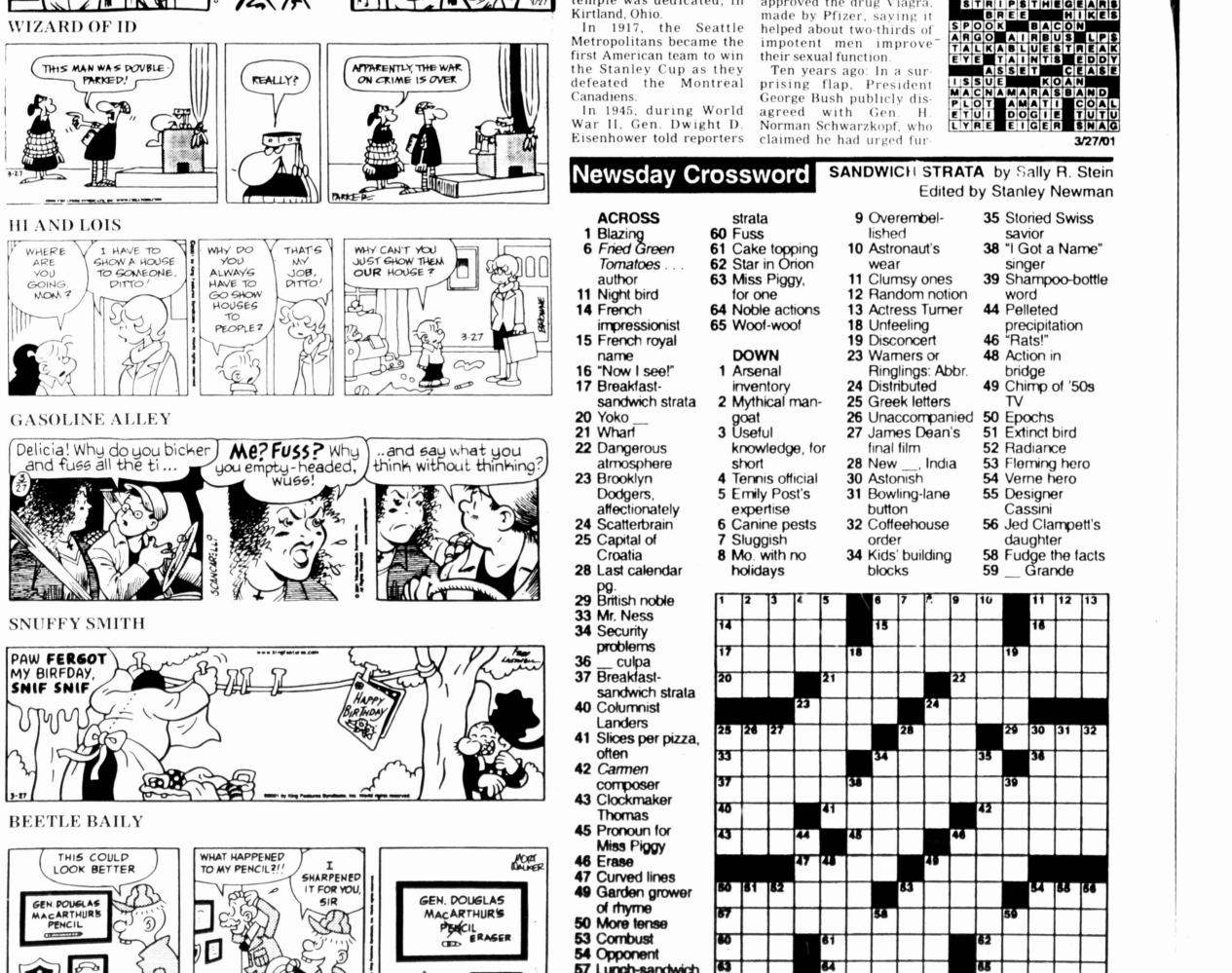
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Staff Writer

HERALD photo/Lynd

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3/27/01

2001: The Crossroads' Odyssey

A supplement to the Big Spring Herald March 25-30, 2001

TODAY: AG, INDUSTRY AND OIL

Drilling company manager's job is all-day, every day

By DEBBIE L. JENSEN Features Editor

H.L. "Papy" Warneke started working in the oilfields around Snyder when he was 16 years old.

Continuing to attend school during the day, Warneke spent many nights on a rig during the Canyon Reef boom of 1949. At that time, there were about 200 rigs in the Snyder area, where 1,000 barrels a day of oil was flowing.

His first job, as is for most in the business, was as a roughneck. He soon began working his way to the top, and for the last 20 years, Warneke has been general manager of Robinson Drilling.

"I work seven days a week, on call 24 hours a day, so my social life is not much," said Warneke, 66. "But I have never missed a paycheck in 45 years and in the oil business, that's something.'

He's also hardly missed a day of work, unless you count the 45 days he took off in 1985 for a kidney transplant. Once he was released bv doctors, however. Warneke headed back to where he wanted to be working in the oil business – and he never looked back.

Since then, Warneke says his health has been good, and doctors say he's a med-



Above, H.L. "Papy" Warneke sits at his desk at Robinson Drilling, three framed photographs of drilling rigs behind him. At right, Warneke was saluted in a newspaper section several years ago, a copy of which he also keeps framed in his office.

planted kidney has worked perfectly for 16 years and looks ready to go on for several decades more.

As for the oil business, you can see the increased Warneke said he may retire traffic in the last few years,"

ical marvel since his trans- n't see a slowdown in the complaining about the high need for energy – and price of gasoline, but it's not therefore the need to drill hurting travel any. for oil – anytime soon. Warneke pointed out that

"If you just get out on I-20, everything from food to clothing — everything we buy - has to be trucked in

to that the increasing U.S. population, and you have the recipe for increased need for energy.

"The future for the oil business looks promising," he said. "We are becoming

on energy.

Serving The Permian Basin

Since 1947

The Pioneers Of The l

Still, the biggest problem in the oil business today is the need for qualified personnel, he added.

"We need people that can



HEB Contral Check-Out manager Kyle Newton, ri



By VALERIE AVERY

totals the grocery bill for Joe **Rangel and his** daughters. Newton wants to pursue a career with HEB and is currently studying business management at Howard College. HERALD photo/Lynde Moody

Company supporting young manager's goal to further his education, skills

By LYNDEL MOODY

Staff Writer

When local resident Kyle Newton applied for employment at HEB Grocery Store, he just wanted to pay for his car, but what he found was a career.

"I saw an opportunity to grow," Newton said. "HEB is a great company. I see the potential. The company is building new stores every day. It will be a great company to work for in the future."

As a 16-year-old, Newton applied for a job after his parents gave him some financial responsibility.

"I had a car wreck and needed to pay for the damages," Newton said. "I started out as a sacker and worked my way up.'

