

BIG SPRING HERALD

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

FRIDAY

January 25, 2002

WEATHER

Tonight:



TONIGHT TOMORROW
30°-42° 68°-70°

Jury selection set to begin Monday in district court

Jury selection in the trial of Stephen Calhoun, accused of beating to death his girlfriend, Barbara Quernheim, will begin Monday.

Quernheim was discovered dead in Calhoun's apartment July 15, 2001. Calhoun was arrested at the apartment the next day.

District Attorney Hardy Wilkerson will prosecute the case before Judge Robert Moore III in the 118th District Court. A representative for the district attorney's office said the trial will most likely begin Tuesday.

Big Spring attorney Don Richard will represent Calhoun.

Jury selection will begin at 9 a.m.

WEEKEND TICKET

TODAY

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

SATURDAY

Big Spring Squares. Call 267-7043 or 263-6305 for more information.

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

American Legion Post 506, located at 3203 W. Hwy 80, will have a fish fry from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m. Delivery is available from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. \$6 per plate. Carry out available. Phone 263-2085. Everyone welcome.

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

Dance 8:30 p.m. at the Eagles Lodge, 704 W. Third. Everyone welcome.

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State hospital plans some sweetheart deals for Valentine's

By VALERIE AVERY

Special to the HERALD
From the time Big Spring State Hospital volunteer Karen Brewer has taken over the hospital's Valentine's Day fund-raiser, product selection, deliveries and profits have skyrocketed.

In 1998, consumers had only three choices. This year, romantics can choose from 10 items, including the always-popular singing telegrams to stuffed animals, homemade cookies

and candies and flowers. "Last year, we more than doubled our profits," said Brewer — the state hospital's 1998 Rookie of the Year and the 2000 Big Spring State Hospital Star Award recipient.

One of the reasons Big Spring State Hospital's Volunteer Services Council increased the amount of funds earmarked for patient extras was Brewer's aggressive marketing and planning.

Her first plan was to beef

up the number of singing telegrams. The first year, only two or three groups were booked for morning to night. Last year, she booked five singing groups and this year — 11.

"I just really pushed it," Brewer said. "We can make a lot of profit."

The singing telegrams take just one thing: talented crooners who are willing to volunteer their melodious voices to sing, and sometimes embarrass people in public places.

"I'm not sure everyone likes getting them," Brewer said laughingly. "We can create quite a scene in a restaurant. Some people don't like being the center of attention, but most are good sports."

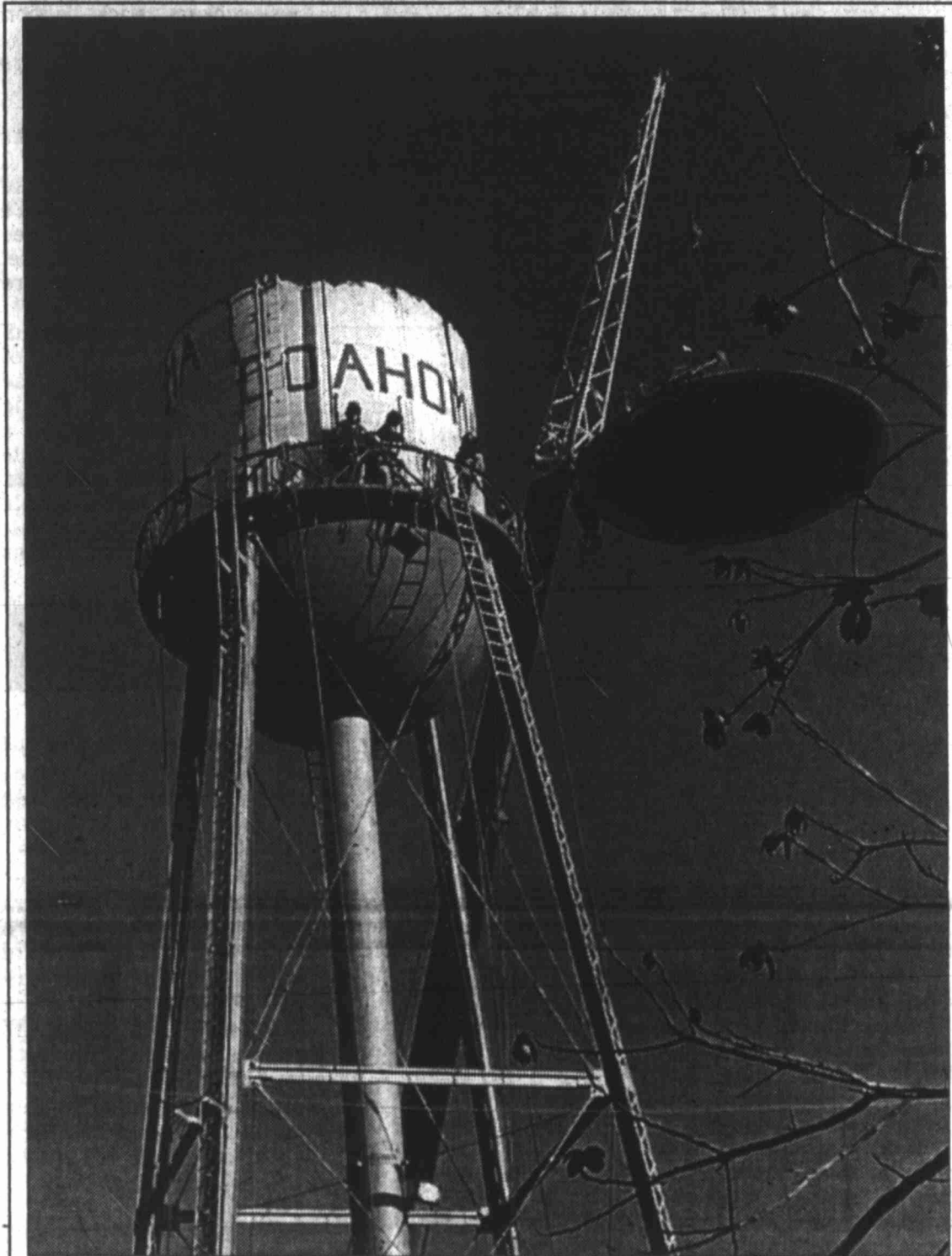
Each person who receives a singing telegram is serenaded with one song and given an instant picture of the event and a heart-shaped box of candies. Songs — ranging from serious to romantic to humorous can be requested, she

said. Singing telegrams should be ordered early. A limited number of slots are available for purchase.

