

BIG SPRING HERALD

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

MONDAY

April 16 2001

WEATHER

Tonight:



TONIGHT 45°-50° TOMORROW 70°-75°

CIA needing volunteers for April 28-29 event

Christmas in April (CIA) is in need of volunteers to help with this year's projects, scheduled for April 28-29.

CIA makes home repairs for qualified elderly and low-income residents who are unable to do the jobs themselves. More than 30 homes are eligible, but there are only enough volunteers for three residences.

Experience is not necessary.

To volunteer, call CIA at 263-0147 as soon as possible.

WHAT'S UP...

TODAY

Big Spring-Howard County Retired Teachers Association, 11:30 a.m., lunch, Howard College Cactus Room.

Senior circle, 4 p.m., Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Sit and Be Fit Chair Aerobics. People 50 and older are invited to participate.

Big Spring Evening Lions Club, 6:30 p.m., 1607 E. Third. Call Janis Dean.

Disabled American Veterans Chapter 47, 6:30 p.m., VA Medical Center, room 212.

Christian Singles Fellowship, 7-9 p.m., First United Methodist Church, Youth Hall. All singles in the community are welcome to come for an evening of fellowship, food and table games.

TUESDAY

Intermediate Line Dance class, 9 a.m., Senior Citizens Center.

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

Big Spring Band Boosters, 6 p.m., high school band hall. All band parents are invited to attend.

Big Spring Art Association, 7 p.m., library annex, 500 Main, community room.

Big Spring Chapter 67, Order of the Eastern Star, 7:30 p.m., Masonic Lodge, 219 Main.

WEDNESDAY

Optimist Club, 7 a.m., Howard College Cactus room.

INSIDE TODAY...

Classified 6-7
Comics 8
General 3
Horoscope 3
Landers 7
Obituaries 2
Opinion 4
Sports 5

Vol. 98, No. 140

Find us online at: www.bigspringherald.com

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

Early voting for school board races begins Wednesday

By LYNDEL MOODY
Staff Writer

Early voting for the five Crossroads area school district trustees races begins Wednesday and continues through May 1.

Five candidates will square off for the three at-large trustee positions on the Big Spring Independent School District board currently held by Steve Fraser, Al Valdes and Mike Dawson.

All three incumbents are seeking another term and are joined by Phillip Furqueron and Kent Sharp.

Early voting will be held at the County Clerk's office in the Howard County Courthouse from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. On election day, May 5, voting begins at 7 a.m. and continues until 7 p.m. at the Big Spring High School cafeteria.

This year's school board election will offer an unique election method as voters

have three votes they can use anyway they see fit.

This election method was agreed to be used as a part the 1996 settlement of a lawsuit filed against the district by the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC).

The suit claimed the former election method, each voter having one vote to cast for each of three preferred candidates to fill the three at-large trustee positions, unlawfully diluted the voting strength of minori-

ties.

This new method, used only for at-large position elections and not in single-member district elections, allows voters to vote three times for one person, counting as three separate votes, twice for one person and once for another candidate or once for three people.

Voters only have three votes total. If a ballot has more than three votes, cumulatively, the ballot is disqualified. The positions will be filled by the candi-

dates that receive the largest number votes.

For a presentation about the voting system, call James McFarland, BSISD business office manager, at 264-3600.

Six candidates are running for the two at-large positions on the Forsan Independent School District Board of Trustees.

Tom Bill Kuykendall, Michael Forshee, Robert Stapp Jr., John Spence.

See VOTING, Page 2

Vets home residents getting spoiled?

By CARL GRAHAM
Staff Writer

Talk about the life of luxury! Have you ever thought what it would be like if you were one of only two residents in a 160-bed long-term nursing care facility?

James Stiles was the first resident at the Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez Texas State Veterans Home in Big Spring. He arrived on March 19, a month after the home was officially dedicated.

And until April 7, Stiles he was the only resident of the home. That all changed when William Brackett moved in.

"People think I got spoiled but I don't think so," said Stiles. "Sure, I got catered to a little bit but I wouldn't say I was spoiled. But seriously, I think this place is great. We have great food and great nursing care and are living in a brand new place."

Stiles said that prior to coming to the home he lived alone for a long time. When he first arrived, he said it was like living alone again with the exception that now he had people waiting on him and taking care of his needs 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

"I have been in a lot of facilities, but believe me I get the best care here than any other place I have



Texas Veteran Home residents William Brackett (left) and James Stiles (far right) play dominoes with activity director Michelle Rodriguez to help pass the time. The two are the only current residents of the home which was officially opened on Feb. 19. Stiles, the home's first resident, arrived on March 19.

See DUO, Page 2

Officials say local home should near capacity within one year

By CARL GRAHAM
Staff Writer

On March 19 the Texas State Veterans Home in Big Spring, the Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez facility, received its first resident — one month to the day after the facility was officially dedicated with several dignitaries.

Interim home administrator Mark Hudson said the process of bringing in new residents can sometimes be a slow one.

"We have cleared the initial hurdles that we had to go through," said Hudson. "We had to be licensed by the Texas Department of Human Services and we have completed that. We also had to gain initial recognition by the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs and that has been done as well."

The facility, though it thus far only has two residents, has a staff of 25 employees and as more residents begin to come in, Hudson

said the employee staff will continue to grow to between 150 and 250.

Hudson said that the employees are excited about the new home.

"We have a group of people that are people orientated," he explained. "They are dedicated and are looking forward to new residents coming in and they are already spoiling the two we have now."

Paul Sturrock, communications director with the Texas General Land Office, said that he feels like the timetable for filling the units is on track.

"As for as a projected timetable our occupancy projection calls for us to have 85 percent of our beds filled by the first anniversary of opening, or by April of 2002 for the Big Spring facility," Sturrock said.

The Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez facility is one of the first four Texas Veterans Homes with the others located at Temple, Bonham and

See PLANS, Page 2



Mark Hudson, interim administrator for the 160-bed Texas Veterans Home, and Teresa Warrington, on-site representative, stand outside the home's Alzheimers Unit. The home currently has two residents, but by April 2002, officials plan for the facility to be at 85 percent capacity with a staff of between 150 to 250.

Youngsters set to hop for MDA

By LYNDEL MOODY
Staff Writer

Youngsters from Howard Cottage will be hopping for money in a Hop-A-Thon to raise funds for the Muscular Dystrophy Association on April 23.

"The MDA called us and asked us to participate in Jerry's kids drive benefit," said Becky Moughon, center director for Howard Cottage. "These kids are going to hop anyway, so why not do it for a good cause."

Almost 40 children will be taking part in the event set for around 10:30 a.m. in Howard Cottage's play-

See EVENT, Page 2



Twenty-year-old Zack Campbell leads the worship service for the community Easter sunrise service Sunday held at Comanche Trail Park. Hundreds of local residents woke up early to attend the event that included music, contemporary dancing and the Easter message.

HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

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OBITUARIES

David G. Hanson

David G. Hanson, 48, of Carrollton, formerly of Big Spring, died on Friday, April 13, 2001, in Miami, Fla. Graveside funeral service will be at 2 p.m., Tuesday, April 17, at Peace Chapel at Trinity Memorial Park with the Rev. Dudley Mullins, pastor of East Fourth Street Baptist Church, officiating.

He was born on Aug. 17, 1952, in Big Spring and married Mona Bennight on June 4, 1993, in Dallas.

He grew up in Big Spring and graduated from Big Spring High School in 1970. He attended Howard College and worked for Bill Hanson Trucking for eight years. He moved to Dallas in 1983 and worked in the wholesale shoe business until his death.