Quickly working his way up the ladder, Newton, 19, is the Central Check Out manager for the store, responsible for keeping efficient customer flow through the check-out lines, and managing cashiers and sackers.

He is also responsible for creating employee work schedules and budgeting, making the sure the store meets its set sales-per-customer quota. One challenge at his job is to manage employees, some of whom are 10 to 20 years older than he is.

And Newton said he likes his job.

"The company really cares about their partners

'I see the potential. The company is building new stores every day. It will be a great company to work for in the future.

Kyle Newton, 19

from the sackers to the management," he said.

A Howard College student, Newton takes 16 hours of classes along with his 40hour-a-week job, he said. And HEB helps pay for his college tuition.

"HEB keeps helping me out," he said. "I receive a company scholarship to help pay my way through school. The company gives as much help to me as I put into work.

Newton received a \$8,800 scholarship from the company for four years of college and plans to pursue a degree in business management.

And his job is giving him valuable experience: Newton recently attended the school retail management for HEB, where he learned about everything from customer relations to the legal do's and don'ts.

He said during the training he visited other stores in Odessa, Midland and San Angelo, training all paid for

by the company

Work and school are not the only activities in which Newton participates. He is also a Howard College Diplomat, representing the college at activities on and off campus.

"Anywhere Howard College is, I am there," he said, whether the diplomats volunteer at the college's basketball games or perform services in the community. But Newton is used to hard work, growing up helping his parents with their farm.

"When other kids were at the swimming pool, I was out in the garden (on five acres of land) working," he said

Juggling his daily activities is a little difficult for the Forsan High School graduate, but Newton said his responsibilities have taught him good time-management skills.

"HEB has taught me a lot, but I have always had that skill," he said. "I think God has a lot to do with it. He is in my life and I am walking down his path.

Newton said his parents support him financially, but he takes pride in knowing everything he owns he bought with his own earnings including his new truck

As for the future, Newton said he hopes to finish his education at Texas A&M and eventually become a regional manager for HEB.

When Sandy Brott gradu ated from Big Spring High School in 1993, she began working in a fast food restaurant. But it left her unsatisfied.

"When I worked there, I felt like I was a spark plug who could be exchanged with anyone else," the selfdescribed people-person said

"I've always liked working with people and helping people, and I didn't feel as if was helping people enough (in the restaurant)."

One of her aunts worked at Big Spring State Hospital and suggested Brott apply for a mental health worker's position.

"I liked it right from the start," Brott said. "Every day when I come to work, it makes a difference me being here, whereas when l was in the community, l didn't feel that way. Here, you feel like you are part of the group."

Brott is one of 255 mental health workers, who work directly with the 200-plus patients at Big Spring State* Hospital. As a shift-teamleader, she is responsible[#] for the other seven workers who look after the more than 40 patients during her 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. shift on Rehabilitation Psychiatric Services Unit.

She was promoted to Shift Team Leader in 1999 and enjoys the stability of being on the same unit day-afterday. With the new job comes a little bit more paperwork, but she still has daily activity with patients taking them to classes and helping them with personal

needs. The unpredictability of the job is and all of the lessons it has taught her during the past six years have been its greatest asset.

"I've found that now when I'm out in the community, I'm a lot more patient," Brott said. "Here, you have to learn patience and you also get more of a sense of humor. A lot of times, the patients will joke around with you. They know sometimes they say silly things when they're not feeling



Sandy Brott looks over a patient's chart as part of her job with Big Spring State Hospital. Brott is a shift team leader in the Rehabilitation Psychiatric Services unit.

well. "Later, they may come back to you and talk about it ... They realize they were sick when they came in."

The rewards of mental health work are many, Brott said. Especially when a patient recovers and makes great strides with your help.

"The rewards far outweigh the hazards. If you get the right repartee with the patient and you understand them and use your communication skills and it all just clicks, it's a great feeling.

"The way I see it is that mental illness can happen to any one of us at any time," Brott said. "We are

not exempt from it. I try to keep that in mind that it could possibly happen to me. I try to make sure the workers are showing the patients the respect that they need. They need to be treated with respect and compassion.' Eventually, Brott would like to return to school and

pursue a mursing degree. **Big Spring State Hospital** offers stipends, which pay employees to pursue a nursing school in exchange for future employment.

"I would love to stay out here. The state has great benefits and the hospital is a great place to work.

200 I: The Crossroads' Odyssey

A week-long series that takes an in-depth look at our community's past, present and future.

Sunday — Education

Monday - Living

Tuesday — Agriculture, Industry and Oil Wednesday — Government Thursday — Hospitals and Health Friday --- Religion

PROGRESS 2001/AG, INDUSTRY & OIL **2B**

BIG SPRING HERALD Tuesday, March 27, 2001

Local officials estimate

BIG SPRING Tuesday, Ma

FCL B By CARL GRAM

Staff Writer

Federal Institution (FC prides itself things, not which has bee ship with the over the past 2 "We have wo city in many Vic Flournoy, assistant. "O involved in ma ty efforts such Way, Christm the Big Spr Society, coacl sports, church Scouting progr ers. "It has been

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INMATE

Continued from

have helped recent renova Howard Colle center, Howard playground Comanche Tra key house ar Moss Creek I tion, which four months.

Wilderness C helped cleaned after the Perm was demolishe constructed a 1 boarded up and **Howard House** demolished and the Mt. Olive (In addition,

spruced up College rode taken care of th SouthWest Institute For worked on the room above the chambers and ly, worked in of the area Apache Bend stood.

Wilderness Camp inmates make major contributions working out all the arrangements.

By CARL GRAHAM

Staff Writer

Though they are often taken for granted, inmates from the Wilderness Camp in Howard County have made a

huge contribution to the appearance of the city as well as saving the community millions of dollars since they began work in September 1994. Becky Crane, parks and recreation supervisor, does all the scheduling of work for the inmates. She works

CRANE closely with the supervisory staff of the Wilderness Camp,

making sure of their availability and See INMATES, Page 3

"We figured it up one time that the inmates save the city and other entities that use them around \$50,000 a month." said Crane. "Now if you figure that times the almost 72 months they have been here, you would have around \$3.5 million that has been

using a minimum wage of \$5.15 an hour. Crane said the inmates have been involved in numerous clean-up work, most of which doesn't get a lot of fanfare

"Their contributions are just immeasurable," said Crane. "They just help the city in so many, many ways.' A few of the projects they



that Wilderness Camp inmates contribute about \$50,000 a month in labor to the city and county through various projects. At left, a Wilderness Camp inmate plants flowers at Heart of the City Park in downtown Big Spring. Herald file photo

Cornell Corrections has unique pact with community said Brown. "They support

By CARL GRAHAM

Staff Writer

Cornell Corrections may be the third-largest private prison management compa-

ny in the United States, but that doesn't keep one of Big Spring's largest employers from being community minded.