More than 100 volunteers, along with assistance from the Howard College Diplomats have made homemade cookies, muffins and candy and prepared unique gift items for Valentine's Day.

"I wish we had another room to store everything,"

See BSSH, Page 2A



John Phillips, Bo Bowers and Ernie Tice of Isler Demolition Inc., contracted out of Michigan, watch as the top of the Coahoma water tower is lowered to the ground. The water tower's top is planned to be rebuilt as a gazebo for the city's park.

Two arrested

KWES-TV cameraman, teen charged with having materials to make drugs

By ROGER CLINE

Staff Writer

Two Big Spring residents were arrested Thursday for possessing the materials necessary to make methamphetamines.

Eric Olivarri, 24, a KWES-TV cameraman, and Telena Rodgers, 19, were arrested for "possession of precursors for the manufacture of methamphetamines," said Howard County Sheriff Dale Walker.

"Just that alone is a second degree felony," Walker added. "It's a new law. Used to, you had to have the product before you had a charge."

Olivarri and Rodgers were scheduled for arraignment this morning, said a Sheriff's Office spokesperson, but bond had not been set as of 10 a.m.

Walker said the two were arrested after an investigation led a joint task force of local, regional and federal agencies to a residence in the 1000 block of East 21st Street.



WALKER

"We were searching the residence for a methamphetamine laboratory. We did recover one. We did not recover the drugs itself, but we did recover the lab and all the chemicals and precursors for making methamphetamines," said Walker.

The search on 21st Street provided information leading to two other possible meth lab locations: The Big Spring bureau offices of KWES TV and a residence on Broken Bow.

KWES TV officials said they were "dumbfounded" by the possible presence of a drug operation in their local office.

"We're going to cooperate completely with the police," said KWES News Director Laura Moore. "We're pretty stunned that it could happen to us, and apparently it could happen to anybody. This stuff is pretty commonplace. It's a scary thing."

Moore said KWES TV is planning a story to educate parents and business owners about commonplace household items that are used in making methamphetamines.

See ARRESTS, Page 2A

School forum draws only a dozen or so concerned parents

By LYNDEL MOODY

Staff Writer

Parents Joe and Patricia Hernandez came to the Big Spring Independent School District forum at Goliad Elementary Thursday night to get some answers.

And they received some, although they may have not have liked everything they heard.

"At least I know where I stand," said Joe Hernandez. "Decisions are not easy to make and I know that (the trustees') decisions are not easy to make."

The Hernandezes, who live on the west side of the city, transferred their first-grade son from Marcy Elementary to Goliad so he could be closer to his doctor. They were concerned

about the proposed change to convert Goliad Elementary into a district-wide fifth- and sixth-grade center.

The Hernandezes were among only a handful of parents who came to the forum to hear how the closure of Anderson Kindergarten Center and school zone attendance realignments will impact their children.

The Goliad attendance zone, which has undergone numerous transformations in the last several years, will be one of the zones most impacted by the recommended changes, second only to Anderson's.

"I talked with several peo-

See FORUM, Page 2A



Parents Patricia and Joe Hernandez speak to Big Spring Independent School District trustees Larry McLellan, left, and Mike Dawson at Thursday's forum held on the Goliad Elementary campus. The forum is the second of six to be held on the closing of Anderson Kindergarten and realignment in school attendance zones.

Reflections program designed to stimulate the imagination

By LYNDEL MOODY

Staff Writer

Local youth were called upon to stimulate their imagination by participating in the national 2001-2002 Parent-Teacher Association Reflections program.

Students were given the theme "I Hold in My Hand" and left to interpret their own version of the motif through personal works of

photography, drawings, paintings, literature or music.

"It (the theme) was meant to be vague," said Kentwood Elementary Principal Wayland Pierce, who coordinated the Big Spring Independent School District-wide contest.

"We received some that were really impressive," Pierce said. "We received a

lot of patriotic (themed projects)."

Students in kindergarten through eighth grade participated in the contest and each campus held its own contest to rank the creations. The top entries were sent on to the district-wide competition held on Dec. 19 with 60 entries making the cut.

The projects were separat-

ed and judged in four categories, visual art, photography, music and literature, and the top entries qualified for a regional contest.

Those students whose entries went on to region include, in the primary division — Visual art: 1. C.W. (Clifford) Kinney, Goliad; 2. Brady Weber, Kentwood; 3. Mercedec Moncada; Bauer; and 4. Lacy McMurtter,

Bauer; Literature: 1. Tyler Graves, Kentwood; 2. Austin Ryan Cantu, Anderson; and 3. Meagan Graves, Anderson.

In the intermediate division, winners included — Literature, 1. Natasha Richards, Kentwood; 2. Macy Graves, Kentwood; Music, 1. Kodi Aguilar,

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OBITUARIES

Brenda Madry Taylor

Brenda Madry Taylor passed away Wednesday, Jan. 23, 2002, at a Midland hospital.



Brenda was born Jan. 23, 1959, in Big Spring to Brady and Jewel Madry. The family moved to Midland in 1972 and she graduated from Midland High in 1975. In 1992 she married James F. Taylor and had obtained her accounting degree in 1999. She was a member of Westside Baptist Church. Her mother preceded her in death in June 2001.

Brenda is survived by her husband, James; son, Jack Horton; daughter, Brandie Horton; father, Brady Madry; brothers, Tommy, Ralph, and Randy Madry, all of Midland; sister, Connie Winkley of Fort Smith, Ark.; several uncles, aunts, nieces, nephews and numerous close friends.

Visitation will be held today, Jan. 25, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Ellis Funeral Home.

Funeral service has been scheduled for 1 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 26, at Ellis Funeral Home Chapel. Interment will follow at Resthaven Memorial Park. Arrangements are under the direction of Ellis Funeral Home.