David was a member of East Fourth Street Baptist Church. He was also a member of Southwestern Shoe Traveler's Association, Shoe Markets of the America's, Western Shoe Associates and North American Shoe Traveler's Association and was a life member of the Two/Ten Foundation.

Survivors include his wife, Mona Bennight-Hanson of Carrollton; three sons, Britt Hanson of Levenworth, Kan., Jame Bennight and Paul Bennight, both of Plano; and his parents, Bill and Carolyn Hanson of London, Texas.

He was preceded in death by one brother, Thomas Mark Hanson.

All friends are considered honorary pallbearers.

The family suggests memorials to The Two/Ten Foundation, 1466 Main St., Waltham, Mass. 02451 or the donor's favorite charity.

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

Billy Mac Sheppard

Funeral service for Billy Mac "Bill" Sheppard, 66, of Big Spring, will be at 1:30 p.m., Wednesday, April 18, 2001, at St. Mary's Episcopal Church with the Rev. James Liggett, officiating.

Mr. Sheppard died Sunday, April 15, at a local hospital following a sudden illness.

He was born on Oct. 16, 1934, in Merkel and married Dene Choate on April 16, 1954, in Carlsbad, N.M. He was a member of St. Mary's Episcopal Church and had been a lifetime res-

Nalley-Pickle & Welch
Funeral Home
Trinity Memorial Park and Crematory
906 Gregg St.
(915) 267-6331
www.npwelch.com

David G. Hanson, 48, died Friday. Graveside services will be 2:00 PM Tuesday at the Peace Chapel at Trinity Memorial Park.

MYERS & SMITH
FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288
Billy Mac "Bill" Sheppard, 66, died Sunday. Services are 1:30 PM Wednesday at St. Mary's Episcopal Church. Santos Lopez Lujan, Sr., 79, died Monday. Services are pending.

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ident of Big Spring. After the death of his father, Mr. Sheppard took over his father's realty company, W.J. Sheppard Inc., and at the time of his death he was working for Seven-11. He had worked for Seven-11 for the past 11 years at the FM 700 and Birdwell location. He was a member of the National Republican Party.

Survivors include his wife, Dene Sheppard of Big Spring; three daughters, Teresa Sheppard of Big Spring, Cindy Inman of Midland and Connie Plagens of Garden City; one son, Scot Sheppard of Coahoma; one brother, Rodney Sheppard of Austin; and seven grandchildren.

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

James Leslie Henson

Graveside service for James Leslie Henson, 64, of Stanton, was held at 9 a.m., Monday, April 16, 2001, at Fairview Cemetery with the Rev. David Harp of First Baptist Church, officiating. He was preceded in death by his wife.

Mr. Henson died Saturday, April 14, in Denver City.

He was born July 12, 1936, in Martin County and married Betty J. Henson on April 9, 1951, in Stanton. He worked in the oil fields all his life.

Survivors include his sons, Leslie Henson of Lovington, N.M., and Terry Joe Henson of Humble City, N.M.; his mother, Jessie White of Stanton; four brothers, Bobby Henson of Big Spring, Jimmy Shaw of Midland, Earl Henson of Paris, Texas, and Edward Henson of Stanton; four grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Arrangements are under the direction of Ellis Funeral Home in Midland.

Bobby J. Petree

Funeral service for Bobby J. Petree, 70, of Stanton, will be at 10 a.m., Tuesday, April 17, 2001, at First Baptist Church, Stanton with the Rev. David Harp, pastor, officiating. Graveside service will be 3:30 p.m., Tuesday, at Potosi Cemetery, Potosi.

Mr. Petree died Friday, April 13, at Wills Point.

He was born on Sept. 3, 1930, in Stanton and married Betty Jo Williams on Dec. 16, 1976, in Stanton.

He worked as a repairman for El Paso Natural Gas Company for 32 years. He was a member of First Baptist Church in Stanton. He was a member of Masonic Lodge 951 A.F. & A.M., the Scottish Rite in Lubbock and Chapter No. 409 Order of the Eastern Star and had served in the United States Navy.

Survivors include his wife, Betty Petree of Stanton; two daughters, Pam Hoppe of Austin and Patti Briggs of Stanton; three step-children, Wayne Elliot, Cindy Dodson and Charla Crawford, all of Odessa; two brothers, Wayne Petree of Odessa and Maurice Petree of Houston; one sister, Joyce Allen of Lubbock; three grandchildren; and five step-grandchildren.

The family suggests memorials to the First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 1168, Stanton 79782. Arrangements are under the direction of Gilbreath Funeral Home.

Santos Lopez Lujan Sr.

Funeral service for Santos Lopez Lujan Sr., 79, of Big Spring, is pending with Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Mr. Lujan Sr. died Monday, April 16, at his home.

DUO

Continued from Page 1

been," said Stiles. "There is no doubt that I will be here for the rest of my life."

The 71-year-old Stiles went into the military just after World War II, volunteering

for a three-year tour in the Navy. He spent much of his time overseas in Okinawa.

"I spent a couple of years in Okinawa, and spent time on the other islands such as Guam, in the Philippines and at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii," said Stiles. "At every stop we would get to spend a little time walking around the island while they replenished the ship."

Following his discharge Stiles worked several jobs including a time when he drilled wells. He also worked at Douglas Air Research in Lovington, N.M., staying there for 40 years.

The new kid on the block is 85-year-old William E. Brackett, who spent time in the military with the Army. He said he was trained to be in the Airborne but had to make a change in career fields.

"I was originally trained for the Airborne Division, but I got to where I couldn't walk very much so they had to put me somewhere else," said Brackett. "So I ended up driving trucks and did it for about three years or more."

Brackett returned to the United States and was discharged after spending 31/2 years in the military. He then went to work in the commercial insulation field, working for 25 years.

Brackett said he gets along quite well with Stiles.

"We get along pretty good," said Brackett. "I think the first thing he asked me when I got here was if I knew how to play dominoes. We like to play dominoes, games such as scrabble and monopoly and watch a lot of television. We both like to watch 'Who Wants to be a Millionaire?' when it comes on."

"But neither one of us has won yet," chimed in Stiles. "We will have to keep on trying."

PLANS

Continued from Page 1

Floresville. The William R. Courtney State Veterans Home in Temple was dedicated 10 months ago and that 160-bed facility now houses only 12 residents.

An identical facility in Floresville, the Frank M. Tejada Texas State Veterans Home, had a dedication ceremony on Dec. 2 and now houses 14 residents.

The Bonham facility has not been completed.

All four facilities experienced difficulty in finding an operator for the homes. The original management company for the Big Spring home, Park Associates, decided at the last minute that it could not afford to operate after liability insurance increased by three times the original amount which caused a search to find another provider.

That provider, Care Inn Management Group, was then contracted to run the Big Spring facility.

A few of the reasons given for the shortage of residents has been the lengthy application process veterans are having to endure. Others say that a lot of misinformation has circulated such as applicants believing that the facilities are retirement centers or assisted-living facilities.

"We have received feedback that there is some misinformation out in the public about the homes and the

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BIG SPRING
AROUND THE TOWN

eligibility criteria for veterans wanting to get into the homes," said Sturrock. "We are trying to get the word out to all those eligible veterans that this is not a retirement center but is for veterans recognized as requiring long-term nursing care as determined and approved by the the USDVA."

To be eligible for admission to the home you must be recognized as a veteran by the Department of Veterans Affairs and require long-term nursing care as determined by a physician. You must also be at least 18 years of age and be a bonafide resident of Texas at the time of application for admission.

You also must have been a resident of Texas at the time of entry into military service, or have resided in Texas continuously for at least one year immediately prior to application for admission. You also must have been honorably discharged from the service.