"Big Spring has been real good to us," said Warden Dale Brown "We try to be a good neighbor in the community. I think we've done that.

He'd get no argument from the city. When Big Spring was having trouble obtaining enough funding to tear down the Permian Building and the Howard House, Cornell Corrections stepped up and wrote checks to cover the amount. And that's only one example of how Cornell has helped out.

'We have historically had an outstanding relationship with the city of Big Spring,'

us and our operation daily." Brown was familiar with Big Spring before he took the job as warden for Cornell. He had previously served as warden at FCI Big Spring. He was transferred to help open a new facility in Beaumont and then retired. But when he got a call one day asking him to return as warden to Howard County as warden for Cornell, it didn't take a lot of convincing.

"I was already aware of how much the city and area offer their support from having lived in Big Spring before. That's what brought me back. The people of Big Spring are good people," Brown said.

The Big Spring Correctional Center operation is a unique arrangement between the city of Big Spring, the Federal Bureau of Prisons and Cornell. Through an inter-government agreement, the city contracts with the Federal Bureau of Prisons to incarcerate federal offenders. The city subcontracts with Cornell to manage and operate the facilities

The history of the privately-run prison system here is an interesting one. Johnny Rutherford and Chuck Haugh, founders of MidTex Detentions (a former private prison management company based in Big Spring), first approached the city in 1988 to present the idea of renovating an abandoned hotel into a detention facility. With financial backing from Ed Davenport, the project was completed in 1989, and contracts were secured. Since then, the operation has grown from one facility with 350 beds to a four-facility complex with 2,600 plus beds. Cornell now has 423 employee positions in Big Spring.

The four facilities include the Interstate Unit, established in June, 1989 at Interstate 20 and Highway 176. It provides 386 prisoner beds and is managed by approximately 75 employees.

The second was the Airpark Unit, located at 3700 Wright Avenue, and opened in February of 1991. It provides 524 prisoner beds and is managed by some 90 employees.

Unit, established in February of 1995. The unit is located on the west side of McMahon-Wrinkle the Airpark near the main runway. It provides 712 prisoner beds and is managed by about 110 employees.

The latest to be estab lished is the Cedar Hill Unit, opened in June of 1998. It is localed near former Webb Air Force Base housing. It provides 946 prisoner beds and is managed by some 125 employees.

Cornell acquired the Big Spring operation from MidTex in 1996.

Since the acquisition, Cornell has more than tripled its size. In 1996, Cornell contracted to operate 20 detention and prerelease facilities with a total bed capacity of 3,349 beds. Today, Cornell contracts to operate over 90 facilities with a total bed capacity of approximately 12,000.

Since inception, the Big Spring Correctional Center operation has contributed positively to the local economy. Aside from the four facilities, Cornell leases

Next was the Flightline other buildings from the tions, executive offices and city for warehouse opera- a staff training center.



A Private Correctional Management Corporation 1701 Apron Drive · Big Spring, Texas 79720 · 915-264-0060

Cornell Manages The **Big Spring Correctional Center** Interstate Unit • Airpark Unit • Flightline Unit • Cedar Hill Unit

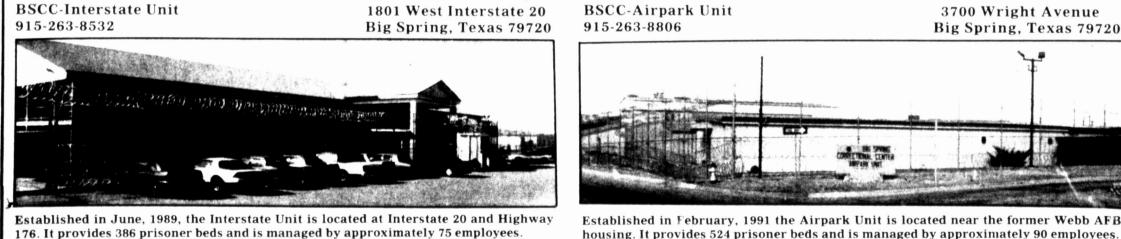
Cornell Companies, Inc. is the third largest private prison management company in the United States. It was founded in 1990 to take advantage of a national trend toward prison privatization. Cornell contracts with state and federal agencies to house and provide development programs for a growing number of convicted felons and juvenile offenders. In 1994, Cornell incorporated and currently manages three nationwide divisions: Cornell Pre-Release (consisting of halfway houses and other pre-release programs); Cornell-Abraxas (juvenile detention facilities) and Cornell Corrections (the secure institutions division). In addition to the four in Big Spring, Cornell currently manages other secure institutions in California, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Georgia and Rhode Island

The Big Spring Correctional Center operation is a unique arrangement between the City of Big Spring, the Federal Bureau of Prisons and Cornell. Through an intergovernmental agreement, the City contracts with the Federal Bureau of Prisons to incarcerate federal offenders. The City, in turn, subcontracts with Cornell to manage and operate the facilities. All offenders housed at the Big Spring Correctional Center are illegal aliens; therefore, the Immigration and Naturalization Service also contracts with the City to conduct appropriate investigations and deportation proceedings at the facilities. Deportation hearings are conducted on site or via video teleconferencing by the Executive Offices of Immigration Review in Dallas, Texas

Johnny Rutherford and Chuck Haugh, founders of MidTex Detentions (a former private prison management company based in Big Spring), first approached the City in 1988 to present the idea of renovating an abandoned hotel into a detention facility and contracting to house approximately 350 inmates. With the financial backing of Entrepreneur Ed Davenport, the project was completed in 1989, and contracts were secured. The combined talents of Rutherford's financial management knowledge and Haugh's prison management experience, from his 25-year tenure with the Federal Bureau of Prisons, made the once new concept a resounding success that has set a template others strive to emulate. With success came expansion, and the operation has grown from one facility with 350 beds to a four-facility complex with 2,600+ total beds. Cornell now has 420 employee positions in Big Spring.

Cornell acquired the Big Spring operation from MidTex in 1996. Rutherford left the business at that time, and Haugh served as Cornell's Vice President of Secure Institutions Division until his retirement in 1999. Since this acquisition, Cornell has more than tripled its size. In 1996, Cornell contracted to operate 20 detention and pre-release facilities with a total bed capacity of 3,349 beds. Today, Cornell contracts to operate over 70 facilities, located in 13 states and the District of Columbia, with a total bed capacity in excess of 14,400.

Since inception, the Big Spring Correctional Center operation has contributed positively to the local economy. Aside from the four facilities, Cornell leases other buildings from the City for warehouse operations, executive offices and a staff training center. In 2001, Cornell will pay the City of Big Spring in excess of \$1,000,000 for contract maintenance and lease fees.