Pallbearers will be Tommy Madry Jr., Brian Madry, Leslie Taylor, Michael Shepherd, Jason Maxim, and Michael Broyles.

The family requests memorials be directed to Westside Baptist Church, 4201 W. Illinois, Midland 79703.

Paid obituary

James Alexander Kinsey Jr.

James Kinsey, husband of Patricia Anne Haile Kinsey and father of Brett Branum Kinsey, died in Austin on Monday, Jan. 21, 2002.

Funeral service was held Thursday morning Jan. 24, in Austin at the Church of Glad Tidings at 2700 Northland Drive at 10. Following that service there was a time to get together in the Fellowship Hall at the church.

Graveside service was held at Fairmount Cemetery in San Angelo on Friday, Jan. 25, at 10 a.m. Mr. Kinsey was the son of

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Trinity Memorial Park and Crematory
906 Gregg St.
(915) 267-8331
www.npwelch.com

MYERS & SMITH
FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL
24th & Johnson 267-8288
Todd Allen Treadway, 39, died Monday. Services are 2:00 PM Friday at Redeemer Lutheran Church, 824 E. 18th in Odessa. Burial will be in Sunset Memorial Gardens, Odessa.

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79720.

Vida Estell Russell and James Alexander Kinsey of Big Spring. He has three sisters who continue to live in the area. They are Jo and husband, Bobby, Sledge of Big Spring, Wanda Jones of Big Spring and Mollie and husband, Juil, Reid of Stanton.

His sister, Sarah and her husband, Leon, Sweeten, live in West Covina, Calif.

Mr. Kinsey parents preceded him in death as did his first wife, Orlanor Dellis.

James and Pat celebrated 26 years of marriage this past November.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations to Meal on Wheels, 2222 Rosewood Ave., Austin 78702 or to your favorite charity.

Paid obituary

PROGRAM

Continued from Page 1A

Kentwood; 2. Rachel Overby, Moss; Photography, 1. Rance Terry, Moss; 2. Stormi Smith; Bauer; Visual art, 1. Brantly Cahoon, Bauer; 2. Alesha Yanez, Marcy; and 3. Severa Rocha, Bauer.

In the middle school division — Photography: 1. Christopher Colwell, Bauer; Visual art, 1. Jeremy Landin, Goliad; 2. Desiree Yanez, Goliad; and 3. Jeremy Landin, Goliad

Those placing high enough at the regional competition will move on to state for a chance at nationals.

FORUM

Continued from Page 1A

ple and they say that they (school administrators) have already decided what to do," Joe Hernandez said, but added he wanted to get answers.

"It is a community issue," he said.

BSISD superintendent Murray Murphy said that with declining student enrollment and limited revenues, economics is prompting the change.

"I think its understood with people who have students currently attending Goliad, in fact, people in general understand that we must close a facility to continue to secure the future of the district," Murphy said.

A plan as to where the approximately 900 students who will be affected by the change — including Goliad's kindergarten through fourth-grade students — will attend school should come before trustees take the final vote on the subject, Murphy said.

Trustees have scheduled the vote at their 5:15 p.m. board meeting on Feb. 28. "We are trying to move the fewest kids on the realignment issue as possible," Murphy said.

Other scheduled hearings are: Kentwood Elementary, 6:30 p.m. Thursday; Moss Elementary, 6:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 4; Marcy Elementary, 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 5; and Bauer Magnet, 6:30 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 7.

The few parents who attended Thursday's forum asked several questions about how the changes will impact their student, including transportation issues.

"It is a state law that any student that lives two miles or farther from the campus

has to be bused," Murphy said.

Aubrey Weaver wanted to know the financial aspects of the plan, including how much the district will save on closing the facility and cuts in personnel.

Closing Anderson, including the cuts in personnel through attrition would save the district about \$600,000 to \$650,000 according to estimated figures by the district's business office, Murphy said.

The district also hopes to save another \$400,000 to \$500,000 by additional cuts in personnel throughout the district, Murphy said.

"Our goal is to probably cut a million dollars from the budget," he said.

"The administration is not proposing a higher budget," Murphy said. "That has been brought to me loud and clear."

Recommended changes to the school district include:

- Closing Anderson Kindergarten Center and moving the kindergartners to neighborhood elementaries.

- Transforming Goliad Elementary into a district-wide fifth- and sixth-grade center while fifth-grade will still remain an elementary concept grade.

- Sending Goliad kindergarten through fourth-grade (K-4) students to neighborhood schools, primarily Washington, Kentwood and Marcy elementaries.

- Some rural and country students would move from attending Washington Elementary to other K-4 campuses

- Still allow for continuation of the transfer policy by parents as room provides at requested campuses.

ARRESTS

Continued from Page 1A

If it could happen to us, it could happen to any business," she said. "And I think we're going to try to take a look at the things you should be looking for, and if you see these items all together, something's going on."

Batteries, hoses, funnels, coffee filters and over-the-counter cold medication are items that are used in the drug's manufacture, she said.

Anhydrous ammonia and ether are among the less-common items involved in making the drug. Both were found at the 21st Street residence, and ether-soaked rags were found at the KWES office, Walker said.

"Some of those chemicals are extremely volatile," he said. "Ether is one of the main ingredients. Ether is extremely flammable — after all, it's starting fluid to start engines. Another chemical that's used is anhydrous ammonia and anhydrous ammonia is deadly if smelled, so we're talking serious stuff. It'll kill you."

Upon questioning the suspects and others at the scene, the officers learned that Olivarri had allegedly manufactured the drugs Wednesday evening at the KWES TV Big Spring bureau office, Walker said. "Officers went to that location and met with (KWES TV's Big Spring bureau reporter) Thomas Jenkins, who very cooperatively let officers into that studio to search it," Walker said. "The officers did recover some more evidence of the ether product on some very wet rags soaked with ether, and if you understand ether, ether evaporates very fast."

A BIG SPRING AROUND THE TOWN

Walker said other items such as funnels, filtering devices and a metal high-pressure cylinder were discovered at the scene.

"These things when we arrived had already been put into trash containers and were very well concealed," he said.