Despite getting the application process speeded up, many veterans say that staying in the facilities is too costly.

The average daily rate for a semi-private room is \$103. The state home receives a per diem payment of \$51 toward the daily rate. The resident is then responsible for the remaining \$52. A veteran eligible for the Aid and Attendance Pension, plus Social Security benefits will not have to pay anything. Veterans who aren't eligible for those benefits must prove they can make up the cost from other sources.

"One question often asked by family members of a veteran checking to see if their parent is eligible for the home is do we have to give up all our assets to come to the home," said Hudson. "The answer to that is no, you are not required to sell off assets for admission at our home. Spousal impoverishment is not required. The applicant will, however, be asked to demonstrate the ability to pay for their portion of the cost of care at the facility."

Anyone having questions regarding eligibility or any other question should call 1-800-252-VETS (8387) and ask to speak with Doug Oldmixon or Robin von Rosenberg of the Texas Veterans Land Office or go to their website at www.glo.state.tx.us

EVENT

Continued from Page 1

ground, Moughon said.

According to MDA district director Trudy Espinosa, the hop-a-thon is an educational program designed to teach children disability awareness.

"Children hop for about three minutes and ask their parents, family and friends for donations," Espinosa said. "Children start hopping and they get out of breath." It lets them see how children with disabilities live like."

According to Espinosa, she services more than 300

MDA patients in the Permian Basin and 20 surrounding counties.

Moughon said Howard Cottage will be incorporating information about MD into the classroom to teach the children about people with disabilities.

Money from the event will stay in West Texas, Espinosa said, and will be used for patient services.

Moughon believes the children will become very excited about the event.

"Anytime kids have a chance to jump around, they are really excited about it," she said.

VOTING

Continued from Page 1

Allen McDowell and incumbent Debbie Burt are all in that race.

Early voting will be held at the Forsan school district superintendent's office on the high school campus from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Voting will take place at the Forsan High School campus and at Elbow Elementary on May 5 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

For the Coahoma Independent School District, six candidates — Sissy Wells, Ronnie Hipp, Eddy Corse, Beth Bowling, Don Ewing and Brandon Luce — are running for the two at-large positions.

Early voting starts at the CISD administration office, located at 600 N. Main near the high school campus, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

On election day, voting will be held 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Coahoma Community Center, Sand Springs Lions Club and Vincent Baptist Church.

Rose Pelzel, Mike Hillger and Tibby Niehues are running for the two at-large position on the Glasscock County Independent School District board.

Early voting will begin at the County Clerk's office at the Glasscock County Courthouse.

In the Sands Consolidated Independent School District election for two at-large positions, Anacelto Casas Jr. joins David Zant and Stan Blagrove in the race.

Early voting will take place at the Sands district business office from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and voting will be held in the same place on May 5.

POLICE

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity from noon Saturday until 8 a.m. today:

• **NICK HERNANDEZ**, 23, no address given, was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.

• **JOSE PEREZ JR.**, 25, no address given, was arrested on a charge driving while intoxicated and driving while license suspended.

• **SALVADOR GARCIA**, 30, no address given, was arrested on a charge of driving while license suspended and no insurance.

• **ANDREW MARTINEZ**, 20, no address given, was arrested on a charge of minor in consumption — alcohol.

• **MICHAEL SALAZAR**, 18, no address given, was arrested on a charge of driving under the influence — minor.

• **CRYSTAL PUGA**, 17, no address given, was arrested on a charge of minor in consumption — alcohol.

• **JEREMY BALIOS**, 19, no address given, was arrested on a charge of driving under the influence — minor.

• **DUSTY LEE**, 19, no address given, was arrested on a charge of driving under the influence — minor.

• **HOWARD FOSTER**, 25, no address given, was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.

• **SHOTS FIRED**, was reported in the area of W. Eighth and Aylesford. lic intoxication.

• **DISTURBANCE/FIGHT** was reported in the 1000 block of S. Birdwell, in the 1000 block of N. Main, in the 700 block of Johnson St., in the 200 block of E. 11th Place, in the area of 11th and Victory, in the 1500 block of E. Cherokee, in the 2400 block of S. Runnels, in the 500 block of Westover, in the 1300 block of S. Scurry, in the 900 block of S. Scurry.

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WHERE: Coahoma Fire Dept.
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Released crew gets first full day with families for Easter

OAK HARBOR, Wash. (AP) — Church bells rang for a joyous Easter Sunday in this Navy town where crew members, given a hero's welcome after being held in China, spent their first full day reunited with family and friends.

"We are most of all happy because of the return of the 24 crew members," the Rev. John O'Leary told a crowd of hundreds, which overflowed from St. Augustine Catholic Church on a sunny spring day.

On Saturday, a military passenger jet brought the 21 men and three women back to their base at Whidbey Island Naval Air Station after 11 days on Hainan island, where their surveillance plane was forced to land after a collision with a Chinese fighter jet. They were released after diplomatic talks.

"God has cared for them, watched over them. We are particularly happy because Lt. Richard Payne is with us again," O'Leary said.

Payne shook hands with well-wishers as he stood quietly along the wall with his mother, Brenda Payne,

and other family members. "We're just glad he's home," said Brenda Payne, who made the trip from Pampa for her son's homecoming.

"The whole Easter season is just a time for rejoicing," said lay Eucharistic minister Jane Ritter. "When they come home to be with their families, it's even more so."

Sunday also marked the first day of up to a month of time off for the crew members. Navy officials want to make sure they are mentally ready to handle a return to duty.

But Lt. Shane Osborn, the pilot who safely landed the crippled EP-3E surveillance plane, told ABC News he just wanted to "take a few days off, go visit home, and get back up flying."

Congregations all over the town of 21,000 outside the Navy base celebrated.

A big sign outside Southern Baptist Church proclaimed, "Praise God They're Back." Everyone at the ladies' Bible study group talked about the welcome-home celebration that drew 7,000 people.

Beach Party cruising fee hinges on Land Office

GALVESTON (AP) — A city plan to charge \$20 per car to cruise the Seawall during next weekend's annual Beach Party could be scrapped if the General Land Office decides it hampers beach access.

The city uses cruising fees from the event, which last year drew more than 200,000 mostly black college and high school students, to offset \$425,000 in expenses. The money would come from police funds if the state disallows the fees.

"That will throw a wrench into the whole thing,"

Mayor Roger "Bo" Quiroga said. "We need the cooperation of the General Land Office to make this thing happen."

The city has been asked to provide the state with specific plans for traffic routes, parking and an entertainment zone during Beach Party Weekend.

The state might compel the city to abandon the fees if the land office finds they impede access to public lands.

Capt. Brian Riedel, patrol commander for the police department, said paying for

the party would be costly.

"Realistically, if that came out of our budget, future assets would be affected. It would have a major impact," Riedel told The Galveston County Daily News. He said new equipment and vehicles could be jeopardized.

Beach Party Weekend began years ago as a black fraternity party. Residents have complained the event creates traffic problems and lewd behavior.

The city planned to control traffic — and make money — by charging car-

bound partygoers \$20 per vehicle at Seawall Boulevard, which runs along the island's beachfront, and 12th Street.

Partygoers on foot can reach the festival area for free.

Recy Dunn, president of the African-American Chamber of Commerce, and state Sen. Royce West, D-Dallas, have questioned the role of the admission fee.

Quiroga said he would contact the land office Monday to "see what's going on" with the agency's decision.

Jury selection begins in 1963 church bombing trial

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (AP) — The most infamous of the murder cases still pending from the civil rights era returned to public scrutiny today as jury selection opened for the trial of a former Ku Klux Klansman accused of killing four black children in a 1963 church bombing.

