

WEDNESDAY

July 11, 2001

WEATHER

Tonight:



CLEAR

TONIGHT 75°-77° TOMORROW 99°-102°

Salvation Army back-to-school program slated

The Salvation Army will hold its Back-To-School program July 23-27.

During these days, the Salvation Army will be taking applications for those in need of assistance with school supplies from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Salvation Army Community Center located at 811 W. Fifth Street.

The Salvation Army is in need of pencils, scissors, crayons, bottles of glue, wide-rule notebook paper, and 2-inch notebooks. Also needed are school boxes, zipper bags, pens, pocket folders with brads, erasers, map colors, markers, manilla paper, dividers, construction paper, and boxed tissue.

The distribution date will be Aug. 13 from 9 a.m. until noon.

WHAT'S UP...

TODAY

□ Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie Ladies Auxiliary meets at 7 p.m. at the Eagles Lodge, 704 West Third.

THURSDAY

□ Gideons International, Big Spring Camp No. U42060 meets at Herman's Restaurant, 7 a.m.

□ The Senior Citizens Center will host an Arts and Crafts session each Thursday from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Call Bobbie Leonard at the Senior Citizens Center for more information.

□ 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.

□ Christmas In April board of directors meets at noon at the Lions Bingo Building, 1607 E. Third.

□ Big Spring Main Street meets at noon at the Railroad Museum on Second and Main.

□ American Legion Auxiliary meets at 7 p.m. at 3203 W. Hwy 80.

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

MDA invites citizens to bail out a friend during Lock-Up

By APRIL L. WARD Staff Writer

Many local business people will be spending some quality time in "lock-up" Thursday.

However, they'll be doing it for a worthy cause. To raise awareness and funds to fight neuromuscular diseases, the Muscular Dystrophy Association will be holding its annual Lock-Up at the Big Spring Mall.

According to Trudy

Espinosa, approximately 35 people from the Big Spring area will be participants in the Lock-Up.

"We lock up local business people and have them raise money," she said. "We raised \$19,000 at the event last year."

Each year, participants receive an information packet and are asked to call friends, family, and business associates to ask for donations.

"We ask them to raise \$750

each, or at least do the best they can," Espinosa said.

Even if the participants haven't finished getting donations before lock-up time, there is no reason to worry.

"We have cell phones they can use while they're in lock up — if they haven't finished raising their bail yet," she said.

MDA is a voluntary health agency working to combat 43 neuromuscular diseases through basic and applied

scientific investigation, comprehensive programs of patient services and clinical care, and widespread professional and public health education. There are 230 MDA clinics nationwide, and other programs of support and services for children and adults affected by muscle-wasting diseases.

In 1999, MDA had nearly two million volunteers participating in fund raising programs. Donations go toward funding research

time, surgical procedures for muscle biopsy, psychological evaluations, MDA Summer Camp participants and many other services muscular dystrophy patients need.

Espinosa said the MDA Lock-Up has helped to bring in needed funds to support the MDA's fight against neuromuscular diseases.

"We have been holding this event for a good while, at least 10 years," she said. "It's been quite a success."

Famed choir to perform locally

By LINDY BARR Staff Writer

A unique presentation is on its way to Big Spring.

The grammy-nominated African Children's Choir in concert at 7 p.m. Saturday, July 21, in the Municipal Auditorium.

The concert is free to the public but donations are accepted and go toward supporting ongoing programs, purchasing food and medical supplies, and establishing literacy schools for Southern Sudan's most needy children.

The African Children's Choir was founded 25 years ago by Ray Barnett in an effort to help children who had orphaned during Idi Amin's reign in Uganda. It is made up of 23 African children from the ages of 5 through 12.

These children are selected from especially needy youth in Africa.

"Giving these children this opportunity opens up a window and give them a chance to realize that they can be someone," said Terri Clapham, spokesperson for the African Children's Choir.

The first choir has brought out much hope for many of the performers.

"From starting out with nothing, now there are some that have become doctors, lawyers, engineers



Courtesy photo

The African Children's Choir will perform at 7 p.m. Saturday, July 21, at the Big Spring Municipal Auditorium. There is no charge for the concert, but donations are accepted.

and lots more," said Clapham.

Over the years, funds raised through the choir's worldwide performances have helped to establish literacy schools throughout Uganda and Kenya. These schools provide many poor, orphaned children with an education, food, medical attention and love.

Because of the extremely urgent situation in Southern Sudan, this

region has become the current focus for the African Children's Choir. Southern Sudan had been in the midst of a civil war that has been going on since 1984 and the situation has been intensified by a widespread famine.

According to the United Nations, this is the worst famine experienced since Ethiopia's famine in the early 1980s. More than one and half million people,

mostly children, have already died in the Southern Sudan as a result of the war and famine, and the number is rising.

"The children make this their main focus. They want to help children just like them, that is why they call themselves friends of the west," said Clapham.

So far, the African Children's Choir has been

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Redistricting group to make recommendation

By LYNDEL MOODY Staff Writer

The redistricting advisory committee for the Big Spring Independent School District is expected to present its recommendation to redraw precinct boundaries in a board meeting set for Thursday.

The proposal calls for

expanding boundaries in single-member districts represented by Irene Bustamante and Frank Long while contracting precinct lines represented by Larry McLellan and Terry Wegman.

The new plan will increase District 1, represented by Bustamante, minority voting population from 64.5 percent to 67.4 per-

cent, according to figures from Johnston and Associates, a demographic and planning service.

If the board gives approval for the new district boundaries, the next step is to send the plan in for pre-clearance by the U.S. Department of Justice.

Also on the agenda, John Weeks, general manager for KBST, will speak to

trustees.

John Weeks will be giving a presentation to the board about KBST continuing to be the flagship station for the district's sports," said Sandra Waggoner, BSISD business manager.

Other items on the agenda are:

- Approval of career and

See BSISD, Page 2

Council OKs stop signs, airpark improvements

By ROGER CLINE Staff Writer

In a meeting lasting just 15 minutes, the Big Spring City Council approved new

stop signs at two intersections and upgrades for McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark.

The council voted unanimously to place four-way stop signs at the intersection of Northwest Sixth Street and North Scurry and to place a stop sign on North



GARCIA

Goliad yielding to East 11th Street.

Of the Sixth and Scurry intersection, Councilman Oscar Garcia said that children in the area are a special concern.

"Mainly the concern is that there are more children in the area and that there is no stop of traffic for about six or seven blocks. It's a two-way street with a downhill slope," Garcia said. "It's probably the route that most people take to take their children to Bauer Magnet School."

The council also awarded a \$30,837.55 contract for a new airpark beacon to T-N-T Electric Co. of Big Spring

and heard the first reading of a proposal for funding a new automated weather observation system at the airpark.

"You can't have a new terminal without an AWOS system," commented Councilman Chuck Cawthon after making the motion to approve the first reading of the proposal.

The system would cost an estimated \$85,000, of which the Texas Department of Transportation would pay 75 percent and Big Spring would pay the other 25 percent.

In other business, the council:

- Approved specifications

for a greens mower for the golf course.

• Tabled the final reading of a resolution authorizing the lease of backhoes from West Texas Equipment Co.

• Approved closing Northeast Sixth Street between North Main and North Scurry during the St. Thomas Church Festival this weekend.

• Heard a report from City Manager Gary Fuqua about the July 3 "Pops in the Park" concert and fireworks extravaganza.

• Scheduled special sessions for July 17 and 24 to work on the city budget.

The council meets again at 5:30 p.m. on July 24.

Crossroads area graduates receive foundation's scholarships

HERALD Staff Report

MIDLAND — Fourteen graduates from Crossroads Area high schools were among the 75 recipients of \$95,000 in college scholarships Tuesday night during the Permian Basin Area Foundation's annual scholarship dinner held at the Confederate Air Force's American Airpower

Heritage Museum.

The scholarships were received from five of the foundation's 27 component funds — the Connell Family Scholarship, the Marie Hall Scholarship, the Grace Loveless Jones Scholarship, the Jimmie and Dorothy Mashburn Scholarship and the Dan and Billye Saunders Scholarship.

"Our region is blessed by generous people who recog-

nize the importance of higher education and they are the folks who make these scholarships possible year after year," said Jack Swallow, president of the foundation.

"The students who earned these awards have all proven their desire for higher education, and we encourage them to do their best in all their future endeavors."

The three recipients of Connell Family Scholarships were David W. Butler and Chad D. Dillard, both of Stanton, and Orine Romine of Big Spring.

Among the 27 recipients of Marie Hall Scholarships were Ed DeLucas of Lenora, Kaisha R. Moore of Garden City and Chris M. Martinez of Big Spring.

The six students receiving Grace Loveless Jones

Scholarships were Brandy Allred, Clayton Baker, Jonathan Cotton, Kristyn Hambleton and Stephanie Portillo, all of Stanton, and Sheree Rivas of Lenora.

Kacie Leann Moore of Stanton was named the recipient of the Mashburn Scholarship.

Matthew Tollison, who is also a Stanton graduate, received the Saunders Scholarship.

Government tax payments in the mail... well, almost

By DEBBIE L. JENSEN Herald Correspondent

Sometime during the next two months, the government is going to send you a check.

No, really. It's that kind of skepticism that has met financial planners and accountants as they try to acquaint their clients with some recent changes in the tax laws.



FILLINGIM

"I'm 47 years old. I've been paying taxes a long time, and I've never gotten a check in the mail because they revised the tax code," said Glen Fillingim, a Big Spring certified public accountant. "It can be somewhat hard to believe."

But thanks to these changes — officially called the Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2001 — most taxpayers will get a refund sometime between the end of July and the end of September. It's actually an advance payment of a 2001 tax credit.

The amount of the refund will vary in most cases from \$300-600, depending on taxable income, marital status and other factors. If you owe back child support, haven't yet paid your 2000 taxes, or owe on a government student loan, you may not get a check at all or it may be reduced. As a general rule, though, single people may get about \$300, while married couples might get about \$600.

Getting more information about this tax refund is as easy as picking up the phone, noted local certified public accountant Dwain Fox.

"Anytime you call the IRS, you get a recording," he said, "and right now, the first thing you hear on that recording is about this tax refund." Part of that recording says taxpayers will receive a letter in the next few weeks explaining the refund and when to expect it.

But it's not necessary to call the IRS to receive the money. It will come automatically, mailed according to a schedule that is based on the last two digits of your Social Security number. Married joint filers will receive it according to the last two numbers of the

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JUL 11 2001

OBITUARIES

Senie Coldiron

Funeral service for Senie Coldiron, 80, of Knott, will be 10 a.m., Thursday, July 12, 2001, at First Christian Church with the Rev. Jimmy Watson, pastor of First Christian Church, officiating. Burial service will be at Trinity Memorial Park Peace Chapel.

Mrs. Coldiron died Monday, July 9, at a local hospital.

She was born on July 14, 1921, in Howard County and was a lifetime resident. She married Clarence Coldiron on Nov. 6, 1942, in Big Spring and they made their home in Knott. He preceded her in death on July 31, 1991. She was a member of First Christian Church. She was a telephone operator and later became a Licensed Vocational Nurse at Hall-Bennett Memorial Hospital and Cowper Hospital. She later provided private nursing care.