Moore added that the Big Spring bureau is a two-person operation involving Olivarri and Jenkins. "He had 24-hour access," she said.

KWES TV has already begun evaluating possible policy changes for the Big Spring bureau, said General Manager John Foster.

"We started at 5 o'clock (Wednesday)," Foster said. "We've changed all the locks so there's no access, and some other things, internal things, that we're going to be doing with cameras."

Foster made the point that Olivarri is innocent until proven guilty, but added that he is "tickled" to see drug arrests being made in the area.

BSSH

Continued from Page 1A

Brewer said. "We do need help making things. We have workdays every week, and they vary. Everything from baking cookies, to making the topiaries, to making the baskets. I have a hundred different things to do."

The community relations staff also is making up delivery schedules for the whirlwind of activity on Feb. 14.

All items are delivered free of charge, Brewer said. And being a delivery person on Valentine's Day is the best part of the job.

"When I delivered to the people in the nursing home, they want you to come in and have a cup of coffee," Brewer said. "Everyone is glad to see you, and you feel like you've done something nice. I have people take off from work to do this because they like it."

"One year, I had one little old lady who wouldn't let hold of my hand. She wanted me to stay and help her eat her goodies. I told her that I just didn't have time. She said this had just made her day. And she probably hadn't seen anybody all week."

All gifts are \$10, except the singing telegrams and two larger items, which cost \$20.

Items for sale at a cost of \$10 are:

- Three carnations in a bud vase with a patriotic ribbon and pinwheel.

- Soda can toprary. A full can of soda is topped off with a Styrofoam ball stuffed with small Tootsie Rolls or bubble gum.

- Small stuffed bear sitting on a box of chocolates holding homemade lollipops and a small bag of Hershey Kisses.

- A plastic basket with a small porcupine-type animal hanging from the top. At least 14 homemade cookies, ranging from chocolate chip to lemon-butter are included in the basket.

- A larger stuffed bear holding a box of chocolate hearts and a patriotic pinwheel.

- Oversized, pearlized latte mug filled with various, hot beverage mixes, biscoti,

TEXAS LOTTERY

PICK 3: 3,0,5
CASH 5: 1,2,23,26,27

ti, muffins, cookies, and chocolate-covered spoons.

— A candy jar holding about 16 pieces of homemade candy, including truffles, toffee and fudge.

Items costing \$20 are:
— Singing telegrams, which include an instant photograph and a heart-shaped box of candy. Songs can be requested.

- A patriotic snack basket, which can hang on a wall for later use. The basket will be filled with a variety of snack items and a drink topped off with a small flag and patriotic bow.

- A larger stuffed bear loaded with candies, cookies, suckers, stick balloon and a magnet. "We've only ordered six of these bears and three are musical," Brewer said.

"We have order blanks ready to go right now," Brewer said. "We'll take orders right to Valentine's Day. There's no guarantee there will be some. Because, when they're gone, they're gone."

The Valentine's Day fundraiser raises the bulk of money used to purchase extras for patients at Big Spring State Hospital — a 187-bed hospital for people with psychiatric illnesses. The hospital serves people in a 78-county area in West Texas and the Texas Panhandle.

BRIEFS

THE ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION, GREATER West Texas Chapter, will present an educational program "Facing End of Life Issues," Feb. 5, at 2 p.m.

This program, which is part of the Caregiver series, will be held at the Howard County Library and is free to the public.

Anyone planning to attend is asked to preregister by Feb. 4. To preregister or for more information contact Janet Cross, program coordinator, at 570-9191 or 1-800-682-1174.

DO YOU OPERATE A Lionel train? Do you have one in the attic or under the bed, are you interested in getting together with others to talk about using an available building for the establishment of a Lionel layout?

There will be a meeting at 4 p.m. on Saturday at the Doc Hardy Railroad Museum located at 123 Main Street.

If you have an interest in such a meeting come at 4 p.m. on Saturday and meet Dr. Greg Cranford, Duffy Vassar and Jack Harrison.

POLICE

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

- ERIC OLIVARRI, 23, of 1016 E. 21st St. was arrested on a charge of manufacturing methamphetamines.

- TELENA RODGERS, 19, of 304 W. 31st St. in Odessa was arrested to hold for the Howard County Sheriff's Office.

• WILLIAM SNEED, 26, of 1016 E. 21st St. was arrested on a capias warrant.

- BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE was reported - In the 800 block of South Owens. Someone reportedly broke the vehicle's windshield and stole a purse or wallet.

- In the 1000 block of North Gregg. Someone reportedly stole a stereo worth \$470 from the vehicle.

- THEFT was reported in the 1800 block of FM 700. An item worth \$20 was reported stolen from the store.

- MINOR ACCIDENT was reported in the 200 block of South Anderson, the 2100 block of South Scurry, the 1600 block of Airbase Road

- LOUD PARTY/NOISE was reported in the 500 block of Westover Road, the 1000 block of North Main

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

4:13 a.m. — Mile marker 195 on I-20, trauma call, one patient transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

7:17 p.m. — 18 miles north on 669, traffic accident, one patient transported to SMMC.

11:11 p.m. — 1800 block of north Hwy 87, medical call, one patient transported to SMMC.

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RECORDS

Thursday's high 48
Thursday's low 23
Record high 83 in 1952
Record low 12 in 1940
Average high 58
Average low 29
Precip. Thursday 0.00
Month to date 0.18
Year to date 0.18
Sunrise Saturday 7:44 a.m.
Sunset Saturday 8:13 p.m.
Sunrise Sunday 7:43 a.m.
Sunset Sunday 8:14 p.m.