Thomas Blanton Jr. could receive a maximum sentence of life imprisonment if convicted in the blast at the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church on Sept. 15, 1963.

Blanton, 62, has pleaded innocent.

The bombing occurred only months after then-Gov. George C. Wallace proclaimed "segregation forev-

er" at his inauguration. Birmingham's all-white elected power structure denounced black protest leaders and demonstrators who gathered at the downtown church for marches.

Prosecutors contend Blanton was one of four Klansmen who planted the dynamite bomb at the church.

Federal agents identified the four as suspects within weeks of the blast, but the only one who has stood trial until now was Robert "Dynamite Bob" Chambliss, who was convicted in 1977 on state murder charges. He died in prison.

A third man died without being charged. A fourth,

Bobby Frank Cherry of Mabank, Texas, was to have been in court with Blanton but his trial was delayed for medical reasons.

Screening of potential jurors is likely to take all week. The jury will likely be sequestered for the trial, which could last through mid-May.

Prosecutors have revived other civil rights-era cases in recent years and brought other murder defendants to trial, including Byron De La Beckwith. He was convicted in 1994 of assassinating civil rights leader Medgar Evers 31 years earlier.

In 1998, former Klan imperial wizard Sam Bowers was convicted of the 1966 fire-

bomb-killing of an NAACP leader at Hattiesburg, Miss. And in 1999, three men were convicted in Mississippi of the 1970 killing of a black sharecropper.

Other cases from that period have been reopened and some are still pending.

But no other violence of the period wrenched hearts like the killing of the four girls in the explosion that tore through Sixteenth Street Baptist Church.

Denise McNair, 11, and 14-year-olds Addie Mae Collins, Cynthia Wesley and Carole Robertson died when the bomb shattered the exterior wall of a bathroom where they were tidying up for worship.

HOROSCOPE

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Tuesday, April 16, :

Follow your dreams. You have the ability to make a long-term desire a reality. You have many more resources available to you than you realize. Use your strong style to draw others in and communicate. Popularity soars, increasing the benefits of networking and expanding your circle of friends. If you are single, romance knocks not once, but several times. Do not put another on a pedestal. If you are attached, draw your sweetie closer. Plan on doing more special and meaningful things together. AQUARIUS stands behind you.

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)

***** Success comes through groups, so network and let others know more of your thoughts. Others respect your vision. Act on an idea by first getting agreement. Popularity soars because of your abilities to communicate and to express yourself. Tonight: Where the crowds are.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

*** Express your confidence and vision to someone who is in charge. Your sense of what can work is enhanced by a practical quality that you have. Expenses could be greater than you had intended, but recognize that sometimes you need to spend money to make money. Tonight: Take charge.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

***** Make calls and reach out for sources at a distance. Your natural enthusiasm proves to be contagious. Others naturally take your lead and follow through on your ideas. You have the unique ability to bring others together. Use your personality to succeed. Tonight: Surf the Net.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

**** Work with someone one-on-one. Your direction and energy take you to a new level with this person. Be careful about how much you reveal right now, even in this open atmosphere. Not everything is as it seems. Read past the obvious. Tonight: How 'bout some time with a special loved one?

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

***** Tap into an unusually creative source or friend. Together, ideas pop up as fast as weeds in your gar-

den. Distinguish between wishful thinking and what really is possible. Meet with others and ask for suggestions. As a result, you'll gain a lot of support. Tonight: Accept an invitation.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

**** Honesty serves you well, especially being honest with yourself. You might need to develop a greater sense of dedication. Perhaps you need to be of service to others. Remember, it is not too late to make an adjustment or change. This is your life. Tonight: Do something nice for yourself.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

**** Use your imagination and creativity to find answers. You weave special

magic around a loved one. For single Libras, your charming ways might draw a new admirer and romance. Discuss a potential long-distance trip with someone. Tonight: Try to enjoy your life more.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

*** Deal with fundamentals in your usual dynamic and creative manner. You might not be sure of something. Share more of what is going on in your mind. Imagination peaks, so you could be making more out of a situation than you need to. Tonight: Let another date on you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

**** Your personality plus. Think in terms of suc-

cess and remuneration. Make the impossible possible through your imagination. Others seek you out and work with you. Start up discussions and allow others to put in their two cents. Let another pitch in. Tonight: Out and about.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

*** Spending might be based on an optimistic appraisal. Not everything is as it seems. You have the energy to make a project a winner — as long as you are grounded in reality. Have a trusted adviser or associate review your financial figures. Tonight: Treat yourself well.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

**** Your imagination and

unusual perspective merge. Others think of you as an unbeatable source of information. Spontaneity becomes you more than it does many others. Brainstorm and share more of what is on your mind. Another rapidly becomes an admirer. Tonight: Do whatever your fancy desires.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

*** Take your time working through thoughts and ideas. You might not always be as sure of yourself as you would like. Follow your instincts. Let your dream world play a greater role in your creative process. Family plays a bigger role in your decisions. Tonight: Take a night off.

BORN TODAY

Singer Dusty Springfield (1939), actor Charlie Chaplin (1889), basketball player Kareem Abdul-Jabbar (1947)

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TO: ALL PERSONS, ENTITIES AND ORGANIZATIONS WHO (1) PURCHASED ELECTRIC SERVICE FROM TXU ELECTRIC COMPANY, FORMERLY KNOWN AS TEXAS UTILITIES ELECTRIC COMPANY D/B/A TU ELECTRIC, OR GAS SERVICE FROM TXU GAS COMPANY, FORMERLY KNOWN AS LONE STAR GAS COMPANY, A DIVISION OF ENSERCH CORPORATION, ON OR AFTER JANUARY 1, 1996, AND (2) PAID FOR THE SERVICE WITH A CREDIT CARD AND WERE CHARGED A SURCHARGE FOR HAVING PAID WITH A CREDIT CARD, AND (3) HAD A TEXAS ADDRESS.

This notice applies to you if you had a Texas address and you paid your TXU Electric Company electric bill, or your TXU Gas Company gas bill with a credit card during the time period listed above.

Your rights may be affected by a proposed Texas class action settlement. If the proposed settlement is approved by the Court, as a member of the class, you will be eligible to receive a refund of a portion of the fees you paid to conduct the credit card transaction.

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P.O. Box 662888
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Deadline to Object to or Opt Out of the Settlement

May 7, 2001
Court Hearing to Determine Fairness of Settlement

DO NOT CONTACT THE COURT FOR INFORMATION REGARDING THE SETTLEMENT. RATHER, FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE SETTLEMENT AND CONTACT INFORMATION, YOU MUST REQUEST THE OFFICIAL CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT NOTICE FROM THE ADDRESS LISTED ABOVE.

Scenic Mountain Medical Center
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263-1211

APR 16 2001

EDITORIAL

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

FIRST AMENDMENT

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

John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEWS

Christmas in April needs help

Once again a challenge faces Big Spring. The call has gone out for volunteers that are sorely needed to make the 14th annual Christmas in April (CIA) projects a success.

More than just this year's projects are on the line, however.

CIA organizers say that unless there are more volunteers to help complete the efforts, this could very well be the last year the project is undertaken locally.

Last year, eight projects were completed which was an increase from the previous year when only five projects were completed.

Those projects ranged from minor plumbing and trim repair, scraping and painting to full roof replacement.

With just over two weeks before CIA workdays, the need for volunteers to help complete projects is tremendous.

Don Riley, chairman of the CIA board of directors, says the organizations has never received fewer responses from the public so far this year.

Riley explained that 30 projects have been approved for this year's program and the organization has plenty of supplies to complete those jobs. Unfortunately, so far there are only enough volunteers to complete three of those projects.