Survivors include two sons, Mark Coldiron of Big Spring and Danny Coldiron of Lubbock; one sister, Elaine Potter of Kerrville, Calif.; two step-brothers, Robert Beall of Big Spring and Joe Beall of Houston; five grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

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

Homer Marcum

Graveside service for Homer "Buddy" Marcum, 78, of Big Spring, will be 1 p.m., Thursday, July 12, 2001, in Resthaven Memorial Park with the Rev. Bob Porterfield officiating.

Mr. Marcum died Sunday, July 8, in Odessa.

He was born on Feb. 18, 1923, in Williamson, W. Va. He worked as a carpenter in West Virginia with his brothers and his father until 1943. He married Jackie Marcum in 1943 and she preceded him in death in 1997. He was a veteran of World War II as a carpenter's mate until 1946. He was part of the forces occupying Japan. When he left the Navy he continued working as a carpenter, first in West Virginia, then in Virginia Beach, Va. where he moved with his family in 1950. In 1955 he became a contractor. He

was active in the Baptist Church as a deacon and a lay minister. He moved to Midland in 1976 and continued in his vocation. In 1985 he retired from contracting and opened a dollhouse shop called "Buddy's Attic." In 1990 he joined Resthaven Memorial Park as Sales Unit Manager. He worked there until his retirement in 1997. He was a member of the "Million-Dollar" Club. In 1997 he toured the country for three years in his motor home at which time ill health put an end to his trips. In 2000 he married Tina Reagan of Big Spring where he lived until his death.

Survivors include his wife, Tina Marcum, of Big Spring; one daughter, Judy Bruner, of Midland; one brother, Albert Marcum, of Huntington, W. Va.; two step-daughters, Valerie McCutchan and Cynthia Fritzier, both of Big Spring; one step-son, Robert Reagan of Big Spring; and two grandsons.

The family suggests that in lieu of flowers donations be made to Hospice House, 903 Sam Houston, Odessa 79761.

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

Clara Jackson

Funeral service for Clara Jackson, 84, of Big Spring is pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home. Mrs. Jackson died today, July 11, 2001, at her residence.

CHOIR

Continued from Page 1

able to raise enough money to establish seven literacy schools in Southern Sudan. Each of these schools provide an education, food and medical care for 300 plus children. The children are also working on raising money for other ongoing projects, such as the purchase of trucks to regularly transport food and medical aid into the war-torn region.

"For some of the children this is their first time for an education because of the poverty in their country. They are tutored every day as they travel," said Clapham. "These children are the future of Africa," said Clapham.

BSISD

Continued from Page 1

technology supplies and equipment.

• Approval of building contract inventory services.
• Approval of resignations and/or retirements and employments.
• Summer school, 2001 report.
• Budget workshop report.
• Howard County appraisal district budget for 2002.

The meeting is set for 5:15 p.m. in the high school boardroom.

TAXES

Continued from Page 1

first Social Security listed number on the return.

Checks for numbers ending with 00-99 should be received the week of July 23; numbers ending with 10-19 around July 30; 20-29, about Aug. 6; and so on each week until the last group, 90-99, the week of Sept. 24.

Fillingim said it is part of the plan that many people will receive the check just as they are starting another school year, with clothes and supplies to buy or tuition to pay.

"It's a good time to receive some money like this," he said. Fox and Fillingim said the

tax refund is far from the only change to the tax code. Several others include a phasing out of the estate tax, an increase in the per-child tax credit and an increase in allowable contributions to an Individual Retirement Account (IRA).

Fox said everyone with children under 17 should feel the difference in the child tax credit provision next year, as it increases from \$500 to \$600.

"This comes directly off your tax bill," he said. "It's not a deduction, it's a credit."

Many of the changes to the tax code will be phased in over a period of several years. And all of them expire on Dec. 31, 2010, if they have not been extended or changed before then.

The refund that taxpayers will receive in the next few months is just part of the package. Withholding (tax taken directly out of your paycheck) has also been reduced. Unfortunately, you might not notice much change in your take-home pay as a result.

Fillingim said for some workers with an average income, the change was as little as \$1 per paycheck.

"So don't go out and buy a Mercedes based on your reduced withholding," he said. But keep in mind, several tax changes are phased in over the next few years, so there may gradually be more money to deposit in your bank account.

"These changes," Fox said, "are really going to affect everyone."

Soaring drug costs result of high price advertising

WASHINGTON (AP) — Major drug makers spend nearly twice as much to advertise their medicines as to research and develop them, says a consumer group that blames aggressive marketing for soaring drug prices.

Families USA also said Tuesday that drug makers sometimes spent three times as much on ads and compensation for executives than on research and development. The group analyzed data from the Securities and Exchange Commission, which regulates the stock market.

The advocates rejected contentions by some companies that the cost of developing new medicines is causing the escalation of prices.

"Pharmaceutical companies charging skyrocketing drug prices like to sugarcoat the pain by saying those prices are needed for research and development," said Ron Pollack, executive director of Families USA.

Pharmaceutical executives, however, said the group had unfairly condemned the industry for its success and distorted the money spent on promoting new drugs.

"When the pharmaceutical industry does well, patients do even better," said Jackie Cottrell, a spokeswoman for the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America, based in Washington.

Families USA, a frequent critic of rising drug costs and the drug industry, based its report on an analysis of company revenues from sales, the net profit made and the percentage of sales revenue spent on marketing, administration, research and development. The information used came from 2000.

The group examined companies it said were among the top 50 in making drugs for the elderly. Adding drug coverage to Medicare, a federal program for the aged and disabled, is currently a hot political issue.

Families USA said Merck & Co. netted \$40.36 billion in sales in 2000. Of that amount, 17 percent was

A BIG SPRING AROUND THE TOWN

profit; 15 percent was spent on advertising, marketing and administration; and 6 percent was spent on research and development. "All industries spend more on marketing and administration than they do on research; that's not new information," said Merck spokesman Greg Reaves.

BRIEFS

THE MOBILE MEALS PROGRAM, which delivers to the elderly and homebound, needs volunteers to deliver meals. If you can spare one hour per week to deliver eight or 10 meals, we need you. About 85 to 90 meals are prepared, packaged and delivered within the city limits of Big Spring. If you can volunteer, please call 263-4016 before 3 p.m.

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

A CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION HISTORICAL book of the Big Spring Independent School district will be on sale at the BSISD administration building. The 56-page book features the history of public schooling in Big Spring and is on sale for \$10. The book includes the history of sports programs, clubs and organizations, along with notable graduates and memorable faculty and staff. Copies of the book can also be purchased at the Heritage Museum.

THE CURRENT COMPUTER CLASS at the Senior Citizens Center is full. Another class will be offered Monday, July 16 through Friday, August 3. Classes are at the Senior Center Mondays and Fridays 10:30 a.m. to noon. A third class will be offered August 6 to August 24. The number in each class will be limited to 12 people. You must sign up at the Senior Center and you will be notified when to attend. Call the Senior Center at 267-1628 or Dorothy Kennemur at 398-5522 for more information. The Senior Center is in need of more computers. If you have one to donate or know of any available please call the Senior Center.

A HEALTH FUND FOR BOBBY LAWDERMILK has been set up at Wells Fargo Bank at 400 Main. Contact Mitzi Knight or Kellie Tubb at 267-5531 for more information. Dr. Lawdermilk, DVM, was diagnosed with Alzheimer's three years ago and was recently diagnosed with cancer. Because of his health problems the Lawdermilk's no longer have health insurance. There will be a bake sale from 8 a.m. until everything is sold, Wednesday, July 11 in the lobby at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. A hotdog lunch will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Friday, July 13 in the first floor classroom at SMCC. Donations will be accepted at both events.

SUPPORT GROUPS

TODAY

•Gamblers Anonymous, 7 p.m., St. Stephen's Catholic Church, room 1, 4601 Neeley, Midland. Call 263-8920.

•Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, 8 p.m. 12 and 12 study.

•HOME HOSPICE and Canterbury are sponsoring a new grief support group. It will meet the second Wednesday of each month at 3 p.m. in the community

TEXAS LOTTERY

room at Canterbury South, 1700 Lancaster. Call Home Hospice at 264-7599 or come by 600 South Gregg for further details.

THURSDAY

•Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon open meeting.

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

FRIDAY

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

•AA, 615 Settles, noon open meeting and 8 p.m. Big Book Study.

•NA 8 p.m., St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 1001 Goliad. Call 268-4189 (pager no.).

•Al-Anon support group, noon, 615 Settles.

IF YOU HAVE A SUPPORT GROUP LISTING, PLEASE SUBMIT IT IN WRITING.

MARKETS

Table with market data including AT&T, Archer-Daniels, BP PLC ADR, Chevron Corp, Citigroup, Compaq, Dell, Du Pont, Exxon Mobil, Halliburton, IFCO Systems, IBM, Intel Corp, NUV, Patterson Ener, Pepsico Inc, Phillips Petro, SBC Comms, Sears Roebuck, Texaco Inc, Texas Instrument, TXU, Total Fina, Unocal Corp, Wal-Mart, Wal-Mart/Mexico, AMCAP, Europacific, Prime Rate, Gold, Silver.

POLICE

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

•RAMONA OLIVAREZ, 20, of 1002 N. Main was arrested for four local warrants and for failure to maintain financial responsibility.

•STEPHEN LLOYD CALHOUN, 44, of 510 Lancaster was arrested for a local warrant.

•BILLY JOE CHAVERA, 36, of 1113 Lloyd was arrested for two local warrants.

•KATRINA MICHELLE DUNN, 27, of 14507 FM 1298 in Colorado City was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.

•KURT ERIC DUNN, 35, of 14507 FM 1298 in Colorado City was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.

•MARSHALL FREE-

PICK 3: 0,5,0
CASH 5: 8,12,26,32,36

MAN BRYANT, 23, of 2107 Grace was arrested on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

•CECILIA MENDEZ, 24, of 2507 Kelly Circle was arrested on charges of no drivers license and making an improper turn.

•LOUD PARTY/NOISE was reported in the 1700 block of Donley and the 1500 block of State Park Drive.

•A MAJOR ACCIDENT was reported near mile marker 174 on Interstate 20.

•DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE was reported in the 3200 block of Auburn, in the 1300 block of Baylor Boulevard and in the 1500 block of East 11th Place.

•THEFT was reported in the 1300 block of Baylor, in the 800 block of Interstate 20 East and in the 1900 block of Highway 87 North.

•BURGLARY OF A BUILDING was reported in the 1100 block of Lamesa.

•AGGRAVATED ASSAULT WITH A DEADLY WEAPON was reported in the 1300 block of Stadium.

•DISTURBANCE/FIGHT was reported in the 1800 block of S. Gregg.

•DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE was reported in the 900 block of Aylesford St.

SHERIFF

The Howard County Sheriff's Office reported the following activities:

•A DOG PROBLEM was reported in the 2400 block of North Anderson.

•THEFT was reported in the 1600 block of South Moss Lake Road.

FIRE/EMS

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

11:39 a.m. — 600 Caylor, medical call, one patient transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

2:20 p.m. — 1200 block of Scurry, traffic accident, one patient transported to SMCC.

4:24 p.m. — 700 block of W. 15th, trauma call, one patient transported to SMCC.