RITZ
101 S. Main
915-263-7480
THE RITZ Theatre is now playing
1st run movies
Kate & Leopold (PG-13)
Daily 7:10 & 9:20 Sat. & Sun. 3:30
Lord of the Rings (PG-13)
Daily 7:00 Sat. & Sun. 3:15
Ocean's Eleven (PG-13)
Daily 7:20 & 9:10 Sat. & Sun. 3:45

CINEMA 4
*Black Hawk Down (R)
Daily 4:20 & 7:00 Sat. & Sun. 1:30 Fri. & Sat. 9:50
*Walk to Remember (PG)
Daily 4:40 & 7:20 Sat. & Sun. 1:50 Fri. & Sat. 9:30
*Mothman Prophecies (PG-13)
Daily 4:30 & 7:10 Sat. & Sun. 1:40 Fri. & Sat. 9:40
Orange County (PG-13)
Daily 4:50 & 7:30 Sat. & Sun. 2:00 Fri. & Sat. 9:20

ADULTS: \$6.00
\$3.50 ALL MATINEES,
CHILDREN & SENIOR CITIZENS
*PASSES RESTRICTED

STAR
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Two of the brothers, resc said. Ten mine missing and pr after an accid small mine i Mexico, trappi ers 200 feet und

Four divers a other rescue v tled black wat lapsed tunnels an attempt to bodies from L mine in Barro 90 miles south Texas border c

Second

PINELAND (A) ond suspect has ed in the death Texas man run motorist who him a ride home Darrell Euge 32, of Kirbyville ed Thursday a with murder in Ken Binbo Til Pineland.

A warrant has for a third sus case, whose na being released. Blake Little, 3, in jail Thursday charged with mu case.

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Questions remain over security recommendations

AUSTIN (AP) — A task force charged with studying state security after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks agreed to a series of recommendations Thursday, but members said they are unsure how much the package ultimately will cost or how it will be funded.

The Governor's Task Force on Homeland Security will meet next week to finalize the package of recommendations before sending it to Gov. Rick Perry.

Rep. Carl Isett, R-Lubbock, said recommendations on infrastructure for health care could cost tens of millions of dollars alone.

"The real question is not how much does it cost. The real question is how much help can we expect from the federal govern-

ment," Isett said. "Whether or not it creates a problem on our state budget is really driven by the help we will get from the federal government."

The Texas comptroller has warned that growing state expenses and slowing revenue could mean a \$5 billion deficit in 2003.

The task force on Thursday put the finishing touches on many recommendations that had been approved at earlier meetings, such as the recommendation that the state establish 10 regional hazardous material teams. The cost would be about \$8.2 million, the recommendation said.

The group also asked that Perry consider:

— directing the Texas Education Agency to develop training for schools in the event of a terrorist attack;

— establishing a priority state warning system for state agencies, institutions and public and private schools in the event of a credible terrorist threat.

— expanding the role of the National Guard at Texas airports at deploying the National Guard to critical infrastructure area during periods of high alert.

— directing the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission to develop a plan to

expand "real-time" monitoring of drinking water supplies to test for chemical or biological agents that could be used as weapons.

— supporting efforts to improve border security and improve the efficiency of border commerce.

Tom Millwee, Texas' state coordinator for emergency management, said he believes the federal government will give a lot of money for various programs, including some of the bioterrorism initiatives, the expansion of the health alert network and lab enhancements.

Through funding from the Department of Justice, the state recently distributed about \$12 million in enhancements for decontamination, personal protective and

other types of equipment, he said.

"The thing that's important is to look at it how we can maximize those dollars, and I think that is what this process is all about," Millwee said.

Former FBI Director William Sessions of San Antonio, who serves as the task force's vice chairman, said no one proposal is more important than any other.

"It is a seamless cloth that carries out, I think, what the governor charged us to do," Sessions said.

Land Commissioner David Dewhurst, who also heads up the task force, did not attend the meeting because he was in Washington meeting with Homeland Security Director Tom Ridge.

Mother pleads guilty to injuring neglected child

DALLAS (AP) — A severely malnourished 8-year-old girl rescued from confinement in a dark, filthy closet was so neglected she didn't know how to bathe, wear shoes or brush her teeth, a woman attempting to adopt the girl testified.

The girl spoke with a speech impediment and could not recognize letters or numbers, said Sabrina Kavanaugh, testifying Thursday in the penalty phase of the trial of Barbara Atkinson. Atkinson, the child's mother, pleaded guilty to a felony charge of serious bodily injury to a child. The 30-year-old Hutchins woman faces five years to life in prison.

"She didn't know what it was like to walk barefoot on

the grass," Kavanaugh said of the child. "She didn't know what a horse looked like. She didn't know what flowers were because I brought them to the hospital and she asked me what they are."

Kavanaugh described how she and her husband, Bill, began trying to adopt the girl immediately after learning of her mistreatment. The Van Zandt County couple had tried to adopt the girl at birth but were forced to return her when their attorney at the time failed to terminate Atkinson's parental rights.

"We wanted her back, no matter what condition she was in," she said. "We didn't care. She was still our little girl."

She said they were devas-

tated to see how frail the girl was.

"It looked like she was the exact same size she was when she left us at 2," she said.

Prosecutors said the girl was nearly dead when she was found last summer in a Hutchins mobile home, weighing only 25 pounds. They have shown the jury photos of the girl with a distended stomach, bony limbs and sunken eyes.

The girl suffered brain atrophy, her muscles were wasting away and she was malnourished to the extent that her body could no longer metabolize food, a doctor testified.

The child has since gained weight, enrolled in kindergarten and is doing well in

the Kavanaughs' care, CPS officials said.

But Kavanaugh testified Thursday that the girl had trouble adapting. She once stole dog food and stashed it under her pillow.

"We explained to her there's going to be food here," Kavanaugh said. "You don't have to take it from the dog."

The girl also had nightmares after seeing her mother's photo on the television news, Kavanaugh said.

Atkinson's surprise guilty plea came on the third day of the trial, shortly after arguments about whether some of the girl's five siblings would testify. The guilty plea was not part of a bargain with prosecutors.

Healthcare providers say new fees are unfair

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Proposed fee guidelines for healthcare providers who treat injured workers are unfair and would cause good providers to leave the system, members of the Texas Workers' Compensation Commission were told at a hearing.

Dozens of doctors and other healthcare providers said at a public hearing Thursday that the guidelines are a sellout to the insurance industry.

"Osama bin Laden must have modeled the way he treats women after the way the insurance industry treats injured workers," said Dr. Donald Breech, a Victoria orthopedic surgeon.

"My concern," he testified, "is for the injured workers of Texas, who are being treated the worst they've ever been treated, not by the doctors, but by the insurance companies."