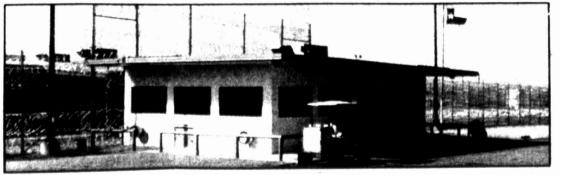


Established in February, 1991 the Airpark Unit is located near the former Webb AFB housing. It provides 524 prisoner beds and is managed by approximately 90 employees.

BSCC-Flightline Unit 915-267-7911

2001 Rickabaugh Drive **Big Spring**, Texas 79720 **BSCC-Cedar Hill Unit** 915-268-1227

3711 Wright Avenue Big Spring, Texas 79720



Established in February, 1995, the Flightline Unit is located on the west side of the McMahon-Wrinkle Air field near the main runway. It provides 864 prisoner beds and is managed by approximately 130 employees.

Established in June, 1998, the Cedar Hill Unit is located near the former Webb AFB housing. It provides 832 prisoner beds and is managed by approximately 125 employees.

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PROGRESS 2001/AG, INDUSTRY & OIL

FCI Big Spring has strong community relations

By CARL GRAHAM Staff Writer

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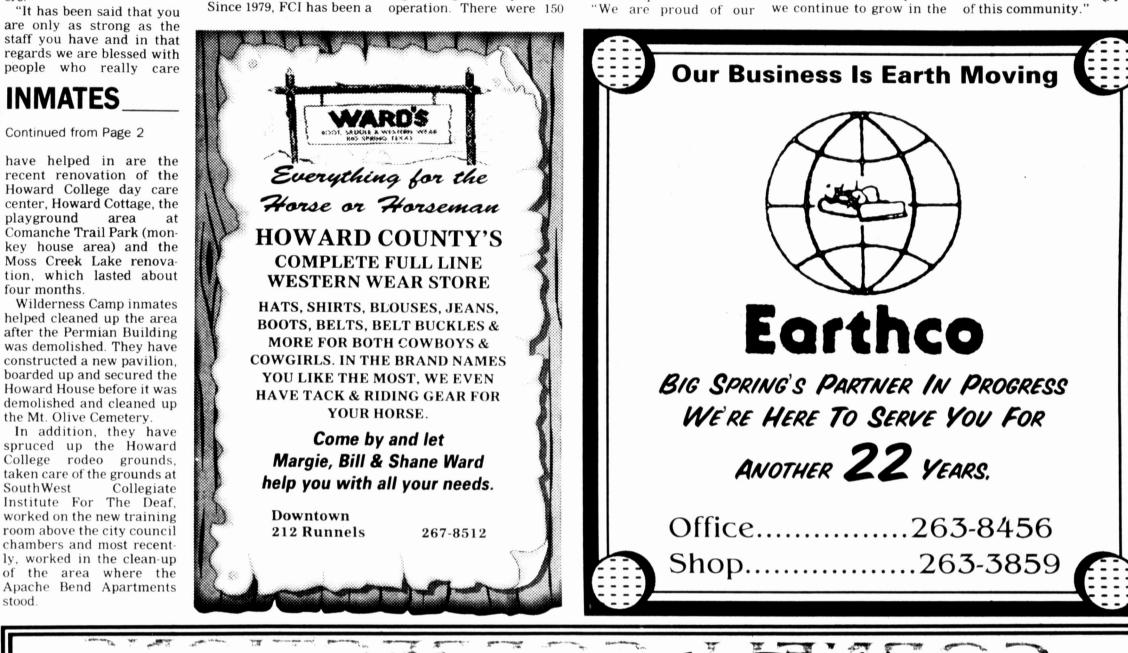
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Federal Correctional Institution (FCI) Big Spring prides itself on many things, not the least of which has been its relationship with the community over the past 22 years.

'We have worked with the city in many ways," said Vic Flournoy, FCI executive assistant. "Our staff is involved in many community efforts such as the United Way, Christmas in April, the Big Spring Humane Society, coaching various sports, church leadership, Scouting programs and others

"It has been said that you are only as strong as the staff you have and in that regards we are blessed with people who really care



about the community," Flournoy added.

Camp inmates have also assisted in the community by helping to set up for the city's Fourth of July celebration and clean up afterward, renovating the local Humane Society Shelter, cleaning area softball fields and renovating a Boy Scout facility.

said that Flournoy "Choices and Consequences," a program that has inmates, speaking before high school groups about their personal stories of what happened to them and the consequences they are facing has also been a huge success

part of the Bureau of inmates initially assigned. Prisons. It is located on the former Webb Air Force Base, which closed in 1977.

It has an annual operating budget of approximately \$21 million, causing a tremendous impact on the local economy, Flournoy noted.

FCI has 254 employees on staff that oversee a variety of disciplines, including correctional services, education, employee development, facilities, financial, food service, health services, human resources, industries, inmate systems, psychology and recreation.

The facility has seen some significant milestones during during its 22 years of

By the end of 1979, 101 staff members were employed at FCI.

In 1990, a mission change was approved and the facility was converted to a lowsecurity level. That change was completed on Sept. 1, 1990

In 1996, the institution was designated as an Immigration Hearing and Release site for immigration detainees.

Presently there are 254 staff members that operate and maintain the FCI and the satellite camp. The current population of the FCI is 758, of which 128 are housed in the camp.



FCI BIG SPRING

coming years and add addi institution and the variety of programs and services we tional employees, we will offer," said Flournoy. "As continue to be a strong part

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stood

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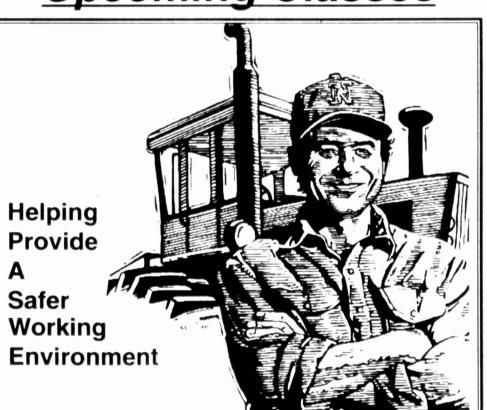
Risk Management Academy 264-5171 264-5171 **Upcoming Classes**

Wed. April 11th - 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. **Basic Industrial Hygiene** \$15 -----# 8320

Thurs. April 12th - 8 a.m. - Noon Worker's Compensation Overview \$15 -----#1350

Wed. May 2nd - 8 a.m. - Noon **Basic Safety Orientation** \$10 -----#1351

Wed. May 2nd - 1-5 p.m. Personal Protective Equipment \$10 -----#1352



Wed. June 13th - 8 a.m. - Noon Hazard Communications \$10 -----# 1450

Wed. June 12th - 1-5 p.m. Hazard Material Transportation \$10 -----#1451

Wed. July 11th - 8 a.m. - Noon **Basic Injury Prevention** \$10 -----#1452

Wed. July 11th - 1-5 p.m. Home Healthcare Safety \$10 -----#1453

264-5131 Continuing Education 264-5131

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Senior Academy

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PROGRESS 2001/AG, INDUSTRY & OIL 4B



Moore Development For Big Spring and the Texas Workforce Center work as a team to attract and retain industry, then hire and train employees, whether it be for heavy machinery, as above, or

retail business. Herald file photos

Moore Development dedicated to attracting, retaining industry

By BILL McCLELLAN News Editor

It's been a little more than a year since Solitaire has been in Big Spring, but the company wouldn't be promanufactured ducing homes at its 11th Place location if it weren't for the relationship it shares with Moore Development For Big Spring.