6:00 p.m. — Mile marker 174 IH 20, traffic accident, one patient transported to SMCC.

6:26 p.m. — 1100 block of Wood, structure fire, extinguished.

6:57 p.m. — 3200 block of Auburn, public service, gas leak.

RECORDS

Tuesday's high 102
Tuesday's low 79
Record high 108 in 1998
Record low 56 in 1959
Average high 96
Average low 70
Precip. Tuesday 0.00
Month to date 0.09
Year to date 5.15
Sunrise Thursday 6:48 a.m.
Sunset Thursday 8:54 p.m.

Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home... (916) 267-8331

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL... 267-9288

Big Spring Herald... POSTMASTER: Send changes of address to Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, Texas, 79720.

Scenic Mountain Medical Center... 263-1211

DUNLAPS Your Fashion Headquarters... 267-8283

ALLAN'S FURNITURE... 267-6278

Terry's Kids Shoes... 1/2 PRICE SALE

G&M AUTO CARE... A/C Repair Service

BIG SPRING HERALD... 915-263-7331

Police

WASHINGTON Police say it is to determine whether search of Rep. G's apartment today solve the dispute former Washington who has been in weeks.

Police Chief Ramsey refused the search but said his deputy interested in 'ex lie-detector test' a California Denver volunteered to think it's in ever interest that that to put this to rest can once again finding Chandra Ramsey said "Good Morning A Levy, 24, a c who Good friend has a good friend, was April 30. A source with the case sa who is 53 and acknowledged to

Compaq

HOUSTON Compaq Computer hoped natural would allow it to s jobs — in addition layoffs — v announced it was turing earlier this But a sour econ ticularly in the te meanly Compaq we no place to go Houston-based maker said Tuesd terminate 4,000 m ers instead.

"Given the we wide economy, ou has been lower th ed, so we have a the process by

Bush as

WASHINGTON His legislative a jeopardy, Presiden asking fellow Re in Congress to l education reforr government prog religious groups r him a patients' r he's willing to sign

The president addressing the Republican Confere Capitol Hill before today with doctor least one patient White House. He meeting separate House Speaker Hastert and Senate Leader Trent Lott's legislative strategy

Officials said t dent will discuss h plan, trade and spending, but the f be on the top-tier outlined Monday tion, a religious and patients' right

"The president tinue to push for to move forward agenda before the recess," spok Claire Buchan said Bush's bid to ope ment programs to groups has run in tion from liberals servatives. The House fumbled at build broader sup scaled back the pr

The president's complicated Tues release of an inter by the Salvation A suggested the ad tion had cut a lega nation's largest c add its lobbying st Bush's battle.

The report said t istration would ba the Salvation receive federal pay social services ev groups won't hire lesbians.

Amid heavy crit White House abru its review of the regulation Wedne decided not to bac On patients' rig and Democrats di ly on the Rep demand that the lity of HMOs be li wants House Repu pass a bill to his force a compr Senate Democr already approved that Bush has thr

Police search Condit's apartment

WASHINGTON (AP) — Police say it is too early to determine whether their search of Rep. Gary Condit's apartment today will help solve the disappearance of a former Washington intern who has been missing for 10 weeks.

Police Chief Charles Ramsey refused to discuss what the search produced but said his department is interested in expediting a lie-detector test that Condit, a California Democrat, has volunteered to take. "We think it's in everyone's best interest that that take place to put this to rest so that we can once again focus on finding Chandra Levy," Ramsey said on ABC's "Good Morning America."

Levy, 24, a constituent who Condit has described as a good friend, was last seen April 30. A source familiar with the case said Condit, who is 53 and married, acknowledged to police last

week that he had a romantic affair with Levy.

Ramsey, interviewed on CBS' "The Early Show," said his officers were looking for "anything to connect Chandra Levy to that apartment, anything that would help us find her" when they searched the congressman's department in the capital's Adams Morgan neighborhood.

Ramsey's top deputy, Terrance Gainer, was more explicit when questioned by reporters before the search began late Tuesday. "What you're looking for could involve blood, hair, telltale signs of a struggle," Gainer said.

Levy's father, Dr. Robert Levy of Modesto, Calif., criticized police for waiting so long to search Condit's apartment. "If that's what they want to do now ... 10 weeks ago would have been a good time," he said. Ramsey rejected that criticism.

The disappearance of Levy is being treated by police as a missing-person case. Police have said repeatedly that Condit is not a suspect.

Condit was in the apartment throughout the search, which lasted more than three hours.

The congressman, who has said little publicly about the case, said nothing to reporters Tuesday as he went into a meeting of conservative Democrats at the Capitol. Later, he cast votes on the House floor and chatted with colleagues.

Levy was last seen April 30 when she canceled her membership at a Washington health club. Her internship with the federal Bureau of Prisons had just ended, and she was planning to return home to participate in graduation ceremonies at the University of Southern California.

Levy said police want a wide-ranging test. "Otherwise it is useless," he said.

However, Condit's lawyer, Abbe Lowell, indicated in an ABC interview Tuesday that he might insist on a far more limited test.

Redistricting board unveils varying plans

AUSTIN (AP) — Each member of the Legislative Redistricting Board offered a different map Tuesday of what the Texas Senate or Texas House should look like in the future.

House Speaker Pete Laney, the only Democrat on the board, and Attorney General John Cornyn proposed dueling maps for the Texas House. Lt. Gov. Bill Ratliff, Land Commissioner David Dewhurst and Comptroller Carole Keeton Rylander each had suggestions of how the lines should be drawn for the Texas Senate.

"I understand everybody only wants their fair share of undue influence," Ratliff joked after the maps were released.

Laney's and Ratliff's maps went the furthest toward protecting incumbent legislators; the other three maps attempted to tilt the Legislature toward future Republican Party domination.

Redistricting is the redrawing of political boundaries every 10 years based on new census figures. The Legislative Redistricting Board is overseeing the job because lawmakers failed to do it.

Any plan is expected to face a court challenge. Cornyn's proposal would force more incumbents from the 150-member House to run against each other than would Laney's plan. It also could give the GOP control of the body, meaning Laney might not win re-election as speaker in 2003.

"This was not an incumbent protection plan," Cornyn said.

Currently, Democrats control the House 78-72. Cornyn's proposal would create 22 open seats and could give Republicans about 88 seats overall.

Under his plan, 36 incumbents would be pitted against each other in 18 districts. Two other races each would have three incumbents — all Democrats — running against one another.

Reps. Patricia Gray of Galveston, Craig Eiland of Galveston and Zeb Zbrank of Winnie would have to square off. So would Reps. Ann Kitchen, Glen Maxey and Elliott Naishtat, all of Austin.

The plan attempts to keep the splitting of cities among legislative districts to a minimum, Cornyn said.

Laney's proposal is virtually the same as the one that was backed by Democrats and narrowly approved by the House in May.

Rep. Delwin Jones, R-Lubbock, a Laney loyalist whose redistricting committee came up with the House-approved plan, has said his proposal could allow Republicans to win about 80 seats. But it still could allow Laney to win re-election as speaker.

Laney said his plan preserves the core of existing districts where possible and minimizes the number of incumbent pairings, calling for only nine such races.

Compaq plans to terminate more employees

HOUSTON (AP) — Compaq Computer Corp. hoped natural attrition would allow it to shave 2,500 jobs — in addition to 4,500 layoffs — when it announced it was restructuring earlier this year.

But a sour economy, particularly in the tech sector, meant Compaq workers had no place to go. So the Houston-based computer maker said Tuesday it will terminate 4,000 more workers instead.

"Given the weak worldwide economy, our attrition has been lower than expected, so we have accelerated the process by including

these positions in the latest charge," Compaq chief financial officer Jeff Clarke said.

Compaq will take a restructuring charge of about \$490 million in the second quarter, which it said was mostly related to job cuts.

The company is expected to save \$900 million annually from the total reduction of 8,500 jobs, approximately 12 percent of the work force in early 2001.

So far, Compaq has laid off 3,500 workers from the initial round of cuts. Clarke said the remaining 1,000 terminations from the first

wave mostly will come in Houston and Erskine, Scotland.

Along with the job cuts, Compaq announced it will meet Wall Street's second-quarter expected earnings of 4 cents per share but will bring in only \$8.4 billion in revenue, short of a projected \$9 billion and a 17 percent plunge from \$10.13 billion in the year-ago quarter.

The computer maker blamed worsening economic conditions and intensifying price wars in Europe, particularly in the United Kingdom, Germany and Switzerland. Lehman Brothers analyst Daniel

Niles said Compaq's news, following warnings from chip maker Advanced Micro Devices Inc. and storage giant EMC, is troubling.

"You hear from EMC, AMD and now Compaq, and it starts to call into question a second-half (economic) recovery," Niles said.

Niles said Compaq's announcement boded much worse for the overall economy, and tech companies in particular, than for the company itself.

"In some senses Compaq's results aren't so bad, and the bottom line is coming in pretty much where it was guided to," Niles said.

Bush asks Republicans in Congress to pass reforms, government programs

WASHINGTON (AP) — His legislative agenda in jeopardy, President Bush is asking fellow Republicans in Congress to help pass education reforms, open government programs to religious groups and send him a patients' rights bill he's willing to sign.

The president was addressing the House Republican Conference on Capitol Hill before meeting today with doctors and at least one patient at the White House. He also was meeting separately with House Speaker Dennis Hastert and Senate Minority Leader Trent Lott to discuss legislative strategy.

Officials said the president will discuss his energy plan, trade and defense spending, but the focus will be on the top-tier issues he outlined Monday: education, a religious initiative and patients' rights.

"The president will continue to push for Congress to move forward with his agenda before the August recess," spokeswoman Claire Buchan said.

Bush's bid to open government programs to religious groups has run into opposition from liberals and conservatives. The White House fumbled attempts to build broader support and scaled back the program.

The president's case was complicated Tuesday with release of an internal report by the Salvation Army that suggested the administration had cut a deal with the nation's largest charity to add its lobbying strength to Bush's battle.

The report said the administration would back a regulation to allow charities like the Salvation Army to receive federal payments for social services even if the groups won't hire gays and lesbians.

Amid heavy criticism, the White House abruptly ended its review of the proposed regulation Wednesday and decided not to back it.

On patients' rights, Bush and Democrats differ mainly on the Republicans' demand that the legal liability of HMOs be limited. He wants House Republicans to pass a bill to his liking and force a compromise on Senate Democrats, who already approved a measure that Bush has threatened to

veto. Republican leaders fear Bush and his party would be punished by voters if he vetoes the popular measure.

The House and Senate have passed separate versions of Bush's plan to use

federal aid as leverage with failing schools and measure school performance by annual math and reading tests of students.

The differences must be reconciled before a bill is sent to Bush.

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JULY 11 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.

Ken Dulaney
Publisher
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Managing Editor
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News Editor

OUR VIEWS

Mentally ill children need our help, too

It's tough enough, as we all know, for children to prepare for school when they don't have the proper materials — paper, pencils, notebooks. It's equally demoralizing when they have to wear clothes and shoes that are stained, torn or have holes in them.

Imagine then, trying to cope with that embarrassment as a mentally ill child. West Texas Centers for Mental Health Mental Retardation is hoping to ensure that children in our area do not have to endure that humiliation.