Time is of essence. Groups or individuals wanting to take part in Christmas in April need to let members of the board know of those intentions.

Clearly, CIA organizers need advance notice to know just how many of the projects they can realistically plan on completing, and they stress that a little bit of help will go a long way in providing those less fortunate the help they so desperately need.

But the truth of the matter is if we as a community don't respond to the call, this vital program could be history.

And that would be more than a shame, it would be an embarrassment.

Anyone who would like to volunteer to help or who has any questions about the projects available should call CIA at 263-0147.

LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor. Please:

- Sign your letter.
- Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.
- Letters of a political nature will not be published during an election.
- We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.
- We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.
- We do not acknowledge receipt of letters.
- Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, Texas 79721.

HOW TO CONTACT US

In order that we might better serve your needs, we offer several ways in which you may contact us:

- In person at 710 Scurry St.
- By telephone at 263-7331
- By fax at 264-7205
- By e-mail at jmoseley@bigspringherald.com.
- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, Texas 79721

McVeigh absorbed lesson of violence

Some people have professed to be shocked that convicted bomber Timothy McVeigh referred to the deaths of the children at the day-care center in the federal building at Oklahoma City as "collateral damage."



CHARLEY REESE

Why in heaven's name does that shock anyone? McVeigh did not invent that phrase. He was a soldier, and the American government always refers to civilian casualties as "collateral damage."

The phrase is much more than an Orwellian euphemism to describe the deaths of innocent human beings. It is meant to close the topic, to stop the conversation, to dismiss the lost lives as not worthy of any further discussion. They are, after all, merely "collateral damage." And one does not assume moral responsibility for "collateral damage."

I have visited with McVeigh's mother and seen pictures of McVeigh as a boy and as a young soldier. He is, whether we wish to admit it or not, a typical American in many respects. He has absorbed the lessons of modern America.

What are those lessons? First and foremost, that

violence is an acceptable way to settle a dispute. Look at how many times the American government has resorted to violence — in Lebanon, in Libya, in Panama, in Grenada, in Somalia, in Iraq, in Sudan, in Afghanistan, in Yugoslavia. And in Waco, Texas, and Ruby Ridge, Idaho. In every single instance, the deaths of innocent people were dismissed as "collateral damage."

Yet in all those instances, Americans did not profess to be shocked, nor did they refer in hushed, horrified tones to the callousness of the government. In most cases, they cheered the violence. They, too, dismissed the dead children, the dead mothers and the dead fathers, as "collateral damage." The U.S. government has killed a million times more civilians than Tim McVeigh, its decorated soldier. And soon it will kill him.

People who are selectively horrified, depending on who the victim is, are, in fact, amoral people. The children in the federal building were no different than the children in Iraq, in Yugoslavia or in the West Bank and Gaza. Nothing stings a Palestinian more than to see the American press give prominent attention to the death of a Jewish child while routinely ignoring the deaths of Palestinian children. They are all equal in their preciousness and innocence, and it is damned racist to attach

more importance to the death of one than to the death of the other.

Many Americans, while they might not wish to admit it, see themselves when they look at McVeigh. Oh, they don't have the courage to act out their malice as he did, but they are always eager to advocate violence; they, too, have cockamamie opinions based on propaganda; they, too, think that not all lives are equal and that some can be sacrificed for political reasons.

Some are already saying what "we should do to the Chinese" if they won't release the crew members on the spy plane that landed on Hainan Island. Well, there is an ugly fact that Americans had better remember before their blowhard pseudopatriotism goes beyond rhetoric. Those American servicemen are in China, under the control of the Chinese government, and whether they will be released is entirely up to the Chinese government. Unless you wish to consider their lives as "collateral damage," I would suggest that diplomacy, rather than bluster and threats, is the better course of action.

The pilot, by the way, should not have delivered an American intelligence aircraft to the Chinese. He should have — Navy folks tell me — headed toward the nearest American or friendly ship and ditched the plane. The Navy now says that the crew did dump some of the

machines and destroy the codes before landing.

At any rate, we are creating our own Frankenstein monsters, and McVeigh isn't the only one by a long shot. A society that sends a message to its children that violence is the way to settle disputes, that might makes right and that not all lives are equal in value should not play the hypocrite when its sons and daughters learn their lessons well.

For once, I'd like to see the entertainment industry — another teacher of the concept that violence is the way to solve problems — condemned for the perverse purveyor of pornography that it is.

For once, I'd like to see the American government actually play the peacemaker instead of the bully. For once, I'd like to see Americans grieve for the deaths of all children, whatever their race, ethnicity or religion. For once, I'd like to see people realize that military action or other government force is the last resort, not the first option, and only then in defense of innocent life.

McVeigh, in one sense, is also a victim. The deaths he caused were useless, and his own death will be useless.

No one will have served any useful or worthwhile purpose — certainly not him, but just as surely not the government, either. Just pain and grief. We seem to produce both as mindlessly as Hollywood produces trash.



Bush handled standoff with China well

A peaceable end to the standoff with China was assumed from the start. That's why the yellow ribbons never appeared, and the hawkish language voiced by some members of Congress never caught on. Unlike the Iranian hostage crisis of a generation ago, which featured militant Iranian students burning the American flag, the Chinese held the 24 detained American airmen in air-conditioned, hotel-like quarters, even permitting them to receive e-mail messages. Everyone was so confident of a good outcome, it was as though leaders in both countries were play-acting. An air of civility, even geniality, governed the entire episode — a reflection of how much was at stake in both countries. For a president newly schooled in foreign policy, George W.



JACK ANDERSON

Bush showed commendable maturity in allowing the cumbersome Chinese bureaucracy and its restive military time to work out a face-saving resolution. Over the 10 days it took to find the right words to express an apology without apologizing, Bush behaved in a way that reassured the voters, as reflected in the polls, and gave us some glimpses into how he operates and whom he consults.

— He can control his right wing: Republicans on Capitol Hill held their tongues at the request of the White House. With rare exception, conservatives avoided the term "hostages" and didn't jump on the incident to showcase their unhappiness with China over its trade policies or human rights practices. If this incident had occurred under President Clinton, Republicans would have demanded Clinton act forcefully to retaliate. If Clinton had acted in a measured way, as Bush did, the GOP would have lambasted him for being weak and kowtowing to the Chinese. The Republican Right has gotten enough out of Bush in appointments, access and policy decisions to trust that

they have a friend in the White House. They returned the favor with their silence.

— He's his father's son: Preserving the overall relationship with China was paramount to Bush, a lesson learned from his father. Former President Bush served as envoy to China for a period in the 1970s and is highly regarded by the Chinese.

The elder Bush never swayed from his commitment to engage the Chinese, even after the government brutally slaughtered its own citizens in the 1989 Tiananmen Square student protests. After that horrific event, Bush secretly sent his national security adviser to China to try to repair relations, an act of diplomacy that in 1992 prompted candidate Clinton to accuse Bush of selling out to American capitalist business interests. Once in office, Clinton also placed economic interests on a high level and refused to link trade benefits for China with its behavior on human rights. For Bush the son, maintaining the balance will be even trickier because the divisions within the GOP are so intense between the business com-

munity and social conservatives.

— Less is more: Bush kept the spy-plane incident from mushrooming into a full-blown international crisis by keeping his rhetoric and his presence in the media measured and low-key. There were no "I feel your pain" speeches about the Americans who were being kept from their families. When the crisis was resolved, Bush stepped into the White House briefing room to give a statement that was barely one minute in length. Then he turned and left, refusing to take reporters' questions.