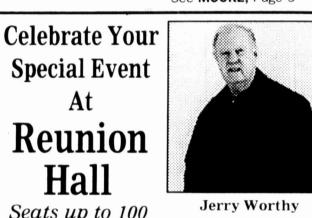
"They've been more than accommodating,' said Garland Gandy, Solitaire Homes general manager. "Signal Homes had this property leased, but when they closed and we looked at it, we said 'we want to buy, lease.' Moore not Development was instrumental in making not only that happen, but in the purchase of adjacent property as well.'

Solitaire Homes has been just one in a number of success stories for Moore Development, which also attracted StarTek and played a major role in bringing the Lamun-Lusk-Texas State Sanchez Veterans Home to Big Spring in the past few vears.



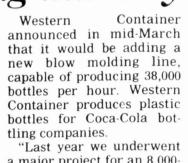
But Moore Development isn't just about attracting business and industry. "The \$5.6 million project

we are doing this year would not be possible if Moore Development had not helped us out last year," said Alf Marsh, general manager of the Western Container Corporation plant in Big Spring — one of the county's largest employers.



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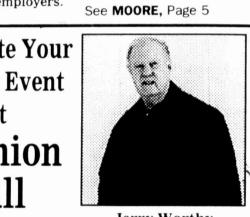


BIG SPRING HERALD

Tuesday, March 27. 2001

a major project for an 8.000square-foot office complex with Moore Development's help. It would not have been possible without their assistance," said Marsh. "That enabled us to open space, which allows us to expand and move ahead with this \$5.6 million project this year. Kent Sharp (Moore Development executive director) has been tremendous to work with, as has

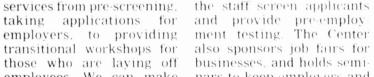
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applicants can view them."

said Virginia Belew, area smooth transition into manager of the Texas another job," said Belew. Workforce Center in Big The staff at the Workforce Spring. "There have certain-

unemployment by phone. potential

employees. We can make nars to keep employers and See TWC, Page 5

Center can help with skills resumes. employees.

TWC: Doing it all for employees, employees sure the employees have a managers up to date on the latest employment-related information.

"We have a lot of business regulation information to help them make employeerelated decisions," said Belew. "We have a clearing house of books, videos and law information.

By making that type of information available, the Center also operates as a resource center for both employers and employees. In addition to the videos

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By JOHN H. WAL Publisher Just east of Big the north side the refinery. To still known as (others, Fina, eve now carries the 1

BIG SPRING H

Tuesday, Mar

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But if the face faceness is that of its then Alon's B refinery clearly face of the Paige Father Jerry r 41 years' service sold the refiner Now sons Rodne

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just came back t plant turnaround Jerry began a ery back in the nearly 1,000 peop the payroll. Th reduction came when the polysty was closed, le refinery basica stand-alone unit

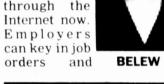
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Now, there are persons at the ref aspects of the op-It's obvious th has taken place years at the refir

"The EPA cha been big time,' known better "Everything asso the EPA has ch

TWC Continued from P

and books, the tures compute Internet access to and career inform computers conta software such as Office, Powerpoi Tutor and res plates A resources are tains a copier, phones, newspa more. The Workforce located at 310 Ov open from 8 a Monday p.m. Friday. For mor tion, call 263-837. the TWC Web www.twc.state.tx



By BILL McCLELLAN

Job searching these days

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door-to-door. In fact, job

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News Editor

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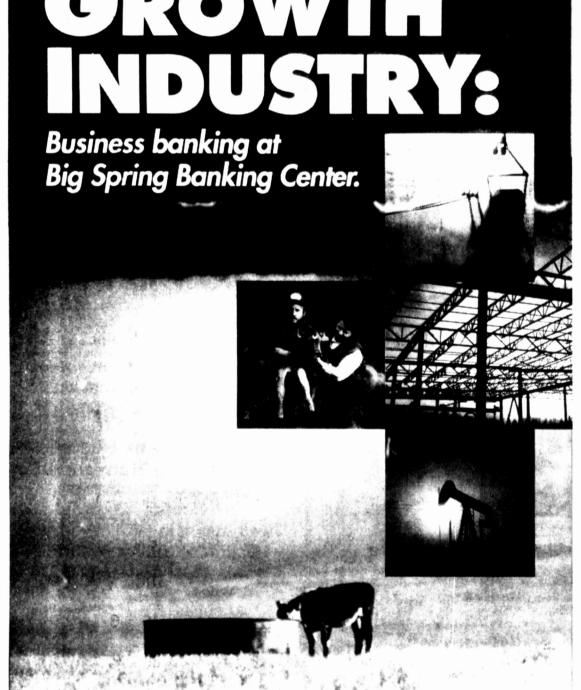


accommodate today's soci- applications. ety that wants immediate career counseling, academic access to information." That includes filing for assessments and more for

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ly been a lot of changes to upgrading. employment assessments. vocational Employers can request that

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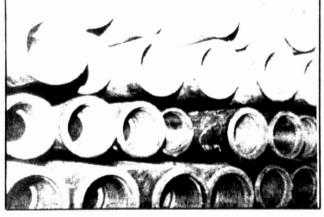
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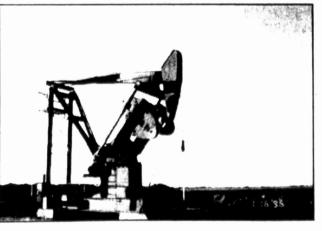
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MOORE

Continued from P

all their staff and Moore Develop on tax dollars, s a one-half-cent approved by vot of 1990.

"For a comr rural West Tex have a developn ration is a very because you ha pete with the oth nities around y economic develo ject that comes a Sharp.

'Secondly, onc a development of board and staff. ative to find ou direction you w We have had a r luck with existin and with getting tries in," he sa expansions wit Container, Inter and Commercia as well as Solitai and the veterans

"We're now at more specificall ing the direction And that direc attract higher-w Sharp said.

The other although it is higher-wage jobs is on technology "We're going get there it is

be competitive future," said Sha

PROGRESS 2001/AG, INDUSTRY & OIL 5B

In dad's footsteps: Paige family loves working at refinery

By JOHN H. WALKER

Publisher

Just east of Big Spring, on the north side of I-20, sits the refinery. To some, it is still known as Cosden ... to others, Fina, even though it now carries the name Alon. But if the face of a business is that of its employees, then Alon's Big Spring refinery clearly wears the face of the Paige family.