"When they wear new clothes to school, their self-esteem improves immensely," says Monika Kennemur, West Texas Centers' School House Angel Project coordinator. "The child feels normalized. They don't feel like they are an outcast or seen as different. We try to make them understand that their illness is not their fault."

The project began this month. The cardboard schoolhouse is located at Wal-Mart. On it are 63 — or fewer, by now, we hope — pink and blue angels, each with a code number representing boys and girls with mental illness. The angel includes the child's favorite color, special requests and clothing size. Requested items range from undergarments to socks to pairs of pants and shirts.

Shoppers are encouraged to select an angel and purchase items for a child. Or, if they would prefer, they can donate money which will be used to purchase clothing. In doing so, you'll be giving that child a fresh start.

Last year, 10 children were helped with funds set aside. This year, the effort is to reach out to each of these 63 children.

We hope that you'll consider helping one of these youngsters. With a little time, a little money and a lot of love, you can make a difference.

OTHER VIEWS

Texas voters will decide 19 constitutional amendments in November, but none seem closer to the heart of Gov. Rick Perry than Proposition 2. That's the plan dubbed the Texas Mobility Fund, a three-provision plan designed to speed up roadway construction by freeing up state money.

Perry already is lobbying for its passage. The concept is a major makeover of the way the state approaches the business of constructing roads and highways.

Under the plan, the Texas Department of Transportation would issue bonds for building roads. That's a huge departure from the long-standing pay-as-you-go system TxDOT has used.

Under the current system, TxDOT must have all funds needed for new projects before construction can begin. That often delays projects for years.

Under the second part of the Texas Mobility Fund, lawmakers could allot startup money to construct toll roads without requiring repayment. Toll dollars would offset the rest of the project's cost. The toll equity frees up existing funds to be used for other projects in the area.

Finally, the legislation also would eliminate the Texas Turnpike Authority and shift its responsibility to the Transportation Department.

It's clear that Texas' highways, roads and bridges are not adequate to serve the burgeoning amount of traffic.

Highway capacity has increased 0.25 percent a year for the past seven years while Texas motorists have increased their travel by 4.1 percent annually. Expanded NAFTA trade also has added to the traffic growth, causing gridlock along the Interstate 35 corridor.

Texas has the nation's largest state highway system, yet ranks 47th in highway funding per person. Where the state once spent 30 cents of every budget dollar on roads, it now spends 8 cents.

Perry's desire to accelerate highway construction and maintenance makes sense. The money that could be leveraged through bonds would allow many projects to move forward more rapidly. But the key question is whether the debt that will be incurred is worth it. That's what voters must decide.

LONGVIEW NEWS-JOURNAL

Why didn't someone try to intervene?

For weeks, I've avoided the Chandra Levy story, reading almost nothing about the missing intern who disappeared in Washington, D.C., April 30, the day before she was to return home to receive her master's degree from the University of Southern California.

I've avoided all the sleazy speculation about whether Congressman Gary Condit (D-Calif.) was having an affair with the 25-year-old woman or whether he might be involved in her disappearance, switching channels when news reports came on or simply skipping the newspaper articles.

There are more than 443 active missing persons cases in Washington alone since the beginning of the year, and tens of thousands nationwide. It hasn't made sense to me why this one deserves so much more attention than the others.

Chandra Levy's disappearance is an enormous personal tragedy for Miss Levy's family. But the story didn't seem to me to have much more than voyeuristic relevance for the rest of us. I've now changed my mind.

It happened when Miss Levy's aunt decided to go public with accusations that her niece had told her she was having an affair with the 53-year-old, married congressman. Suddenly I was curious — no, outraged. "You mean this young woman confided in an adult family member that she was having an affair with a man twice her age, who happened not only to be a member of Congress, but married as well, and this aunt did nothing to try to stop it?" I fumed to my friend.

It was Monica Lewinsky all over again — a young, impressionable woman involved with a powerful, married man, confiding in a sympathetic, adult family member (in Monica's case, her mother) who thought it best to remain non-judgmental.

Now, this is a story for our times. One that says something about what kind of society we've become, what our obligations to

family members are, and what our values are. Unfortunately, no one seems interested in pursuing this particular storyline — which is hardly surprising, since doing so might require making some judgments along the way.

We may never know whether Chandra Levy's affair with a married congressman (which he has now admitted to the police) had anything to do with her mysterious disappearance. One thing is clear: This young woman — described by friends as "a cool cookie, very sophisticated, very directed and strong" — was involved in an exploitive, destructive relationship that could only hurt her and others as well. Somebody needed to tell her that. It appears no one did.

The relationship between a married politician and a Washington intern is none of our business. We've heard this mantra since the Clinton-Lewinsky affair. And by repeating it often enough, we're led to believe that we must suspend judgment about such relationships as well. The whole thing is downright creepy. We know such behavior is wrong, but we can't say so. That would make us judge-

mental — and there's no worse crime in our value-free society.

Worse, we've now extended the ban against stating a moral objection not just to strangers but to family as well. How many parents today are afraid to tell their children that they don't approve of their behavior, especially if the kids happen to be young adults? We might lose our kids' confidence and friendship. Better they talk to us than keep things secret, which they surely would if we were actually to voice our disapproval.

But what is the point? Isn't the whole reason parents want their children's confidence in the first place so that they can provide them with proper guidance?

Maybe nothing could have saved Chandra Levy from disappearing. But her parents certainly had the right to know that their daughter was involved in a risky, damaging relationship with an unscrupulous, powerful, older man. My bet is, they wish now they had been able to intervene.

Making judgments is what being a parent is all about, especially when it comes to the welfare of our children.



LINDA CHAVEZ



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The Republican Party's rising star

Vice President Richard Cheney's latest heart episode kicked off another round of speculation about who might replace him should the burden of his job prove too much.

Republicans don't expect Cheney to remain on the ticket in 2004 regardless because President Bush will want to position somebody to be his successor should he win a second term. Cheney could not be that person, given his history of heart disease. The Republican leadership on Capitol Hill is also in turmoil. House Speaker Dennis Hastert, R-Ill., is busy beating back rumors that he might retire, while Senate Minority Leader Trent Lott, R-Miss., has been a disappointment to his party and may be challenged.

Preliminary positioning for these jobs is already underway, and the bench is thin. There are only two superstars in the GOP: Secretary of State Colin Powell and Senator John McCain, R-Ariz.



JACK ANDERSON

Some Republicans dream of a Bush-Powell ticket as a way to instantly realign the electorate in the GOP's favor.

But the fear is that Powell would overshadow the president, and it is hard to imagine Bush willingly placing himself in that situation. Bush would never choose McCain, the closest thing to a blood rival since the days of Lyndon Johnson and Bobby Kennedy. McCain is also stymied in Congress, where Republicans view him with a mixture of suspicion and envy.

Sorting through the politics and the personalities, the name that regularly comes up is Senator Bill Frist, R-Tenn., a former pediatric heart surgeon who was first elected in 1994 and won a second, six-year term last year. He is talented, trusted by his colleagues and conservative enough to pass muster with the GOP's right wing. He is

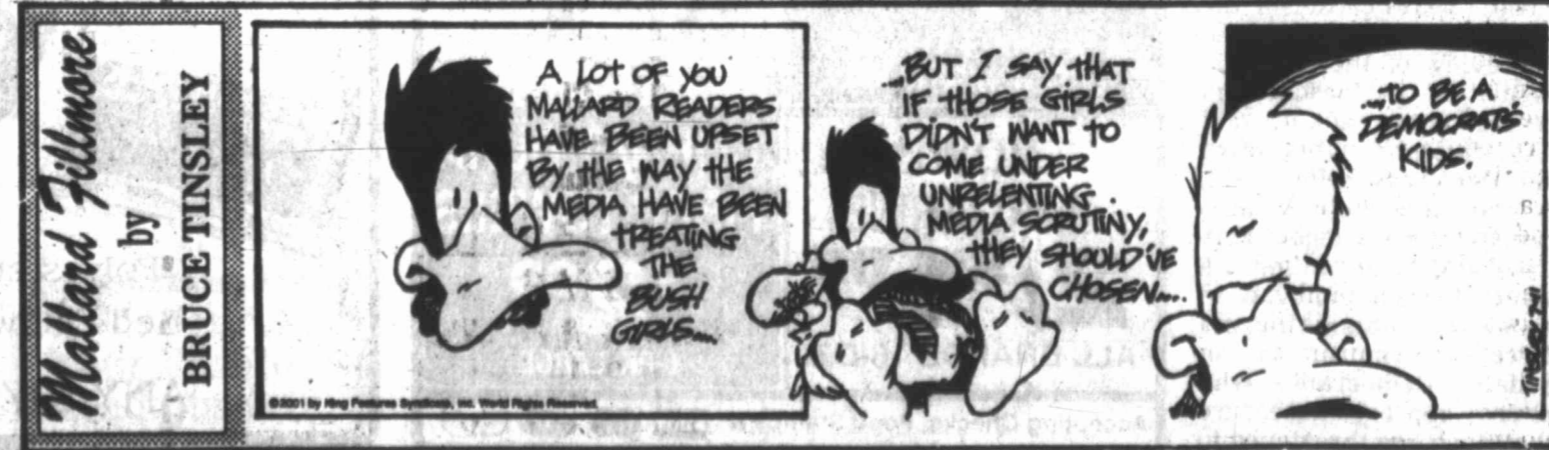
quietly being promoted as Cheney's successor as Bush's running mate, and as one of the party's brightest rising stars in the Senate. Republicans urgently need a counterweight to their House congressional leadership, which called stem-cell research laboratories that use discarded embryos from fertility clinics "factories of death." Speaker Hastert declined to lend his name to the inflammatory language, adding to the impression in Washington that he is not fully in charge.

In the Senate, Trent Lott appears to be on the down slope. Republicans grumble that Lott is regularly outmaneuvered by Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle, D-S.D., who is getting a lot of airtime to promote Democratic issues. Frist would be the first choice of many Republicans to succeed Lott, but he would have to leap over Lott's understudy, Oklahoma Sen. Don Nickles. In a body where seniority rules, that may be problematical. Frist was on the side of the HMOs in the debate over a patients' bill of rights. That may not

endear him to the voters, but he is more progressive than many of his colleagues, who resisted any bill at all.

Frist's brand of temperate conservatism is what the marketing consultants say will sell. He is so popular in his home state of Tennessee that the Gore campaign concluded last year that if Frist or his fellow home-state senator, Fred Thompson, were on the ticket, Al Gore would concede the state. As it turned out, Gore lost the state anyway. But Democrats have been watching their political radar screens for some time, knowing that Frist would pop up sooner or later as the man to beat.

Frist is mild-mannered and has a winning smile when he's invited on the talk shows. Contrast that with the hardline rhetoric and the dour look of GOP House leaders Dick Armey and Tom DeLay. Like a phoenix rising from the ashes, Frist is the new look for the GOP, even if his brand of "compassionate conservatism" means modulation more than moderation.



Coalition

NEW YORK
Worried that could open the door to a coalition of religious leaders and policy experts to amend the U.S. Constitution with a declaration that marriage can only be between a man and a woman.

Report immediately financial

A lost or stolen credit card becomes an expensive liability, so you take the immediate steps to protect your money.