One could imagine Clinton in a similar situation holding forth on all aspects of U.S.-China relations, commandeering prime time to address the nation about the successful resolution of a foreign-policy crisis.

Bush is a different president for a different time, and in this one instance, Americans and Chinese alike can be grateful that he seems to have got it right.

Even so, the incident marks the beginning of a new geopolitical competition: the beginning of Cold War II.

ADDRESSES

- **GEORGE W. BUSH**
The White House
Washington, D.C.
- **RICK PERRY**
Governor
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.
Washington, 20515.
Phone: 202-225-6605.



S

IN B

Hawks rode third at Can
The Howard men's rodeo team finished third in the standings at the A&M University Canyon on Saturday, securing a third-place finish in the Southwestern standings.

Ross Ericsson finished fourth in the riding competition, taking his first place in the final round.

Bray Armes finished second in the wrestling competition, moving into the lead in that event.

The Hawks Tarleton State Rodeo in Big Spring, April 26-28, finished first in the final round, 3-5 in Hobbs.

Trainers vs. benefit sch
The Howard dent trainers challenged the athletic staff to a ball game Monday, April 16.

All proceeds from the memorial fund, established late training Blackburn.

All athletic be asking for each run score.

Admission concessions available.

Pledge form available. For more information call 264-5454.

Softball tournament to benefit f
A recreation tournament beginning Friday, April 27, at Cotton at Comanche.

There is a guarantee at eight team w

The fee is \$20.

For more call 264-6129.

CGA, HWP toumey for
The Ch Association Hispanic Progress will hold an annual Sunday, April 22, at Comanche Course.

Proceeds from the Hispanic Progress fund start mean must sign u

For more call the club 2366.

Swim lessons offered at
Parents their child lessons at the

Classes will be p.m. and w nights each

For more call the YM

Women's seeking p
The Big Girls Softball is seeking older to play softball.

Registration For more call Alicia 0216.

ON T

Televisi

NHL
6 p.m. — playoffs continue at Pittsburgh
Ottawa Senators vs. Maple Leafs

BASEBALL
6:30 p.m. Marlins at TBS, Ch. 13

NBA
9:30 — Golden State at Golden State

IN BRIEF

Hawks rodeo team third at Canyon

The Howard College men's rodeo team finished third in the team standings at the West Texas A&M University Rodeo in Canyon on Saturday, virtually guaranteeing themselves a third-place finish in the Southwest Region standings.

Ross Ericsson finished fourth in the saddle bronc riding competition, maintaining his regional lead.

Bray Armes won both rounds of the steer wrestling competition, moving into the region lead in that event.

The Hawks travel to the Tarleton State University Rodeo in Stephenville April 26-28 before the conference finals set for May 3-5 in Hobbs, N.M.

Trainers vs. Coaches benefit scheduled

The Howard College student trainers have challenged the athletic coaching staff to a benefit softball game at 5 p.m. Monday, April 23.

All proceeds will benefit the memorial scholarship fund, established for the late trainer, Everett Blackburn.

All athletic trainers will be asking for pledges for each run scored.

Admission is free and concessions will be available.

Pledge forms are available. For more information call 264-5040.

Softball tournament to benefit foundation

A recreational softball tournament will be held beginning Friday, April 27, at Cotton Mize Field at Comanche Trail Park.

There is a three-game guarantee and the first eight team will be taken.

The fee is \$110 and the deadline is Friday, April 20.

For more information call 264-6129.

CGA, HWP schedule toumey for Sunday

The Chicano Golf Association and the Hispanic Women for Progress will hold their annual tournament Sunday, April 22, at the Comanche Trail Golf Course.

Proceeds will benefit the Hispanic Women for Progress fund. A shotgun start means all players must sign up by 9:45.

For more information call the clubhouse at 264-2366.

Swim lessons being offered at the YMCA

Parents can register their children for swim lessons at the YMCA.

Classes will be held at 6 p.m. and will meet two nights each week.

For more information, call the YMCA at 267-8234.

Women's softball seeking players

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

Registration is \$30. For more information, call Alicia Buzbee at 264-0216.

ON THE AIR

Television

NHL
6 p.m. — Stanley Cup playoff conference quarterfinals, Washington Capitals at Pittsburgh Penguins or Ottawa Senators at Toronto Maple Leafs, ESPN, Ch. 30.

BASEBALL
6:30 p.m. — Florida Marlins at Atlanta Braves, TBS, Ch. 11.

NBA
9:30 — Dallas Mavericks at Golden State Warriors, FXS, Ch. 29.

Stars retake playoff series lead with 3-2 overtime win

EDMONTON, Alberta (AP) — Late-game heroics by Ryan Smyth and Rem Murray only delayed the inevitable for the Edmonton Oilers. And that made the loss all the more painful when it finally happened.

Smyth and Murray scored in the final 1:03 of the third period as the Oilers erased a 2-0 deficit to send Game 3 of the opening-round playoff series with Dallas into overtime. Murray tied the game with seven seconds left.

But after the Oilers and Stars traded several chances in the extra period, Benoit Hogue scored the winner with just 12 seconds left.

"It's as devastating a loss as I've

been involved with in a long time," Oilers coach Craig MacTavish said after Sunday's 3-2 loss gave Dallas a 2-1 lead in the Western Conference quarterfinal. "Happiness and heartache — that pretty much spells NHL playoff hockey."

"Everybody is feeling down. But you have to be resilient if you want to be successful in the playoffs. We've got to suck it up tonight and come back tomorrow to get ready for the next one."

Oilers captain Doug Weight thought of the missed opportunities.

"It's very disheartening," said Weight. "You think about what could have been — it would've been

a great team comeback. But we're not in horrible shape now."

"It's obviously not what we wanted after tying it up. But the roller coaster is not going to affect us. If anything, it shows we can get the offense we need to compete. That's a positive."

The positives for Dallas, other than the obvious series lead, included the contributions of Hogue, a healthy scratch in the first two games.

"He always seems to come up with something interesting and special," said Stars captain Mike Modano, who had a power-play goal in the third period and assisted on

Sergei Zubov's goal in the first period. "He seems to play well here."

"It's nice to see a guy like that, who has been through what he has been through, come out and make a big impact like that."

Hogue scored the winner on his only shot of the game when he knocked the rebound of a shot by Brett Hull past Edmonton goalie Tommy Salo.

"They've got to take solace somewhere and rally their troops, because they almost had something they didn't deserve," said Stars coach Ken Hitchcock. "They've got a young team — they can recover from this stuff."



Big Spring's Christina Gwyn delivers a pitch during an early District 5-4A game at the Big Spring ISD Softball Complex. The Lady Steers remained unbeaten in district play Saturday with a 15-4 win over Levelland, as Gwyn got the win, striking out five and giving up just one hit before turning over pitching duties to Nicole Chesworth.

A-Rod streaking as he heads back to face Mariners

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

Alex Rodriguez is on a tear as he heads back to Seattle.

So are the Mariners. Rodriguez hit two homers and knocked in five runs as the Texas Rangers beat the Oakland Athletics 10-8 Sunday night to cap a three-game sweep.

The shortstop went 6-for-10 with four homers and 13 RBIs in the series against the A's. He entered Friday's game with zero home runs and just two RBIs in 39 at-bats — the longest season-opening homer drought of his career.

"He's pretty phenomenal," said Oakland's Jason Giambi, the reigning AL MVP.

"We made him look like he's worth about \$300 million."

Texas opens a three-game series Monday at Seattle, Rodriguez's first trip there since he left the Mariners in the offseason to sign a \$252 million, 10-year contract with the Rangers.

At 9:30, the Mariners lead the AL West, 2½ games ahead of the Rangers. Seattle beat Anaheim 7-4 Sunday.