Father Jerry retired after 41 years' service when Fina sold the refinery to Alon. Now sons Rodney, Gary and Donnie have logged 22, 21 and three years, respectively, with one part of the organization or another.

Rodney said he and his brothers were following in their father's footsteps.

"I think it's the best job around here," Jerry, who just came back to help on a plant turnaround, said.

Jerry began at the refinery back in the days when nearly 1,000 people were on the payroll. The last big reduction came in 1985, when the polystyrene plant was closed, leaving the refinery basically as a stand-alone unit.

Prior to the shuttering of polystyrene, the other chemical plants associated with the refinery had already been closed.

Now, there are about 180 persons at the refinery in all aspects of the operation.

It's obvious that change has taken place over the years at the refinery.

"The EPA changes have been big time," said Gary, known better as Spot. "Everything associated with the EPA has changed over

Continued from Page 4

TWC

the years."

Rodney and Spot have both spent time in the gathering system as well as the refinery, coming into the plant when the gathering system was spun off not long ago.

Spot started in the alky unit as a helper, back on Oct. 20, 1980 when there were a half-dozen or so people working there.

"Now, there's just one person," he offered.

"Well, at polystyrene I'll bet we had 30 people per shift," Jerry said. "It was at least in the high 20s."

Donnie pointed out there are probably less employees than that, plant-wide, on any night shift these days.

The computerization of the refinery business, as in many other industries, has helped fuel the manpower reductions.

"It means you have to diversify," Rodney pointed out, as he and Spot have done. Spot started at the refinery in 1980, went out three years later and worked in gathering before returning to the alky unit 18 years to the day of his original start there.

In 1992, there were a dozen or more small, inland refineries located within a few hours' drive of Big Spring. Today, that number is less than a half-dozen including Big Spring's 60,000-plus barrels-per-day facility.

While other refineries have closed under mounting operational costs and governmental regulations, how has Big Spring remained open?

"It's survived watching its

mary goal is to find our

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ery pot have h the gathvell as the into the gathering n off not the alky back on hen there or so peost one pertyrene I'll people per "It was at os." out there employees

HERALD photo/John H. Walker

Brothers Spot and Rodney Paige (from left) and Donnie (far right) join their father, Jerry, in front of Alon's Big Spring Refinery. The four family members have a total of 87 years at the refinev — and still counting.

'Ps' and 'Qs,'" Jerry said. "There are some pretty sharp people running it ... and there are some pretty good people working out here."

All agreed the refinery is, has been and will continue to be a good place to work.

"If you live in this part of the country, you can't beat it," Jerry said.

"Sure, it's dangerous," Spot said, "but you can get run over by a car walking across the street, too." Jerry added: "But look at

"Moore Development has

continued to work really

well with us, and they con-

nesses have.

the (safety) records ... we've Ro got a pretty good record. a w "I'd recommend it. It's pa done what I've needed it to do (for my family)." ha

Rodney, a welder, said. "In a world where all the companies are on a quest for cheaper labor, this company has been fair. It's a good place."



Continued from Page 1

work these rigs, and they're not easy to find," he said. Warneke said he has personally trained 80 percent of Robinson Drilling's workers, most of whom make between \$13-20 and earn time-and-a-half for overtime.

Warneke got his training on the job, starting while still in school. Then he attended college and continued to work the rigs on the side.

His progression from roughneck to general manager, he said, came mostly from his show of interest in the business. And in his day-to-day activities, the words of his father stick with him.

"My father said, 'You can always explain why you did it, but it's hard to explain why you didn't," Warneke said. "That goes for the oil business. You don't want to explain to the investors why you didn't do it."

Grandfather to one, Warneke is father to two sons, one who followed him into the oil business and works for Robinson also. The other is a federal agent with the Immigration and Naturalization Service. Warneke and his wife, Lorene, have been married 40 years.

"I could retire right now," Warneke said, adding that he has no intention of doing so anytime soon. "My phone rang five times last night... It's just an all-day, every-day kind of job."

tures computers with Internet access to job banks and career information. The computers contain helpful software such as Microsoft Office, Powerpoint, Typing Tutor and resume templates.

A resources area also contains a copier, fax, telephones, newspapers and more.

The Workforce Center is located at 310 Owens and is open from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information, call 263-8373 or access the TWC Web site at www.twc.state.tx us

MOORE

Continued from Page 4

all their staff and board." Moore Development relies on tax dollars, specifically, a one-half-cent sales tax, approved by voters in May of 1990.

"For a community in rural West Texas to not have a development corporation is a very risky thing because you have to compete with the other communities around you for any economic development project that comes along," said Sharp.

"Secondly, once you have a development corporation board and staff, it is imperative to find out in what direction you want to go. We have had a run of good luck with existing industry and with getting new industries in," he said, noting expansions with Western Container, Interstate Steel and Commercial Cabinets, as well as Solitaire, StarTek and the veterans home.

"We're now at the point of more specifically pinpointing the direction of growth. And that direction is to attract higher-wage jobs," Sharp said.

"We're going to have to get there if i.e. we roing to be competitive in the future," said Sharp. "A pri-

and books, the Center features computers with Internet access to job banks That and taking care of

to do that." tinue to keep in contact, That, and taking care of asking us if there is anyneeds that established busi-thing we need," Gandy said.



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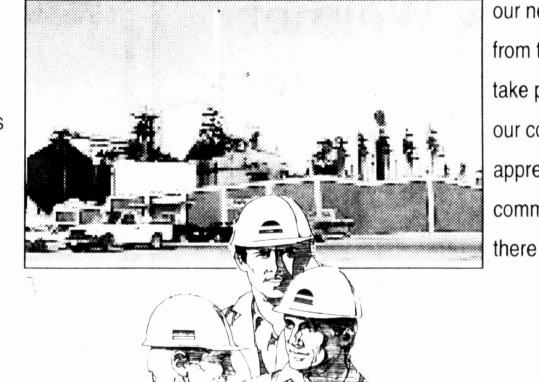
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PROGRESS 2001/AG, INDUSTRY & OIL **6**B

BIG SPRING HERALD Tuesday, March 27, 2001

Big Spring industry, businesses diverse in size, number of employees

HERALD Staff Report

For a city of its size, Big Spring has a lot of employment opportunities.

Entities that employ 150 workers or more include Howard College, Howard County, the city of Big Spring, **Big Spring Independent School** District, Cornell Corrections, Federal Correction Institution of Big Spring, West Texas Centers for MHMR, Big Spring State Hospital, Scenic Mountain Medical Center, VA Medical Center, Western Container Corporation, Solitaire, StarTek and Wal-Mart.

remains the area's largest employer with more than 600 employees, followed closely by the Big Spring ISD which employs almost as many.