You really have a brief window of opportunity to limit your liability, so it's important to take immediate action when you find out that your card had been lost or stolen.

First, notify your credit card issuer immediately. You have more than 60 days to report a lost or stolen card, but the sooner you report it, the better. Write a follow-up letter giving your credit card number, the specific date it was lost or stolen, and date you reported it.

Fraudulent use of credit cards generally occurs within the first 60 days after the loss. The sooner the problem is reported, the greater the chances of stopping one from using it without permission.

The Fair Credit Billing Act limits your liability when your credit card becomes lost or stolen. You report the problem before someone else uses it, your credit card issuer is legally held responsible for any unauthorized charges. However, credit cards are used by

NASA launch

CAPE CANAVERAL (AP) — Ever since Apollo 11 crossed Apollo 12, NASA has never given spaceflight the nod. And never in its history did it launch a space shuttle on Friday the 13th.

That may change Friday. With stormy weather looming, space shuttle Atlantis and its crew have a little better chance of a before dawn Thursday launch than the shuttle's first mission. If Thursday washout, NASA will launch Atlantis the 13th.

No one — not managers, not technicians, not astronauts — is expressing any serious concern.

It will be but usual, insists NASA, that nevertheless, the launch of the shuttle serves up a little of every launch. The director's tie is his first launch. The brass don't go and other gear for the stage of a countdown. The agency wink winks carrying charms into space. NASA test director Spaulding will be top men in the field.

Coalition wants to block courts from promoting gay marriage

NEW YORK (AP) — Worried that courts might open the door to gay marriage, a coalition of religious leaders and family-policy experts wants to amend the U.S. Constitution with a declaration that marriage can only be between a man and a woman.

The Federal Marriage Amendment, to be presented Thursday at a news conference in Washington, would require ratification by both houses of Congress and the legislatures of 38 states to become law.

Gay-rights advocates describe the initiative as "gay-bashing," while its backers say the amendment would prevent judges from

setting family policies that lack public support.

Matt Daniels, executive director of the Alliance for Marriage, said coalition members decided to propose the amendment because of fears that Vermont's year-old civil union law — granting marriage-like rights to same-sex couples — would spawn lawsuits nationwide by gays seeking similar rights.

"Let's challenge the homosexual movement to play fair on the playing field of democracy," Daniels said. "If they want the benefits of marriage allocated to a wider circle of groups, they need to convince the majority of people that it's the

right thing."

The idea of a marriage amendment was raised in 1998 by an alliance of conservative Christian groups. Daniels' coalition doesn't include those organizations, but its 45-member advisory board has a strong religious tilt, including leaders of major black denominations, an Episcopal bishop, several Roman Catholic officials, and representatives of Jewish and Muslim groups.

Its lay members include professors from Princeton University, Amherst College and the law, schools of Harvard, Notre Dame and Louisiana State.

Daniels said members of Congress from both parties

were prepared to support the amendment, but their names will be released later — not at Thursday's news conference.

"We believe this is more important than partisan politics, so we'll announce it with no politicians at the microphone," he said.

Thirty-four states already have adopted so-called "defense of marriage" laws, defining marriage as the union of a man and a woman. Daniels is optimistic that enough state legislatures would ratify the proposed amendment for it to pass.

However, he said it might take several years to mobilize enough support in

Congress. There have been 27 amendments to the Constitution — only one of them ratified since 1971.

"Congress won't act until the situation is more alarming to more people," Daniels said. "It will require more developments in the courts — but I have no doubt that it will happen."

Vermont legislators enacted the civil union bill last year in compliance with a state Supreme Court order saying same-sex couples were entitled to the same rights as heterosexual married couples.

Since then, more than 2,300 civil union ceremonies have been performed in Vermont, mostly involving

out-of-staters.

Opponents of gay marriage predict that increasing numbers of those non-Vermont couples will turn to the courts in their own states, seeking recognition of their union.

One such case is now before Georgia's Court of Appeals, while seven Massachusetts couples have sued to overturn their state's ban on same-sex marriages.

The spokesman for a major gay-rights organization, David Smith of the Human Rights Campaign, denounced the proposed amendment as "a mean-spirited attack on gay families."

Report credit card loss immediately to avoid financial headaches

A lost or stolen credit card can become very expensive unless you take the immediate steps to protect yourself.

You really have a brief window of opportunity to limit your liability, so it's important to take immediate action when you find out that your card had been lost or stolen.



DANA TARTER

First, notify your creditor(s) immediately. If you have more than one card lost or stolen, contact each creditor by phone. Then write a follow-up letter giving your credit card number, the specific time, and date it was lost or stolen, and date you called them to report it.

Fraudulent use of stolen credit cards generally happens within the first few days after the loss, so the sooner the problem is reported, the greater the chances of stopping someone from using it without permission.

The Fair Credit Billing Act limits your legal liability when your card becomes lost or stolen. If you report the problem before someone else uses them, your creditor cannot legally hold you responsible for any unauthorized charges. However, if your cards are used before you

have a chance to call creditors, you will owe a maximum of \$50 for unauthorized charges.

Keep a list of account numbers and telephone numbers of creditors for immediate access if necessary. Keep the list up-to-date and filed in a safe place, such as a home lock box or safety deposit box.

Sign up for a credit card registration and protection service offered by many credit card companies.

This type of service usually costs up to \$30, but if your cards are lost or stolen, you only need to make one phone call to the protection service instead of calls to each creditor. They may be a good option if you travel frequently and carry a lot of credit cards, but it's still important to keep updated.

Contact the credit bureaus and for a "fraud alert" to be placed on your file, which is especially important if your purse or billfold is stolen. All someone needs is your driver's license and a credit card and they can open several charge accounts in your name.

Finally, review your bills carefully for any unauthorized charges. If you find a suspicious transaction, send a letter to your credit card company noting that charge and specific information about the loss of your card.

The only person who can protect your rights with lost or stolen credit cards is you. Taking immediate action will certainly save you money and financial headaches.

Brush with 'Pomeranians' wins worst writing

SAN JOSE, Calif. (AP) — Sera Kirk was strolling through the countryside, enjoying the sunshine, when a furry little dog — a Pomeranian — barged out of a hedge and began yipping at her feet.

She quieted the animal and resumed her walk, but inspiration had struck. The tiny dog formed the basis of her winning entry Monday in the 20th annual Bulwer-Lytton Fiction Contest — given to the writer who can come up with the worst beginning to an imaginary novel.

Kirk, a 44-year-old legal secretary in Vancouver,

British Columbia, took the honor with the following sentence:

"A small assortment of astonishingly loud brass instruments raced each other lustily to the respective ends of their distinct musical choices as the gates flew open to release a torrent of tawny fur comprised of angry yapping bullets that nipped at Desdemona's ankles, causing her to reflect once again (as blood filled her sneakers and she fought her way through the panicking crowd) that the annual Running of the Pomeranians in Liechtenstein was a stupid idea."

The award was created by the English department at San Jose State University to promote word play. It is named for the Victorian novelist Edward George Bulwer-Lytton, whose 1830 novel "Paul Clifford" began with the instant cliché, "It was a dark and stormy night..."

This year's contest drew thousands of entries from around the world, according to San Jose State Professor Scott Rice. Winners and runners-up were named in several categories, but only Kirk takes home the cash prize — \$250.

"In keeping with the char-

acter and dignity of the contest, we prefer to describe it as: the winner receives a pittance," Rice said.

The second-place entry, by Julie Stangeland of Seal Beach, Calif., also employed an animal theme:

"The lone monarch butterfly flew flutteringly through the cemetery, dancing on and glancing against headstone after headstone before alighting atop Willie Mitchell's already lowered casket, causing gasps of awe to fly from the open mouths of five or six lingering mourners, until a big shovelful of dirt landed on it and it died."

Everly Brothers, 11 others to receive 'fame'

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — The Everly Brothers, Sam Phillips, Waylon Jennings and "Whisperin'" Bill Anderson are among 12 acts to be inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame this fall, the Country Music Association announced Monday.

Also to be inducted during a dinner Oct. 4 in Nashville: the Delmore Brothers, Don Gibson, Homer & Jethro, the Jordanaires, Don Law, The Louvin Brothers, Ken Nelson and Webb Pierce. The inductees will also be recognized during the CMA Awards, which will be broadcast Nov. 7 on CBS.

"I can't talk for grinning," said Anderson, a star of the Grand Ole Opry radio show. "I've tried never to get caught up in wondering about this sort of thing, but now that it's happened it is very exciting."

"These past couple weeks have been an emotional roller coaster, with (guitarist) Chet (Atkins) and (singer) Johnny (Russell) dying."

The CMA, which usually inducts two or three per-

formers a year, is having the one-time mass induction as part of festivities around the opening of a new Hall of Fame building this summer.

Phillips and Anderson are this year's regular inductees, while the rest have been finalists at least three times over the years. It will be the largest class ever inducted into the Hall of

Fame, said Ed Benson, executive director for the CMA.

"It's a good mixture of people who are deserving and have been nominated a lot over the years, but haven't made it for one reason or another," Benson said.

Perhaps the most interesting inductee is Jennings, who has been critical over

the years of the CMA, a trade organization which promotes country music.

One of country music's "outlaws," Jennings was known for solo hits including "I'm a Rambler Man" and "Mammas Don't Let Your Babies Grow Up to Be Cowboys" and duets with Willie Nelson such as "Luckenbach, Texas."

NASA confronts possibility launching on Friday the 13th

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — Ever since star-crossed Apollo 13, NASA has never given a manned spaceflight the number 13. And never in its history has it launched a spaceship on Friday the 13th.

That may change this Friday.

With stormy weather looming, space shuttle Atlantis and its crew of five have a little better than even chance of lifting off before dawn Thursday on a space station construction mission. If Thursday is a washout, NASA will try to launch Atlantis on Friday the 13th.

No one — not the shuttle managers, not the astronauts themselves — is expressing any superstitious concern.

It will be business as usual, insists the agency that nevertheless countenances all sorts of rituals: NASA serves up beans after every launch. The launch director's tie is cut off after his first liftoff. Some of the brass don good-luck caps and other gear for the final stage of a countdown. And the agency winks at astronauts' carrying good-luck charms into space.

NASA test director Jeff Spaulding will be one of the top men in the firing room

on launch morning, and even he was wondering whether the space agency would attempt a liftoff on the 13th. So he asked his bosses. Their answer: Go for launch.

Apollo 13 left for the moon on April 11, 1970, a Saturday. The spacecraft's oxygen tank exploded two days later, on April 13.

In 1984, the 13th shuttle flight was called 41-G because of a complicated new numbering sequence that was adopted with the 10th mission. Flight 41-G was largely trouble-free.

NASA's chief historian, Roger Launius, warned against reading too much into the fact that there has never been another manned mission numbered 13 or a Friday the 13th manned launch.

"To the best of my knowledge, it's coincidental and

my surmises from talking to lots of engineers over the years are that they are notoriously non-superstitious," Launius said Tuesday.

Indeed, STS-113, the 113th shuttle flight, is coming next year.

A few unmanned spacecraft carried the designation 13, most notably NASA's 13th Pioneer space probe and NOAA-13, a weather satellite developed by NASA. Pioneer 13, though, was more commonly known as Pioneer Venus 2, and NOAA-13 conked out 12 days after launch.