"Seattle is doing great," said Rodriguez, suddenly tied with Yankees catcher Jorge Posada for the league lead in RBIs. "I'm happy for them, but I'm also happy with the way we're playing. I'm ready for it. I look at the positives."

In other American League games, it was Minnesota 4, Chicago 3; Boston 5, New York 4; Kansas City 4, Toronto 2; and Tampa Bay 7, Baltimore 4.

Cleveland's game at Detroit was rained out.

In National League games, it was Colorado 10, Arizona 7; Atlanta 3, Philadelphia 0; Cincinnati 3, New York 1; Florida 6, Montreal 3; Milwaukee 7, San Francisco 4; Chicago 5, Pittsburgh 1; St. Louis 6, Houston 5; and Los Angeles 5, San Diego 4.

The 16th multihomer game of Rodriguez's career helped the Rangers sweep a three-game series at Oakland for the first time since May 17-19, 1994.

Rodriguez hit a two-run homer in the first inning and his three-run shot in the fifth put Texas ahead 6-5. Both home runs were off Gil Heredia (0-3).

Ivan Rodriguez, Rusty Greer and Randy Velarde also homered for Texas.

Darren Oliver (3-0) allowed six runs — five earned — in five innings, but he already has more wins than all last season, when he went 2-9 in 21 starts. Mike Venafro earned his first save.

Oakland has lost seven straight games and is 2-10 overall.

Mariners 7, Angels 5

Bret Boone's third hit, a two-run single off Shigetoshi Hasegawa (1-1), highlighted a six-run eighth inning for visiting Seattle.

Edgar Martinez had a homer and two RBIs for the Mariners.

Jose Paniagua (1-1)

allowed two runs and one hit in 1 2-3 innings. Starter John Halama gave up three runs and six hits in 6 1-3 innings.

Twins 4, White Sox 3

Eric Milton (2-0) struck out eight of these first 10 batters as Minnesota improved to 6-0 at the Metrodome and 9-2 overall, both team records.

Corey Koskie had four hits for the Twins, and Latroy Hawkins pitched the ninth inning for his second save.

Frank Thomas homered for the White Sox, who have lost three straight games for the second time this season. Jim Parque (0-1) gave up four runs, eight hits and five walks in six-plus innings.

Red Sox 5, Yankees 4

Carl Everett had three of Boston's 15 hits and the Red Sox rallied for three runs in the seventh inning at Fenway Park.

Rich Garces (1-0) got the win in relief of Hideo Nomo, and Rolando Arrojo got his second save.

Andy Pettitte (2-1) gave up a career-high 14 hits, including to seven of the last eight batters before he left.

With Boston trailing 3-2, Everett opened the seventh with a triple and scored on Manny Ramirez's double. Ramirez took third on Dante Bichette's single and scored the go-ahead run on a single by Jason Varitek.

Royals 4, Blue Jays 2

Mike Sweeney homered in his third straight game as visiting Kansas City ended a five-game losing streak.

Blake Stein (1-2) won despite walking six in six innings, allowing two runs and two hits. Roberto Hernandez pitched the ninth for his second save in four chances.

Chris Carpenter (1-1) allowed four runs — three earned — and seven hits in five innings.

Devil Rays 7, Orioles 4

Tampa Bay led 3-0 after eight pitches, and Greg Vaughn went 4-for-5 with two home runs at Baltimore.

Fred McGriff and John Flaherty also homered. Doug Creek (1-0) pitched two innings for the win, and Esteban Yan worked the ninth for the Devil Rays' first save of the year.

Greg Myers and Jerry Hairston hit home runs for the Orioles, who had only one in their first 11 games. Sidney Ponson (0-3) allowed three of the Devil Rays' four homers.

Braves 3, Phillies 0

Odalis Perez won his first game in nearly two years, and Brian Jordan and Andruw Jones homered at Turner Field.

Perez allowed four hits and three walks in seven innings. John Rocker pitched the ninth.

Lakers move into first place; Mavericks win in overtime

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

It looks like the Los Angeles Lakers are going to win the Pacific Division. All they need to do is defeat the Denver Nuggets in their season finale.

After a dysfunctional season that featured the Shaq-Kobe feud, the travails of Isaiah Rider and a series of other minor maladies, the Lakers took over first place in the Pacific on Sunday.

Their 105-100 victory over the Portland Trail Blazers, combined with Sacramento's 88-86 loss at Phoenix, gave the Lakers a half-game lead over the Kings in the Pacific.

Because the Lakers own the tiebreaker over Sacramento, all they need is one more victory to wrap up the No. 2 seed in the West. They play Denver on Tuesday night.

In other games, Philadelphia edged New York 89-82, Orlando defeated Miami 90-73, Dallas downed Seattle 107-99 in overtime, Indiana beat Chicago 93-86, Minnesota topped Utah 107-100, Charlotte defeated Detroit 99-90, Boston downed New Jersey 95-88 and Cleveland beat Washington 106-98.

Shaquille O'Neal had 33 points and 18 rebounds and Robert Horry made a crucial 3-pointer with 1:05 remaining.

"We took care of the ball. We were able to make some stops and we did some things that were important down at the end," Lakers coach Phil Jackson said.

"It was a typical game that these two teams have played over the last however many years," Blazers coach Mike Dunleavy said.

Kobe Bryant added 25 points and seven assists, and Derek Fisher scored 21 points for the Lakers (55 26),

who extended their winning streak to a season-high seven games.

Suns 88, Kings 86

Shawn Marion had 16 points and tied his career high with 19 rebounds as the Suns knocked the Kings out of first place.

"Whatever the Lakers did, we had to win and we didn't do it," Sacramento coach Rick Adelman said. "Now they've got destiny in their hands."

Jason Kidd added 20 points and 14 assists and Rodney Rogers scored 20 as the Suns climbed a half-game ahead of Portland into sixth place in the Western Conference playoff race.

Cliff Robinson scored 17 for the Suns in what might have been a preview of a first-round playoff matchup.

Chris Webber scored 22, but none in the fourth quarter. He missed all three of his fourth-quarter shots.

76ers 89, Knicks 82

Allen Iverson scored 27 points and Dikembe Mutombo added eight points and 16 rebounds as the Sixers snapped a two-game skid and defeated a playoff-bound team for just the fourth time in 13 games.

"It was important, because you want to make a statement heading into the playoffs," said forward Tyrone Hill. "You don't want teams to think they can come in your house and have an easy time."

Latrell Sprewell had 26 points and Othella Harrington added 14 points for New York.

Magic 90, Heat 73

Tracy McGrady scored 24 points and the Magic avenged two lopsided losses

to their intrastate rivals earlier this season.

Miami turned in a slipshod performance without point guard Tim Hardaway, who went on the injured list before the game with a bruised left foot.

The Magic clinched at least the No. 7 seed in the Eastern Conference playoffs.

Mavericks 107, SuperSonics 99, OT

Gary Payton hit three free throws with 2.9 seconds left to send the game to overtime. But Dirk Nowitzki hit a fast-break dunk for a six-point lead with 44 seconds left in overtime and Michael Finley hit two foul shots with 33 seconds left for the final margin.

Finley finished with 26 points for Dallas, while Nowitzki had 22 points and 15 boards.

Pacers 93, Bulls 86

Zan Tabak scored a season-high 16 points and the Pacers won their seventh straight. Jalen Rose added 10 points, 10 assists and nine rebounds, narrowly missing his first career triple-double.

Timberwolves 107, Jazz 100

Karl Malone and Kevin Garnett were ejected within a minute of each other during the third quarter. The Wolves, who led 59-58 at the time of Garnett's ejection, increased their lead to 81-74 early in the fourth and led the rest of the way.