A relatively new industry is StarTek, a telecommunications services company that has been in Big Spring less than two years. It has approximately 450 employees.

There are far too many industries in Big Spring to list, but the following are among those with 100 or more employees.

Cornell Corrections employs approximately 350 individuals. Mountain Medical Scenic Center, 325.

Big Spring State Hospital employs around 270 employees. The Federal Corrections Institution of Big Spring employs almost 270 people. Western Container provides jobs for about 245 people. Howard College, approximately 250

Refinery, employs Alon around 230. West Texas Centers for MHMR, about 200. A fairly new industry to Big

Spring is Solitaire. It employs around 200 people.

Price Construction, located on the Snyder Highway, is one of the largest highway con-It struction employers. employs around 180 workers.

Among the major retail employers, the Wal-Mart

Delmar Drilling

· Desert Oil Co./Texaco

Duncan Drilling Co.

Edwards Petroleum

First Permian, LLC

· Fina Pipe Line Co.

Kerr-McGee Corp.

· A.K. Guthrie Operating

· Parks Fuels, Inc./Chevron

Mobil-Exxon

Marathon Oil

• H.E.B. Grocery

· Shrover Motor Co.

Birdwell Trucking

CX Transportation

Steere Tank Lines, Inc.

Union Pacific Railroad

Nunn Electric Supply Co

· Cathey Construction Co.

Daniel Construction Co

Cain Electrical Supply

Cat Construction

WHOLESALE MAJOR EMPLOYERS

TRANSPORTATION

Ryder Truck

Tex-Pack

Higginbotham Lumber

Pollard Chevrolet-Buick

Rip Griffin's Truck Stop

American Crude Transport

Walmart Super Center

Superstore employs the most people, approximately 180. Once the Texas State Veterans Home is open some

time this spring, it will employ about 160 workers. HEB Grocery is the largest grocer in Big Spring. The store

employs around 140. West Texas Health & Human Services Center employs just at

100

Workers climb a steeple at **Big Spring State Hospital**, the county's largest employer with more than 600 workers.

• Earthco

Rip Griffin's Truck Stop also employs around 100 people.

Heraid file photo

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West Texas Center for MHMR

• Texas State Veterans Home

Social Security Administration

Cornell Corrections

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- · Hubbard Packing Co
- Texas Boll Weevil **Eradication Foundation**

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- Permian Distributing
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- · Coahoma Independent School District
- Forsan Independent School
- District

Howard College/SWCID

FINANCE

- Big Spring Education
- Employees Federal Credit Union Big Spring Government
- Employees Federal Credit Union
- Big Spring State Hospital
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By CARL GRAHA

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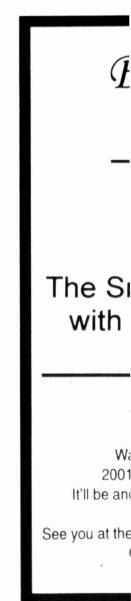
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Staff Writer

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PROGRESS 2001/AG, INDUSTRY & OIL **7B**

Despite wind, drought and hail, cotton is still king in West Texas By CARL GRAHAM

Staff Writer

Cotton is the lifeblood of this area's farmers.

It's an "iffy" business at best, having to rely on mother nature to make a decent crop. Drought, hail, sandstorms and insects are the farmer's enemy. Even if the crop survives in good shape, the price may be too low to make a decent profit.

Cotton crops the last few years have been spotty at best. Drought hit the 2000 crop hard - so hard, that many gins in West Texas didn't bother to crank up.

"We just decided it would not pay to open up at all this year," Donnie Reid, a producer from Coahoma, said of the Big Spring Co-op Gin. "Being a co-op, we had to consider the cost and if we had ginned we would have lost between \$100,000 to \$150,000 and that was just too much to lose and hope to be open for another year."

But recent rains and a highly successful boll weevil eradication program have farmers optimistic again - at least for now.

"The cotton crop for this year is looking to be in better shape than it has been for years," said David Kight, Howard County Extension agent. "We have had more moisture than in previous years and though we are cautiously optimistic about this year's crop, we still will need some timely rains.

Dennis Fuchs, a farmer in the St. Lawrence area, agrees whole heartedly.

REID

KIGHT

than we have in four or five years," Fuchs said about mid-March. "But we still need a couple inches of good rain fairly soon and then a good planting rain in April. We have had almost five inches since October and that is not all that much really in a half year.'

It will need to be a good year, producers predict. Without it, more farmers will join those who have already quit the business.

Disaster relief programs have been a big help to many farmers but it may not be enough to keep producers in the business. Area producers are experiencing some of the lowest prices for their cotton in many years and a lot of farmers are opting out. Producers this past year received anywhere from 40 to 45 cents a pound with highs only reaching to the low 60s per pound.

Rob Haney, president of the Howard County Cotton Growers, said cotton farming is quickly becoming a dying business.

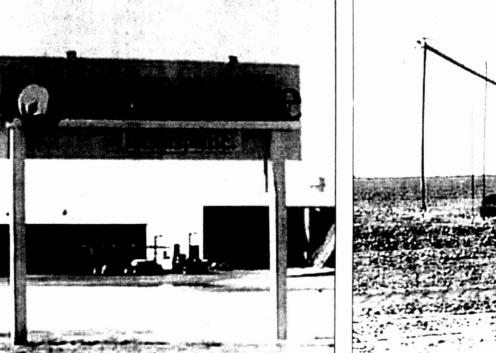
"We are losing a lot of farmers the past few years," said Rob Haney. "They are at an age where they say 'I want to do something else

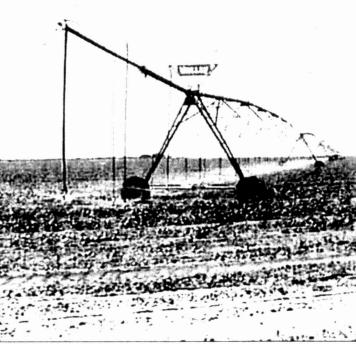
'We are looking better See COTTON, Page 8

the Crossroads area. At right, the harvest is under way. At bottom right, the area has some irrigated land, but most relies on rainfall to make a crop. Below, Stoneville Texas grows a significant portion of its cotton and seed production for world wide distribution from this region. Big Spring is the headquarters for Stoneville's operations and production efforts in Texas.

Cotton is the top crop in





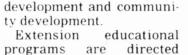


Ag Extension Service has evolved to meet needs of entire communities

HERALD Staff Report

The Texas Agricultural Extension Service has evolved over the years to

meet not only the needs of the farmer and rancher, but the entire -community, from youth to



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problems they encounter on application of their farms or ranches, in research findings.