If adopted, the guidelines would set reimbursement fees at 120 percent of the rates charged to treat patients under Medicare, the federal program for senior citizens and the disabled, according to the San Antonio Express-News' editions Friday.

The result would cut current reimbursement rates for treating injured workers by 38 percent for surgery, 32 percent for radiology and 17 percent for rehabilitation and physical medicine.

Supporters of the proposed new fee guidelines are claiming victory for Texas employers and businesses.

"The commissioners at TWCC have recognized that Texas is at a critical juncture. They have done the right thing," Bill Hammond, president of the Texas Association of Business and Chambers of Commerce, said in the January Texas Business Report.

But Dr. Jim McMichael of the Texas Medical Association said the new fee structure is "seriously flawed."

He told the two commissioners from the six-member board who attended the public hearing that reductions of between \$100 and \$400 in treatment fees would reduce the number of qualified providers.

"The good providers are going to get out," said David Biediger, a San Antonio physical therapist.

Three miners dead, 10 more missing in mine mishap

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Divers on Friday continued to look for more victims in a flooded coal mine where three workers' bodies have already been recovered.

Two of the dead were brothers, rescue officials said. Ten miners remained missing and presumed dead after an accident flooded the small mine in Northern Mexico, trapping the workers 200 feet underground.

Four divers and about 150 other rescue workers battled black water and collapsed tunnels Thursday in an attempt to extract the bodies from La Espuelita mine in Barroteran, about 90 miles southwest of the Texas border city of Eagle

Pass.

Barroteran Mayor Hugo Martinez told the Mexican government's news agency Notimex that he has asked Red Cross officials in the northern city of Monterrey to send five divers to help those already working in the mine rescue effort.

The accident occurred Wednesday at the mine known as a pocito, a small privately owned operation that extracts ore from thin seams of coal with outmoded methods in violation of some Mexican safety standards, according to the San Antonio Express-News' Friday editions.

Worker in the mine were

lowered via a cable car into a small shaft that also was used to deliver coal to the surface. Mines with single vertical shafts are illegal in most countries, including Mexico, because they offer no escape route if the main route becomes blocked.

Sergio Robles Garza, a police spokesman, told the state news agency that rescuers were making a desperate attempt to dig toward those still trapped in the mine.

Authorities have not determined the cause of the accident at La Espuelita. But residents, rescuers and mine veterans said the miners likely were digging coal with air hammers

Wednesday when they struck an adjacent abandoned tunnel that had flooded.

The disaster in Barroteran is the second in Coahuila's coal-mining region in four months.

In September, a dozen miners died when another mine exploded in the village of Santa Mara, about 30 miles north of Wednesday's accident.

Second man arrested, charged in hitchhiker death

PINELAND (AP) — A second suspect has been arrested in the death of an East Texas man run over by a motorist who was giving him a ride home.

Darrell Eugene Gilbert, 32, of Kirbyville was arrested Thursday and charged with murder in the death of Ken Bimbo Tillery, 44, of Pineland.

A warrant has been issued for a third suspect in the case, whose name is not being released.

Blake Little, 34, remained in jail Thursday night, also charged with murder in the case.

"The investigation is continuing, but more than like-

ly this will be the extent of the arrests," said Sgt. Chad Murray of the Sabine County Sheriff's Department.

Murray said all three suspects were in the vehicle when Tillery was killed.

Murray said Tillery asked Little, Gilbert and two other passengers for a ride home in a remote area in Jasper on Saturday.

Police believe the three suspects and Tillery had been at a Jasper home being investigated as a drug den.

Murray said Tillery did not know the suspects.

On the road, Tillery argued with the other men when he refused to pay for

gas after first offering to do so.

Sabine County Sheriff Tom Maddox has said the truck's other occupants continually upped the price as the 20-mile trip wore on.

Tillery had agreed to pay \$5 for gasoline, but the price increased to \$50 by the time they arrived in Pineland.

Several crack cocaine rocks were found at the scene, Maddox told the Beaumont Enterprise for a story in Friday's editions.

All of the men were suspected of drinking and smoking crack cocaine.

Pineland is about 130 miles northeast of Houston.

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EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

Ken Dulaney
Publisher

Bill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEWS

We salute:

Each week, the *Herald* salutes individuals and groups from our community and area who have been recognized for special achievements or accomplishments. We recognize these special people for working to help make our region a better place to live, work and play. This week we salute:

- **SCENIC MOUNTAIN MEDICAL CENTER**, on its \$1.8 million emergency room project.
- **ALEX EDGEMON**, Big Spring High School student who earned a slot on the All-State Choir.
- **THE HARLEY OWNER'S GROUP**, on another great Boss HOG Chili Cookoff and all of those who participated.
- **BIG SPRING HIGH SCHOOL FACULTY AND STAFF**, who donated \$142 and coats to the Coats for Kids drive.
- **THE MANY PEOPLE**, who organized and participated in the events honoring Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

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

YOUR VIEWS

TO THE EDITOR:
The BSHS Boys basketball Booster Club would like to thank all the great businesses in Big Spring that gave donations in order for us to be able to have published a program featuring all the Steer and Lady Steer basketball teams for the 2001-2002 season. It had been about 13 or more years since the teams had a book published. So with the help of God, prayer, the parents that

worked so hard contacting the businesses and getting the donations, and the Big Spring Printing staff who worked with us so patiently, this rewarding project was a great success. We would like to say to the local businesses that supported us with your donations thank you. We couldn't have done it without you.

MYRNA RUSSELL
PRESIDENT
BSHS BASKETBALL BOOSTERS.

LETTER POLICIES

The *Herald* welcomes letters to the editor. Please:

- Limit your letters to no more than 300 words.
- Sign your letter.
- Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.
- Letters of a political nature will not be published during an election campaign.
- We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.
- We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.
- Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or address will not be considered.
- We do not acknowledge receipt of letters.
- Letters from our circulation area will be given preference.
- Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721. n also be e-mailed to johnmoseley@bigspringherald.com.

Eventually, the world comes back around

Every now and again comes news of a plan so stupidly outrageous that even fat, happy Americans raise a righteous howl.