Steven Lindsey, commander of Atlantis' 11-day mission to deliver and install a new air lock for the international space station, insisted he is not superstitious. "Doesn't bother me at all," he said.

Then repeated: "Doesn't bother me at all."

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IN BRIEF

Big Spring golfer is threat in tourney

Big Spring golfer Steve Ward is tied for 10th place after the first round of the Hollywood Casino Texas State Open with a score of 70.

Ward is tied with six other golfers and is three shots behind the leaders.

The Northern Texas PGA tournament is being held at the Links at Water Chase in Fort Worth.

They are competing for \$95,000 in the 72-hole event with the winner taking home over \$16,000. Leading the pack are Joey Gullion of Dallas and Michael Connell of Richardson with scores of 67.

The tournament is contested over 72-holes, but the field will be cut to 55 players after 36 holes of competition are completed Thursday.

Rose Magers-Powell volleyball camp set

The Rose Magers-Powell Volleyball Camp will be held July 16-18 at Steer Gym.

The camp is open to second graders through high school seniors.

Fees for second to fifth graders is \$55, it will be \$70 for sixth to eighth graders and \$95 for high school athletes.

Sessions for grades 6-8 will be 9 a.m. until 12:30 p.m., while those in grades 2-5 will attend from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. High school campers will work from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Game strategy, as well as fundamentals of playing volleyball will be stressed.

Registration fees may be mailed to Traci Pierce at 2711 Rebecca, Big Spring 79720.

Black Gold tourney set for Friday start

The Big Spring Black Gold Tennis Tournament has been scheduled for Friday through Sunday at the Figure 7 Tennis Center in Comanche Trail Park.

Play will be conducted in boys and girls singles, doubles and mixed doubles in five age divisions.

Fees will be \$15 for one event, \$20 for two and \$25 for three.

For more information, call Wendy Justiss at 398-5485.

Golf tournament set for July 21

A benefit golf tournament for St. Mary's Episcopal School will be held at 8 a.m. Saturday, July 21, at Big Spring Country Club.

The tourney will use a four-person scramble format and the cost is \$75 per player.

Prizes will be awarded to the first, fifth and last place teams. Lunch will be provided.

More information is available by calling Beverly Alford at 263-0203.

YMCA swim team seeks competitors

The Big Spring YMCA Swim Team is currently competing in long course meets.

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

Senior Class to hold ragball tournament

There will be a ragball tournament sponsored by the Big Spring High School senior class on Friday and Saturday.

For more information contact Brittany Bryant at 267-1011.

ON THE AIR

Television
BASKETBALL
8 p.m. — Los Angeles Sparks at Phoenix Mercury, ESPN, Ch. 30.

Big Spring Steers take 21-2 record to San Angelo Saturday

By DOUG LAW
Sports Editor

The Big Spring Steers 7-on-7 football team are on a roll with a 21-2 record and travel to San Angelo Saturday to compete against 16 teams who have qualified for the 7-on-7 State Championship Tournament.

"We have a bunch of kids who are really skilled at catching the ball and covering people," Big Spring Steers coach Mark Choate said. "It was a real surprise to me as we have a real young team with only four seniors."

Word is getting around about the

talented Steers football players as Big Spring High School coach Butler said he talked with a FOX television representative from Portland, Ore., who knew of their success. The Steers have dropped only two games out of 23 games in the summer series, dropping a close 33-32 loss to Odessa High School and a 16-14 loss to Artesia, N.M.

Saturday, the Steers will compete against teams who have qualified for the state championship. The state championship will be played July 20-21 at Texas A&M University in College Station.

Teams from Big Spring, Brownwood, Abilene, Odessa and

Waco will compete in the tournament.

Members of the Steers 7-on-7 team are: Mike Ornales, Jerrod Phillips, Tye Butler, Curtis Woodruff, Jordan Cobb, Josh Mathews, Dustyn Beauchamp, Eric Chavez, Josh Pedigo, Wesley Smith, Jarrod Boyd, Adam Solis, Brandon Mendoza, Raul Garza, Clarence Wilkins and Mike Smith.

They are coached not only by Choate, but Randy Phillips and Phillip Smith as well.

"The 7-on-7 tournament teaches the kids how to cover pass routes as the receivers have only four seconds to pass the ball," Smith said.

"We've been fortunate as only 64 Texas teams have qualified for the State Championship out of over 1,000 teams."

Last fall the Steers lost to Wichita Falls during the Class 4A regional finals. The is the second year the Steers have competed in the summer league.

"The Steers have a lot of sophomores and juniors on the team with only four seniors," Phillips noted, which could help a Big Spring High School team that will be rebuilding this fall.

The state championship will be held the following weekend at College Station.

American League All-Stars make it five straight with 4-1 victory

SEATTLE (AP) — Hey Cal! Care to reconsider?

Cal Ripken, baseball's reluctant hero, gave himself one last All-Star victory lap before retiring. And he gave baseball one more reason to thank him.

Ripken homered and won the MVP award Tuesday night, highlighting the American League's 4-1 victory over the Nationals, the AL's fifth straight All-Star win.

"This one, I think I came in with my eyes open a little wider," he said.

"When you know it's your last one and you know that there will be no more, you tend to look around and take it in and appreciate it."

What began as a trip down memory lane — Ripken started at shortstop, at Alex Rodriguez's suggestion — wound up with him taking a glorious trip around the bases, cheered by Tony Gwynn and every other All-Star.

"He stepped up and did something magical the way he has done his whole career," Arizona outfielder Luis Gonzalez said. "He is an ambassador to the game of baseball and to the fans and to the players."

And he can still play a little, too.

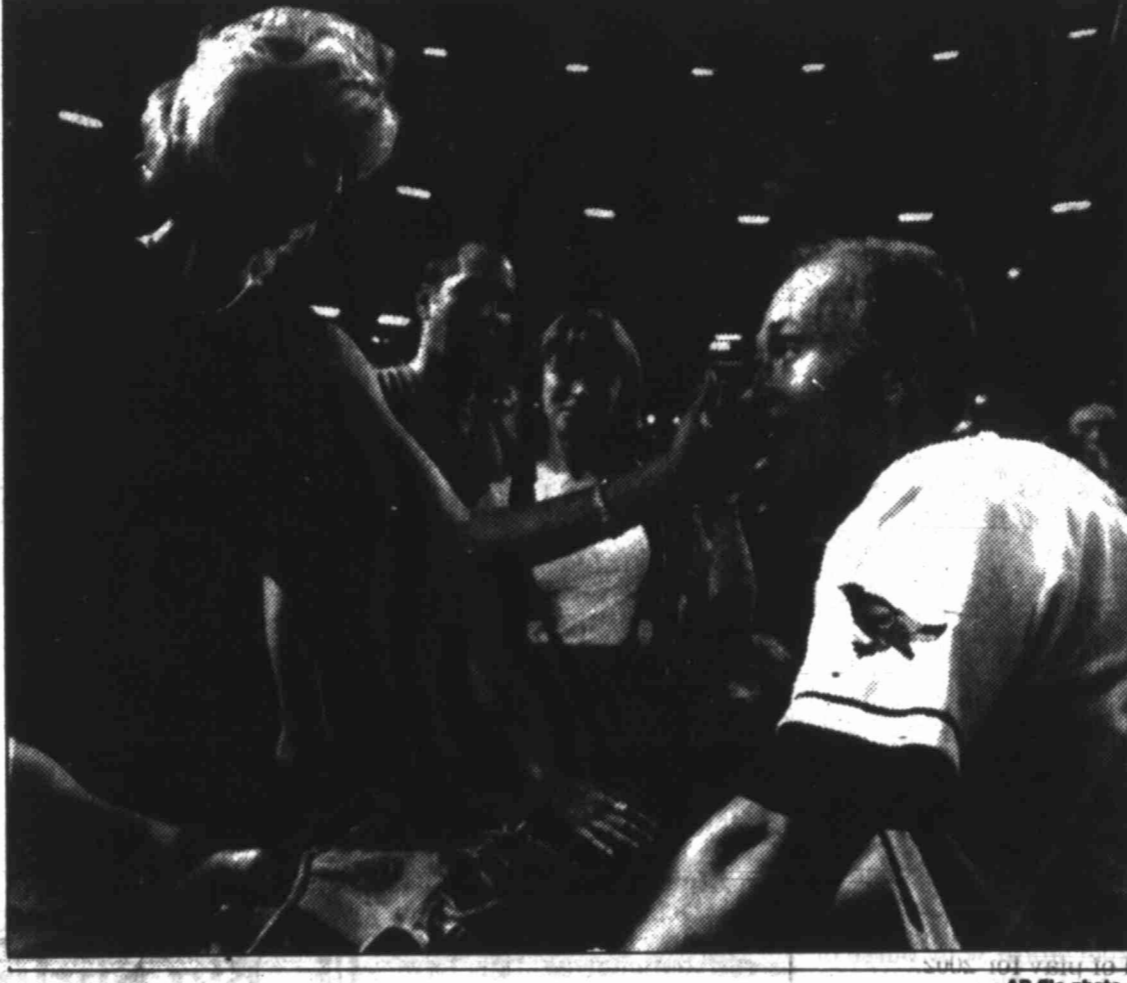
Less than a month after announcing he'd retire at the end of the season, Ripken became the first AL player to win a pair of All-Star MVP awards.

"It's just been a great deal of fun my whole career. The All-Star games, I've been able to go to a whole lot of them, but this is by far the most special," the Baltimore third baseman said.

His homer easily was the best moment in a game that saw Roger Clemens finally face Mike Piazza. There was no drama there, though someone was later hit by the shattered barrel of a bat — NL honorary manager Tommy Lasorda.

Derek Jeter and Magglio Ordonez connected for consecutive home runs for the AL.

Ichiro Suzuki, the most popular player in Seattle these days, singled and stole a base as the AL cut its deficit to 40-31-1. The Mariners got a record eight



Cal Ripken Jr., receives congratulations from his wife after eclipsing Lou Gehrig's record for most consecutive games in September of 1995. Ripken upstaged other sluggers with a home run in his final All-Star Game appearance Tuesday as the American League defeated the National League 4-1 in Seattle. See related story, Page 7.

players into the game. But it was Ripken's night.

At 40, Ripken supplanted Stan Musial as the oldest player to homer in an All-Star game, Ripken's other All-Star homer came in 1991, when he was MVP.

After stepping out to acknowledge a standing ovation, Ripken hit Char Ho Park's first pitch of the third inning over the left-field fence.

"I swung and made good contact and the ball went out of the ballpark and I felt like I was flying around the bases," Ripken said.

Gwynn, who will retire with Ripken after this season, applauded from the opposing dugout. NL pitcher Curt Schilling caught the moment on his camcorder and NL third baseman Chipper Jones clapped into his glove as Ripken rounded the bag that had been stamped with his No. 8.

"It's an amazing moment," Park said. "It was the first pitch ever in an All-Star game for me and probably the last home run for Mr. Ripken."

Ever humble, Ripken had to be coaxed out of the dugout by the sellout crowd of 47,364 at Safeco Field for a curtain call.