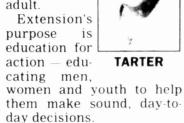
Involvement of communiness or in their communi- ty leaders in developing and insures that Extension programs are based on the events and activities problems that the people See EXTENSION, Page 8

proven enables Extension to reach large numbers of people. At the same time this process

consider most important. Two years ago, the Texas Agricultural Extension Service led an effort to



BIG SPRING HERALD Tuesday, March 27, 2001



"The Extension system of informal education has been called the most distinctive invention of American education," said Dana Tarter, Howard County Extension Agent for family and consumer science. "It's a system whereby resources are mustered to help people pursue an interest or solve a problem.

The Texas Agricultural Extension Service in Howard County serves people with education in the four main program areas: agricultural and natural resources, family & consumer science, 4-H & youth



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PROGRESS 2001/AG, INDUSTRY & OIL **8**B

BIG SPRING HERALD Tuesday, March 27, 2001

EXTENSION

Continued from Page 7

bring together people from every walk of life to discuss and define their community's current and future needs. During the spring and early summer, more that 10,000 people spoke out Texas Community at Futures Forums. This was an effort to identify local issues in each county across the state. The issues and needs which were identified by participants clustered around six broad areas of common interest across the state.

While no particular area of interest is more important than another they do show that each issue is vitally important to the people of Texas. Those six issues identified by a majority of counties across Texas included: quality of life in the community; economic viability and growth; accessible, quality education for all; water and the environment; strengthening families, developing youth; and health care facilities. The information gathered is a valuable resource as the **Extension** Service works with committees and leaders at the local level to plan and deliver educational programming over the next several years.

In the early going, educational programs of the Texas Agricultural Extension Service focused mainly on the state's agricultural industry. Extension programs have been most prominent in rural areas over the years but the process is effective in urban areas. While agriculture is still an important facet of this agency, Extension programming reaches out to a broader audience now

"Modern Extension programs encompass every facet of the total agricultur-

al industry and of family living," said Tarter. "The ultimate aim of the Texas Agricultural Extension Service is to help all Texans achieve a better way of life.' Youth development has

long been a major program area of the Extension Service. 4-H is the youth Continued from Page 7 development program of the Texas Agricultural Extension Service and it is steep in history. In 1908, Tom Marks, the first county Extension agent in Texas, formed the boys' "corn club" in Jack county. It was followed closely by the "beef calf clubs" in Coleman County in 1910 and the girls' "tomato canning clubs" in Milam county in 1912.

Marks' original idea was that it was easier to teach the youth about the new production technology available and in turn they could take it back to the farm. Within the 91 years since its inception in Jack county, Texas' 4-H enrollment has grown to more than three quarters of a million. With a large body of volunteers across the state the Texas 4-H program offers involvement in a variety of areas for any young person ages 9 to 18.

4-H projects and activities are implemented in the classroom, after school programs and in community and special interest clubs. With any 4-H project the idea of teaching through hands-on learning which was fundamental to the early 4-H clubs is still a mainstay. The learning process through 4-H focuses on development of life skills and career preparation withemphasis in the areas of citizenship and leadership.

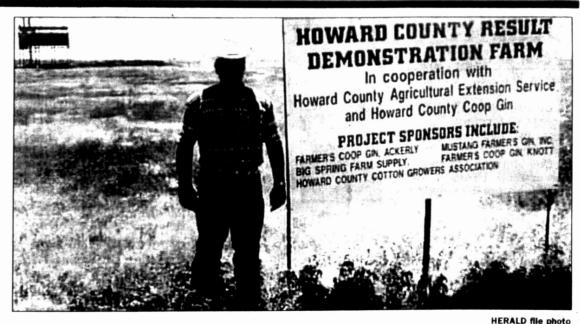
"While young people involved in 4-H projects can choose areas that are of interest to them the primary focus is the development of the child thus the four H's

Head for intellectual development, Heart for loyalty and patriotism, Hands for service and Health for better living," said Tarter.

COTTON

with my land.' And for some of these guys, the bankers are going to make the decision for them."

"I have farmland here,' said Haney. "I can't grow soy beans because it's too dry. You can't make any money with milo and cattle prices are very unstable. You grow what will make money and hope that it makes."



David Kight, Howard County Extension Agent for agriculture, stands in a demonstration field operated by the Extension service and Howard County Co-op Gin. The Extension service partners with community businesses and leaders to help all citizens achieve a better way of life.

Area has representation on key cotton boards

By CARL GRAHAM

Staff Writer Myrl Mitchell, a ginner with the Four Way Gin Company at Lenorah, is one of 18 Texas cotton industry members elected to leadership positions in the National Cotton Council of America. Mitchell will serve as the National Cotton

Growers of America (NCGA) chairman for the coming year.

"We have a rotation system and last year I served as the president," said Mitchell who has been active several years as both a ginner and a producer. "So this year I will rotate over to the chairman position. I feel very honored to be selected to serve in that capacity. The association has done a lot for the cotton producers and ginners."

The cotton industry leaders were named to their posts at the council's 62nd annual meeting which was held in Memphis, Tenn., the first week of February.

Mitchell said there are four regions in the cotton

Mid-South and Farwest, Southeast. Another area resident among the 18 Texas cotton

belt -

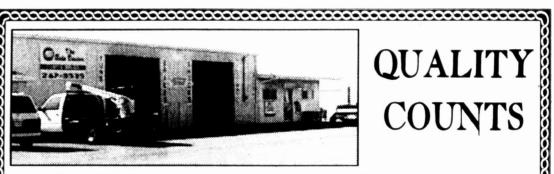
the industry members being The selected to a leadership post was Woody Anderson, a

the Southwest,

Colorado City producer, who was re-elected as Southwest vice chairman of Producers of the Council.

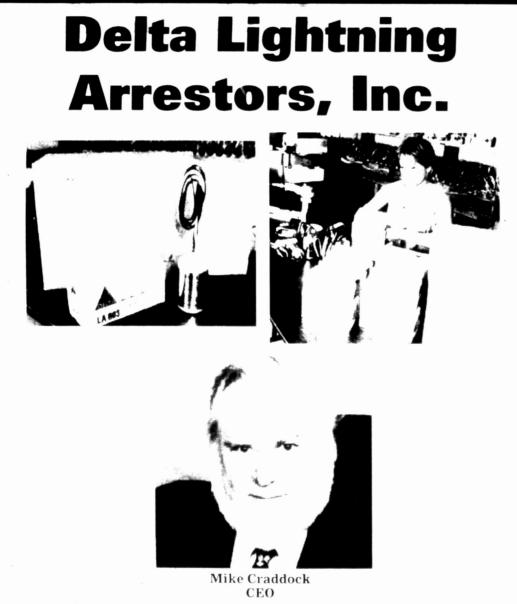
Memphis-based Council serves as the unifying force among U.S. pro-

ducers, ginners, ware housers, merchants, cottonseed crushers, cooperatives American Cotton and textile manufacturers in working with the federal government to ensure that cotton's interests are considered.



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