When word leaked out that corporate powers were considering uprooting the Grand Ole Opry from its WSM-AM radio home to make room for — get this — sports — sports talk, country music fans worldwide protested. It wouldn't do. Not since Coca-Cola introduced New Coke a couple of decades ago has a hatching of an idea been so roundly hissed. This new formula deserves to fizzle, too.

WSM has broadcast the Grand Ole Opry every Saturday night since 1925, making it the longest continuously running radio show in the nation. It is more than radio. It is an American institution. It is Hank and Patsy and Porter. It is sacred. Gaylord Entertainment Co. claims it is losing

money on the country music format. It wanted to move the Opry from AM to FM. In fairness, most AM stations in this country have become all blabber, all the time, People want Doctor Laura, not Little Jimmy Dickens. They don't want to hum along, but to hear themselves spout off.

So Gaylord considered doing what almost any profit-based outfit would do: abandoning ship. But the objections were loud and heartfelt, and Gaylord had to change its plans and hold a press conference to say so. The public relations damage evidently would have hurt the conglomerate more than sagging WSM profits. Nobody wants a public duel with George Jones.

It would have been a crime for an institution like the Opry to become yet another casualty of the free enterprise system. Some things just shouldn't be at the mercy of mercenaries. I'll admit I don't listen to the Opry on radio every Saturday night — though I do listen to the radio almost every Saturday night, including Public Radio's bluegrass hour, a Cajun show and a Mississippi blues nightcap. When I can get a clear signal, I listen to the Opry.

And I like knowing the Opry's there, where it's been, where it belongs. I don't rock in the front porch rocker every day either, but I want it in its place when I'm ready to.

I had the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to talk with Willie Nelson the other day, and he mentioned the phenomenal success of the soundtrack for "O Brother, Where Art Thou?" It went platinum, featuring country and bluegrass standards that have been around forever. Young moviegoers, discovering the sound for the first time, acted like they'd found something brand new. "I've known Ralph Stanley 700 years myself," Willie laughed, referring to one of the featured artists, a bluegrass musician who's been singing "I Am a Man of Constant Sorrow" and similarly sad numbers for half a century.

If a new generation suddenly has a ravenous appetite for bluegrass, it won't be long before it will "discover" Hank and Lefty Frizzell, the next evolutionary rung on the country music ladder, Willie theorized. If he's right — and Willie's always right — WSM will be in the cabdriver seat when youngsters get

tired of new country and want to hear real country, which to them will be newer than the new. If he's right, Gaylord should forget moving the Opry, plus drop all of its ill-conceived, constant efforts to refashion the show to appeal to a trendier audience.

If you remain true to your roots and stay in one place, sooner or later the world comes back around to you. It's like the old proverb about not chasing the butterfly; stand still and it will light. Last time I was at the Opry, back in September, a healthy-sized crowd watched the familiar acts with an earnest appreciation. There were a few infernal technological "improvements" — widescreen TVs in the ceiling — but the core store sold the same goods. I hope it still will 100 years from now.

Gaylord should stop trying to have it both ways — making much of the historic aspects of the Opry while constantly trying to update. Maybe it would be better — yes, even more profitable — to refrain from fixing what ain't broke. Fire an accountant or two and hire a futurist. What's old will eventually be new again.



RHETA GRIMSLEY JOHNSON



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We really must fix the civil justice system

Justice in America is becoming a joke for the average person or small company.

Either, it is now the realm of the wealthy. A typical civil case begins with the advance of \$5,000 to \$10,000 in an upfront retainer for an attorney. The attorney then files the complaint or an answer to a complaint, after which another \$3,000 or so is billed to you — the retainer being held in reserve by the attorney.

Then come the ever-annoying depositions, where you and your associates are interrogated for hours. This is part of the so-called discovery process. The other part is called "production of documents," in which attorneys demand to see documents and

records. The problem with discovery is that it is allowed to be wide-ranging. The idea is let attorneys cast a wide net, asking questions and looking at documents that may have no bearing on the case. Theoretically, anything unrelated to the case would not then be admissible in court. Reality is otherwise. Whole depositions can be introduced at trial and are then made part of the public record.

Further, the discovery process is so time-consuming and laborious that it is not unreasonable to receive a billing from your attorney for \$10,000 to \$20,000. And that is just for the first round of depositions that may be held prior to a hearing in court on preliminary motions. A second round prior to trial can cost even more. So before the trial even begins, legal fees already billed can amount to \$13,000 to \$50,000 to \$150,000 or more — much more. Then comes the trial. Attorneys must prepare

extensively for it, and they may engage other attorneys, experts and investigators for this purpose, all of which can amount to another \$10,000 to \$30,000 and up. The trial itself may last only a few hours, but it could also take a few days. If you lose, you may appeal, starting a another whole round of legal billings. If you win, the loser may appeal, or you may simply have to go through the legal machinations of trying to collect on the judgment.

By the end of the process, years and thousands — even hundred of thousands — of dollars will have ground you down. In the end, the question remains as to whether the judgment will even be collectible. Will the damage done to you that was the cause of your suit in the first place have been so irreparable that you lost even if you won?

And what if you lose? What about that attorney who all but promised you that you couldn't lose? Of

course, such statements are rarely overt. They tend to be more subtle, included in discussions about the weaknesses in your opponent's case. But, as they say in criminal cases, "The attorney doesn't go to jail."

The fact is that our civil justice system is broken. It does not work. It cannot work in its present form, which devours time and money in a ratio well beyond the value of many cases. The solution can be found in a massive overhaul. First, small claims courts, where individuals represent themselves, should increase the maximum amount of a case to \$50,000 or \$100,000. Second, discovery should be limited to germane matters. Third, individuals and corporations should be allowed, even encouraged, to represent themselves, an activity that most judges frown upon. Fourth, exorbitant legal fees should be reduced by judges, an issue that legislatures could actually codify.



JACK ANDERSON



School return driver

OLEY, Pa. (AP) — Thirteen children back home after a bus driver with a rifle took them on an odyssey that ended in another state when he turned himself in.

The students home with their early today, more hours after their bus off its route and Landover Hills, Md. miles away. The were unhurt but had had the fright lives.