Hornets 99, Pistons 90

Jamal Mashburn scored 20 points, David Wesley added 17, reserve Eddie Robinson scored 14, while P.J. Brown and Baron Davis added 13 each.

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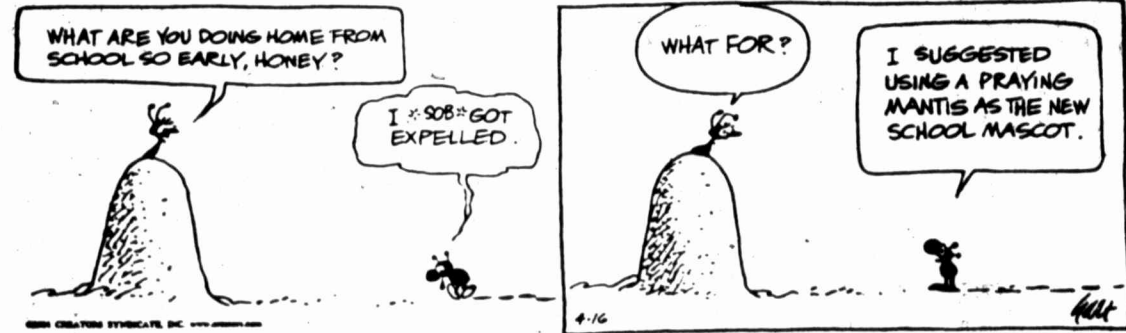
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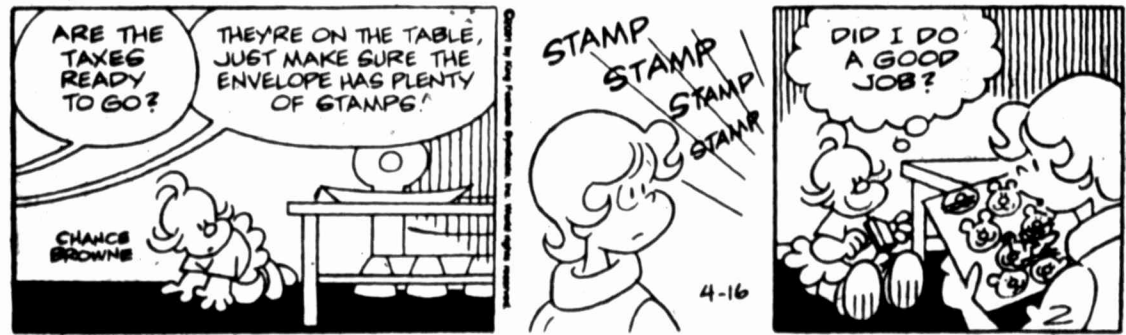
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The ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Today's Highlight in History:

On April 16, 1947, the French ship Grandcamp blew up at the harbor in Texas City, Texas; another ship, the Highflyer, exploded the following day. The blasts and resulting fires killed 576 people.

In 1789, President-elect Washington left Mount Vernon, Va., for his inauguration in New York.

In 1862, a bill ending slavery in the District of Columbia became law.

In 1912, Harriet Quimby became the first woman to fly across the English Channel.

In 1917, Vladimir Ilyich Lenin returned to Russia after years of exile.

In 1935, the radio comedy program "Fibber McGee and Molly" premiered on the NBC Blue Network.

In 1945, in his first speech to Congress, President Truman pledged to carry out the war and peace policies of his late predecessor, President Franklin Roosevelt.

In 1945, U.S. troops reached Nuremberg, Germany, during World War II.

In 1947, financier and presidential confidant Bernard M. Baruch said in a speech at the South Carolina statehouse: "Let us not be deceived — we are today in the midst of a cold war."

In 1962, Walter Cronkite succeeded Douglas Edwards as anchorman of "The CBS Evening News."

In 1972, Apollo 16 blasted off on a voyage to the moon.

Ten years ago: President George Bush announced that U.S. forces would be sent into northern Iraq to assist Kurdish refugees.

Soviet President Mikhail S. Gorbachev began a visit to Japan. Sir David Lean, director of the movies "The Bridge on the River Kwai," "Lawrence of Arabia" and "Doctor Zhivago," died in London at age 83.

Today's Birthdays: Actor-comedian Spike Milligan is 83. Actor Barry Nelson is 81. Actor-director-author Peter Ustinov is 80. Actor Peter Mark Richman is 74. Actress-singer Edie Adams is 72. Jazz musician Herbie Mann is 71. Singer Bobby Vinton is 66. Queen Margrethe II of Denmark is 61.

Answer to previous puzzle

S	C	A	L	D	D	E	E	P	S	D	A	K
P	A	L	E	O	A	M	T	A	N	A	N	E
A	P	T	I	N	G	I	D	O	L	I	N	E
C	R	E	D	I	T	L	I	N	E	S	D	A
E	T	M	S	T	E	I	N	I	A	N	U	S
R	E	G	A	L	E	R	I	O				
M	E	M	P	H	I	S	N	E	A	R	Y	O
A	P	A	C	E								
R	H	U	B	A	R	D	N	A	S	T	A	S
M	E	R	R	E	A	M	E	R				
A	M	I	S	C	R	A	T	C	H	P	A	D
L	E	T	T	R	E	N	C	H	E	R	M	A
A	R	I	A	O	T	T	O	R	I	A	T	A
D	A	V	E	O	T	T	I	S	O	A	T	E
E	L	S	E	M	A	S	T	S	M	I	R	K

4/16/01

Newsday Crossword

SHOW YOUR METAL by Lee Weaver
Edited by Stanley Newman

- ACROSS
- 1 Purring pets
- 5 Military cap
- 9 Inc., in London
- 12 Miscellanies
- 14 Alas and
- 16 Water: Fr.
- 17 Music-publishing district
- 19 Lincoln's nickname
- 20 Paper fastener
- 21 Fractions of a minute
- 23 Decorative evergreens
- 25 Africa (Streep film)
- 26 Taxi
- 29 Shea players
- 31 Atomic number 5
- 33 Towel term
- 35 Sierra
- 37 See the sights
- 39 Memo letters
- 40 Dockworker's org.
- 41 Director Preminger
- 42 Snoot
- 43 Stuck-up ones
- 45 Earns after taxes
- 46 Biblical song
- 48 Boy Scouts, e.g.
- 50 Pre-Easter buy
- 51 Gave it a go
- 58 Cry loudly
- 55 Eyelash enhancer
- 57 Ribbed taffeta
- 61 Varnish ingredient
- 62 Former East/West "barrier"
- 64 Pop the question
- 65 Canvas shelters
- 66 Doled (out)
- 67 Scoreboard postings: Abbr.
- 68 Take five
- 69 Claret and burgundy
- 7 Word form for "ancient"
- 8 Ade cooler
- 9 Speed-happy, as a driver
- 10 Bar bills
- 11 Expected to arrive
- 13 Oregon capital
- 15 Japanese city
- 18 Stairway post
- 22 Carney, on The Honeymooners
- 24 Beer mug
- 26 Sleuth Charlie
- 27 Man of morals
- 28 Basic facts
- 30 Goes it alone
- 32 Like pecan pie units
- 36 Influential person
- 38 Stood up
- 43 Finger painter
- 44 Muddled situation
- 47 According to law
- 49 Bunch of bees
- 52 Kind of bee
- 54 Soda-bottle size
- 55 Ship's pole
- 56 Picnic pests
- 58 Past the deadline
- 59 Told a whopper
- 60 Tackle's teammates
- 61 Place for a toddler
- 63 Chicago clock setting: Abbr.