"When he hit that ball, I said, 'Oh, wow!'" Gwynn said. "There's really only a couple of people in this game who could do that."

"It happened on his night." Later, the game was stopped as players joined commissioner Bud Selig in a six-minute ceremony before the sixth inning to say goodbye to Ripken and Gwynn. Video tributes were shown on scoreboard, which flashed, "Thanks Cal and Tony."

"It's been a great run," Ripken told the fans.

Two years ago, in baseball's last All-Star lovefest, Ripken and Gwynn supported Ted Williams when he threw the first ball at Fenway Park.

A fitting farewell for Ripken. Many credit him for saving baseball after a strike wiped out the 1994 World Series, punctuated by him breaking Lou

Gehrig's consecutive games record the next season.

His brown hair now gray, Ripken played in his 18th All-Star game and finished up watching from the dugout with his 7-year-old son, Ryan.

Ripken's first All-Star game came in 1983, when Johnny Bench and Carl Yastrzemski played for the last time.

Gwynn, added as an honorary member, did not get to hit. The eight-time NL batting champion from San Diego said he was more than content to follow the festivities from the dugout.

Seattle's Freddy Garcia was the winning pitcher and teammate Kazuhiro Sasaki completed the three-hitter and got the save. Park took the loss.

Jeter, part of the new breed of shortstops who have carried on Ripken's legacy, and Ordonez homered off Jon Lieber in the sixth.

Right before the first pitch, Rodriguez surprised

See ALL-STARS, Page 7

Armstrong returns to site of past triumph

VERDUN, France (AP) — In 1993, Lance Armstrong became the youngest cyclist since World War II to win a stage of the Tour de France by riding to victory in Verdun.

Eight years, a case of life-threatening cancer and two tour titles later, Armstrong is returning to the city where his campaign for cycling's ultimate prize began.

"It's a special one because the arrival is in Verdun," the Texan said before Wednesday's fourth stage of the 2001 Tour. The leg was to take riders from Huy, Belgium, to this eastern French town, scene of one of World War I's bloodiest battles.

"It will be a tough one again," Armstrong said.

The last time Armstrong rode into Verdun on the tour, he was 21. Riders he beat that day included the eventual race winner, Miguel Indurain.

Now 29, Armstrong is two-fifths of the way to equalling Indurain's remarkable five consecutive tour victories. He is the favorite to win this year's race, but has yet to make an impact on the standings, holding seventh place overall after Tuesday's stage.

It's a situation Armstrong is happy to accept, for now.

"Not having the yellow jersey means we don't have to control the race," the U.S. Postal Service rider said.

He is expected to rise in the standings once the tour reaches the tougher mountain stages in the Alps and the Pyrenees, halfway through the three-week event.

Stuart O'Grady started Wednesday's stage, a 133.52-mile stretch through the wooded Ardennes hills of southern Belgium and northeastern France, in the yellow jersey signifying the race leader. His successful bid on Tuesday for the overall lead was all the sweeter for his narrow miss the day before.

"Monday night was probably the most disappointing day of my life on the bike," he said. "I felt like the guy who misses the penalty kick in the final of the soccer World Cup."

He was overtaken by Marc Wauters in the final half-mile of Monday's second stage and was unable to regain the lead. O'Grady got his revenge when Wauters finished the third stage more than 6 minutes off the pace and lost his overall lead.

Armstrong placed 10th in Tuesday's all-Belgian stage between Antwerp and Seraing. He led for a few seconds in the mass sprint toward the finish, but was overtaken and Germany's Erik Zabel won the stage.

It was the 10th stage win of Zabel's career, which spans five tours. He won Sunday's first stage between St. Omer and Boulogne in another sprint finish.

Armstrong is battling to notch his third straight Tour de France victory.

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL

DETROIT TIGERS—Agreed terms with OF David Mattie, R James Gonzalez, LHP Jonath Conroy and RHP Thomas Lyons.

MINNESOTA TWINS—Agreed terms with RHP Scott Tyler.

NATIONAL LEAGUE
PITTSBURGH PIRATES—Traded Emil Brown to the San Diego Pad for RHP Shawn Camp and OF She Garret.

BASKETBALL
National Basketball Association
NBA—Named Renny Foye senior director-global media pro- ties and internet marketing.

BOSTON CELTICS—Signed G K. Johnson, GF Kendrick Brown and Joseph Forte.

CHARLOTTE HORNETS—Signed Kirk Hinton to a three-year contract.

MEMPHIS GRIZZLIES—Signed Shane Battler to a three-year contract.

FOOTBALL
National Football League
CINCINNATI BENGALS—Agreed terms with OL Victor Leary on a three-year contract.

JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS—Signed CB Kory Blackwell, G LeShun Dani DL Donald Broomfield and WR Damon Gibson. Waived S K. Cooks, CB Nate Gates and LB Ja Nikolas.

SAN DIEGO CHARGERS—Nir Dennis Abraham pro scout and a Biele college scout.

TENNESSEE TITANS—Agreed terms with RB Don Alexander.

WASHINGTON REDSKINS—Signed KR Michael Bates to a two-year contract. Signed SS Jason Kaiser and Central McClellan.

HOCKEY
National Hockey League
BOSTON BRUINS—Signed F J. Hilbert to a three-year contract.

COLUMBUS BLUE JACKETS—Signed RW David Ling and D D. Scoville.

DALLAS STARS—Signed C I. Kaparen and LW M. J. Healy to two-year contracts. Signed C J. Montgomery to a one-year contract.

FLORIDA PANTHERS—Signed Jeff Hoggan to a three-year contract.

LOS ANGELES KINGS—Agreed terms with D Jaroslav Modry on a year contract and RW Jaroslav Be on a one-year contract.

NEW YORK ISLANDERS—Agreed terms with RW Mariusz Czerka on a three-year contract.

NEW YORK RANGERS—Agreed terms with G Vitali Yaremeyev.

PITTSBURGH PENGUINS—Signed F Robert Dome. Tendered a quali contract offer to G John Heber.

TAMPA BAY LIGHTNING—Traded Ryan Johnson and a 2003 sixth draft pick to the Florida Panthers for Vlastek Prospal.

WNBA
Tuesday's Games
Cleveland 59, Seattle 53
Miami 65, Orlando 63, OT
Minnesota 73, Portland 52
Los Angeles 79, Utah 67
Sacramento 78, Houston 76

IOC

Continued from Page 6

five Olympic rings

Police detained people, although no were immediately There were no injuries.

On the drug test SLOC said it has Congress for \$1 to pay for tests of an 500-1,000 athletes w not have been exa the previous four n their national Olym mitees, sports fe or the World An Agency.

Romney said t would be carried U.S. Anti-Doping which is responsi American drug e said jurisdiction would have to b out in some case were to be condu training site ou United States.

"Our goal to tes cent of athletes is tious one," Rom "This has never l

ALL-STAR

Continued from Pa

Ripken by sugges switch positions f inning. Rodrigue playfully shove toward a spot he played since Sep.

"That started Rod," AL man Torre said. "He with this idea 'What do you thi said, 'I think i mite.'"

Said Ripken: "It seeing the game f stop again."

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SPORTS EXTRA

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL
Washington League
DETROIT TIGERS—Agreed to terms with OF David Mattie, RHP James Gonzales, LHP Jonathan Conroy and RHP Thomas Lyons.
MINNESOTA TWINS—Agreed to terms with RHP Scott Tyler.
National League
PITTSBURGH PIRATES—Traded OF Emil Brown to the San Diego Padres for RHP Shawn Camp and OF Shawn Garrett.
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National Basketball Association
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MEMPHIS GRIZZLIES—Signed F Shane Battier to a three-year contract.
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National Football League
CINCINNATI BENGALS—Agreed to terms with OL Victor Leys on a three-year contract.
JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS—Signed CB Kory Blackwell, G LeShun Daniels, DL Donald Bloomfield and WR-PR Damon Gibson. Waived S Kerry Cooks, CB Nate Gates and LB Jason Nikolas.
SAN DIEGO CHARGERS—Named Dennis Abraham pro scout and Mike Biehl college scout.
TENNESSEE TITANS—Agreed to terms with RB Dan Alexander.
WASHINGTON REDSKINS—Signed KR Michael Bates to a two-year contract. Signed SS Jason Kaiser and DB Central McClellan.
HOCKEY
National Hockey League
BOSTON BRUINS—Signed F Andy Hilbert to a three-year contract.
COLUMBUS BLUE JACKETS—Signed RW David Ling and D Darel Scoville.
DALLAS STARS—Signed C Niko Kapapan and LW Marcus Kristoffersen to two-year contracts, and C Jim Montgomery to a one-year contract.
FLORIDA PANTHERS—Signed D Jeff Norton.
LOS ANGELES KINGS—Agreed to terms with D Jaroslav Modry on a two-year contract and RW Jaroslav Bednar on a one-year contract.
NEW YORK ISLANDERS—Agreed to terms with RW Mariusz Czerkawski on a three-year contract.
NEW YORK RANGERS—Agreed to terms with G Vitall Yaremeyev.
PITTSBURGH PENGUINS—Signed F Robert Dome. Tended a qualifying contract offer to G John Hebbert.
TAMPA BAY LIGHTNING—Traded C Ryan Johnson and a 2003 sixth-round draft pick to the Florida Panthers for C Vaden Prosal.
WNBA
Tuesday's Games
 Cleveland 59, Seattle 53
 Miami 65, Orlando 63, OT
 Minnesota 73, Portland 52
 Los Angeles 79, Utah 67
 Sacramento 78, Houston 76, 2OT

MAJOR LEAGUE STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE				
East Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
New York	52	34	.605	—
Boston	51	36	.586	11-2
Toronto	42	46	.477	11
Baltimore	40	47	.460	123-2
Tampa Bay	27	61	.307	26
Central Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Minnesota	55	32	.632	—
Cleveland	49	36	.576	5
Chicago	41	44	.482	13
Detroit	36	48	.429	171-2
Kansas City	34	53	.391	21
West Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Seattle	63	24	.724	—
Oakland	49	43	.506	19
Anaheim	42	45	.483	21
Texas	35	52	.402	28
National League				
East Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Philadelphia	50	37	.575	—
Atlanta	49	38	.563	1
Florida	43	45	.489	71-2
New York	38	51	.427	13
Montreal	37	51	.421	131-2
Central Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Chicago	51	35	.593	—
Houston	48	38	.558	3
St. Louis	43	43	.500	8
Milwaukee	42	44	.484	9
Pittsburgh	33	53	.384	18
Cincinnati	33	54	.379	181-2
West Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Arizona	51	36	.586	—
Los Angeles	48	40	.545	31-2
San Francisco	46	42	.523	51-2
San Diego	41	47	.466	101-2
Colorado	39	48	.448	12

Toronto at Philadelphia, 6 p.m.
 Boston at N.Y. Mets, 6:10 p.m.
 Baltimore at Atlanta, 6:35 p.m.
 Minnesota at Milwaukee, 7 p.m.
 Detroit at St. Louis, 7:10 p.m.
 Colorado at Texas, 7:35 p.m.
 Arizona at Anaheim, 8:05 p.m.
 San Francisco at Seattle, 9 p.m.
 Los Angeles at Oakland, 9 p.m.

ARENA FOOTBALL
Friday's Games
 Buffalo at Orlando, 6:30 p.m.
 L. Angeles at Nashville, 6:30 p.m.
 Tampa Bay at Nashville, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday's Games
 Orlando at Charlotte, 6:30 p.m.
 Houston at Portland, 9 p.m.
 Utah at Sacramento, 9 p.m.
Sunday's Games
 Tampa Bay at San Jose, 3 p.m.
 D.C. at New England, 6:30 p.m.
 Colorado at Chicago, 7 p.m.
 Dallas at Kansas City, 7:30 p.m.
 Miami at Los Angeles, 9 p.m.
Tuesday, July 17
 LA at N. England, 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday, July 18
 Chicago at Miami, 6:30 p.m.
 New York/N.J. at Columbus, 6:30 p.m.
 Tampa Bay at Dallas, 7:30 p.m.
 Kansas City at Colorado, 8 p.m.
 D.C. at San Jose 9 p.m.
 End of Regular Season

TEXAS LEAGUE

Tuesday's Games
 Tulsa 4, Arkansas 0
 San Antonio 2, El Paso 0
 Midland 6, Round Rock 5
 Shreveport 6, Wichita 4
Today's Games
 No games scheduled
Thursday's Games
 Arkansas at Shreveport
 Midland at El Paso
 San Antonio at Round Rock
 Wichita at Tulsa

TEN-LA LEAGUE
Tuesday's Games
 No games scheduled
Today's Games
 No games scheduled
Thursday's Games
 No games scheduled

ALL-AM ASSOCIATION
Tuesday's Games
 Albany 6, Fort Worth 1
 Baton Rouge 9, Tennessee 3
 Tyler 2, Montgomery 1
Today's Games
 Albany at Fort Worth
 Baton Rouge at Tennessee
 Montgomery at Tyler
Thursday's Games
 Albany at Fort Worth
 Baton Rouge at Tennessee
 Montgomery at Tyler

RODEO LEADERS
Through July 8
ALL AROUND
 1. Jesse Ball, Camp Crook, S.D., \$94,092
 2. Trevor J. Brazile, Pueblo, Colo., \$89,301
 3. Scott Johnston, Gustin, Texas, \$87,997
 4. Cody Ohi, Stephenville, Texas, \$83,094
 5. Fred L. Whitfield, Hockley, Texas, \$70,902
 6. Robert C. Bowers, Brooks, Alberta, \$64,383
 7. Cash Myers, Athens, Texas, \$62,230
 8. Brad Goodrich, Hermiston, Ore., \$57,123
 9. B.J. Campbell, Benton City, Wash., \$53,164
 10. Tee Woolman, Llano, Texas, \$52,101
BARREBACK RIDING
 1. Kelly R. Wardell, Bellevue, Idaho, \$70,960
 2. Pete Hawkins, Weatherford, Texas, \$47,209
 3. Forest Brainwell, Pagosa Springs, Colo., \$45,281
 4. Lan Lajouesse, Morgan, Utah, \$41,900
 5. William R. Pittman II, Florence, Miss., \$41,632
 6. Darren Clarke, Denton, Texas, \$38,969
 7. Jason D. Jeter, Fort Worth, Texas, \$38,571
 8. Clint C. Corey, Powell Butte, Ore., \$37,920
 9. Larry C. Sandwick, Belle Fourche, S.D., \$37,310

Ripkin ends All-Star career in spectacular MVP fashion

SEATTLE (AP) — For one final night, Cal Ripken was baseball's biggest star. Ripken ended his All-Star game career in triumphant fashion, overshadowing baseball's best players with a home run in his first at-bat to win the MVP award Tuesday night.

"I've had some special moments in baseball that I'll always cherish and always hold onto, this being one of them," Ripken said.

For five innings on the field, Ripken was the center of attention, getting a final inning at shortstop and hitting yet another dramatic home run that helped the American League win 4-1.

Midway through the game, Ripken and fellow retiring great Tony Gwynn — surrounded by both league's All-Stars — were honored with the Commissioner's Historic Achievement Award.

The AL warmed up for the sixth inning with video highlights of Ripken and Gwynn playing on the Safeco Field scoreboard. Troy Glaus ran onto the field to replace Ripken, who was showered with cheers.

Gwynn walked onto the field for the ceremony and All-Stars poured out of both dugouts in a sign of appreciation toward two of the greatest players of this generation.

Before the game restarted, a groundskeeper removed third base, which had Ripken's No. 8 on the side. Leading off the bottom of the third, Ripken got a lengthy ovation and stepped out of the batter's box to tip his helmet to the crowd.

He then hit the first pitch

from Chan Ho Park over the left-field fence for his second career All-Star homer. Ripken, who will turn 41 in August, became the oldest player to homer in an All-Star game.

"It happened on his night. He's the MVP," Gwynn said. "It's a storybook story. It was unbelievable."

Ripken, who also homered to win the MVP in the 1991 All-Star game, received hearty congratulations from his fellow All-Stars and gave a curtain call to the appreciative Safeco Field crowd.

"It was a shot of adrenaline," Ripken said. "Then the curtain call after that. It was just a continuation of those goose bumps. I still have them right now thinking about it."

Ripken also homered the nights he tied and broke Lou Gehrig's consecutive games record in 1995.

"Wow. It's like a dream come true," Cubs slugger Sammy Sosa said. "It doesn't get better than that as a human being. That's a great feeling, especially because he announced his retirement and came and put a shot like that. That's amazing. He is the man."

Ripken's bat, jersey and cap are headed to the Hall of Fame. His wife, Kelly, is keeping the ball.

Earlier, Ripken was given a goodbye gift from Alex Rodriguez — an opportunity to start the game at shortstop, the position he helped revolutionize.

Just before the first pitch, Rodriguez, the starting shortstop, told Ripken to switch positions and move over from third base.

IOC

Continued from Page 6

five Olympic rings. Police detained several people, although no charges were immediately filed. There were no reports of injuries.

On the drug testing plan, SLOC said it has asked Congress for \$1 million to pay for tests of an estimated 500-1,000 athletes who would not have been examined in the previous four months by their national Olympic committees, sports federations or the World Anti-Doping Agency.

Romney said the tests would be carried out by the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency, which is responsible for all American drug efforts. He said jurisdictional limits would have to be worked out in some cases if tests were to be conducted at a training site outside the United States.

"Our goal to test 100 percent of athletes is an ambitious one," Romney said. "This has never been done

before, but we are convinced the tests are crucial to deterring the use of performance-enhancing drugs in sports and creating a fair field of play for 2002."

Noting that the federal government already allocates \$3 million for USADA work, Romney said the additional \$1 million "would be money well spent."

If Congress fails to fund the program, he said, SLOC would seek financing from the IOC, the U.S. Olympic Committee, sponsors and its own budget.

Out-of-competition testing, rare until the last few years, has grown rapidly, with 70 percent of national Olympic committees conducting such random screenings. Out-of-competition testing is considered a better way than in-games testing to catch drug use, because athletes have no warning or timetable that might allow them to cleanse their systems of the banned substances.

ALL-STARS

Continued from Page 6

Ripken by suggesting they switch positions for the first inning. Rodriguez had to playfully shove Ripken toward a spot he had not played since Sept. 1, 1997.

"That started with A-Rod," AL manager Joe Torre said. "He came up with this idea and said, 'What do you think?' And I said, 'I think it's dynamite.'"

Said Ripken: "It was great seeing the game from shortstop again."

In the second inning, Clemens and Piazza faced each other for the first time since last season's confrontations. Piazza missed the All-Star game after being bearded by Clemens, then had the Rocket throw the jagged barrel of a broken bat in his direction in the Subway Series.

With Clemens keeping the ball away, Piazza flied out. Then in the sixth, Vladimir Guerrero's bat shattered and flew toward the third-base coaching box, where it hit Lasorda in the left hip. Lasorda tumbled over backward, but came up smiling. Bonds ran out and tried to put a chest protector on the former Los Angeles manager.

Notes: Randy Johnson started for the NL in place of Schilling, who pulled himself after pitching seven innings on Sunday. ... Willie Mays, Gary Carter and Steve Garvey each won two All-Star MVP awards. ... Torre of the Yankees is 4-0 as an All-Star manager. ... Jeter, the MVP last July, was the first Yankees player to homer in an All-Star game since Yogi Berra in 1959.

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Seeking motivated individuals for rotating shifts. Mechanical experience desired but not necessary, as training will be provided. Excellent benefits package and room for advancement. Pre-employment license, background and drug screen will be required. Apply in person at Innotek Powder Coatings 3400 West 7th St. No phone calls.
Mei's is looking for fast & friendly help. Waitstaff, kitchen help, bartender, bar maids. Taking applications. No phone interviews. Apply @ Mei's Fried Fish & Seafood.

STONEVILLE PEDIGREED SEED CO. is seeking highly motivated Seed Treater Operator to be a part of a growing cottonseed company at its Stoneville Texas location in Big Spring, Texas. This position is responsible for mixing and applying seed treatments. This position requires ability to operate and maintain seed treating equipment. Also required are a high school diploma or equivalent with three years to five years of experience in related job duties. Applicants will be subject to a drug screen. Please apply in person at Stoneville Texas, 4701 N. Hwy 67, 3-1/2 miles N. of I-20.

TRINITY HAVEN Healthcare Center RN - Patient Care Coordinator position M-F. Weekend charge nurse 8 or 16 hr shifts. CNA's 8-2 & 2-10 shifts available. Full time Activity Director. Apply in person 3203 Sage St. Midland, Texas 79705.

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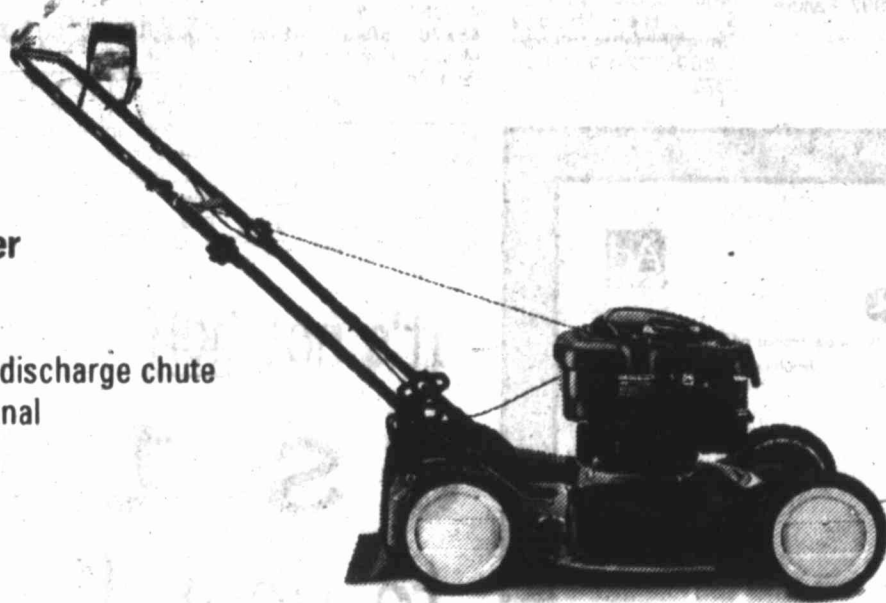
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