Driver Otto Nuss, taken to jail Thursday after surrendering to a duty officer and was ordered to appear in court today on federal kidnapping charges.

The motive of the was not clear. Seven Berks Christian School students said Nuss told them they were going on a trip to Washington state they played helped Nuss plan the and felt at ease when stopped the bus and them to lunch at a King.

"He never touched anybody," said eight Josh Pletscher, "I was having fun. I was having cars honk horns."

The school held a bly and religious today to celebrate return of the c. About 200 students including at least the 13, school admi Robert Becker said "I was glad to act them and talk to said Becker, who s morning counting h was the first time a lot of details. I wul to know that no children were abus

The bus had pick students, ages 7 th at a high school ir about 7:30 a.m. T

Black Vir salute, sa

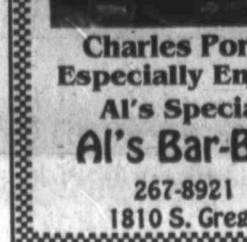
RICHMOND, Va. The Virginia H Delegates was b with post-Sept. 11 p on the first day of session, when it ap proposal to start e session by recit Pledge of Allegian salute to the state f

Two days later, o the delegates through a newspap that the state flag s written in 1946 by a of a Confederate group. Now, despite voted for the rul lawmakers say th evokes painful me a segregationist they want it discor

"This is a flag i raises a flag — a r for us," Delegate I Jones said Thun black legislators an they would pro amendment strik salute from the rul

A vote is expect week. Critics says it's words in the salu troubling, but thei tion to the Daughters of Confederacy.

The salute, wr Cassie Gravely, c Confederate group ings in Virgin



School children returned safely; driver surrenders

OLEY, Pa. (AP) — Thirteen children were back home after a school bus driver with a loaded rifle took them on an odyssey that ended in another state when he turned himself in.

The students returned home with their parents early today, more than 16 hours after their bus veered off its route and went to Landover Hills, Md., 115 miles away. The children were unhurt but the parents had had the fright of their lives.

Driver Otto Nuss, 63, was taken to jail Thursday night after surrendering to an off-duty officer and was scheduled to appear in court today on federal kidnapping charges.

The motive of the journey was not clear. Several of the Berks Christian School students said Nuss told them they were going on a field trip to Washington. They said they played games, helped Nuss plan the route, and felt at ease when he stopped the bus to treat them to lunch at a Burger King.

"He never touched anybody," said eighth-grader Josh Pletscher, 13. "We were having fun. We were having cars honk their horns."

The school held an assembly and religious service today to celebrate the safe return of the children. About 200 students came in, including at least three of the 13, school administrator Robert Becker said.

"I was glad to actually see them and talk to them," said Becker, who spent the morning counting heads. "It was the first time that I got a lot of details. I was thankful to know that none of the children were abused."

The bus had picked up the students, ages 7 through 15, at a high school in Oley at about 7:30 a.m. Thursday

for their daily six-mile trip to the religious school in Birdsboro.

When the bus failed to reach its destination, area residents, a police helicopter and cruisers frantically searched the route in rainy, foggy weather.

Craig Ziemer, the father of one of the children, 11-year-old fifth-grader Ashley Ziemer, called the six hours when the bus was missing "the most horrible thing I've ever experienced."

The students on the bus said the driver ignored a dispatcher's efforts to contact him by radio, according to an FBI affidavit from special agent Thomas D. Neeson.

Nuss told authorities some of the students wanted to return home, but he told them they could not, the affidavit said.

"He said he wanted to show them Washington, D.C.," FBI spokesman Peter Gulotta Jr. said.

The journey ended with the bus parked outside a Family Dollar discount store in Landover Hills, just a few miles from Washington. Nuss entered the store and approached off-duty Officer Milton Chabla, who was wearing his uniform, police said.

Nuss told Chabla he had left a gun on the bus, police said. He said he had taken the children against their will and wanted to turn himself in. "He wanted the kids to be OK and let their parents know they were OK," Chabla said.

Gulotta said the semiautomatic rifle was found behind the driver's seat, covered by a coat.

Some children had seen the gun on the bus and feared the driver was going to kill them, according to the affidavit.

They told FBI agents the driver told them not to go near the rifle.

Lindh's lawyers will have uphill battle discrediting his statements, experts say

ALEXANDRIA, Va. (AP) — John Walker Lindh's battle has moved from Afghanistan to a U.S. courtroom, where his lawyers will challenge the government's use of the Taliban soldier's statements to the FBI.

But Lindh's attorneys will find it difficult to invalidate the personal account he gave investigators Dec. 9 and 10 about his time with the Taliban, legal experts said Thursday.

While the defense contends Lindh asked for a lawyer starting Dec. 2, the government has a paper he signed that waived legal representation when the FBI interviewed him.

"I think it will be admissible," said Robert Precht, director of the Office of Public Service at the University of Michigan law school. Precht, who represented a defendant convicted in the 1993 World Trade Center bombing, called the defense challenge "a big charade" and predicted the defense eventually would negotiate a plea bargain.

E. Lawrence Barcella Jr.,

who prosecuted terrorism cases as an assistant U.S. attorney, said, however, the defense has raised a legitimate question by asserting that Lindh asked for a lawyer before making his statements.

"The focus is whether he gave a knowing waiver of a constitutional right," Barcella said. "Once a suspect in custody asks for a lawyer, the questioning is supposed to cease."

In Lindh's Dec. 9 and 10 statements, he told the FBI he met in a small group with Osama bin Laden, that he understood bin Laden ordered the Sept. 11 attacks and that more attacks would follow.

Lindh made his first court appearance Thursday looking more like the crew-cut, clean-shaven kid next door than the long-haired Taliban fighter with a full beard that has been pictured in widely published photographs of his capture in Afghanistan. He told a U.S. magistrate judge in a 15-minute hearing that he understood the charges, which could bring him life

imprisonment. He was accused in a criminal complaint of conspiring to kill Americans abroad; providing material support and resources to bin Laden's al-Qaida group and a second terrorist organization; and contributing goods and services to the Taliban and to people whose property was legally blocked in the war against terrorism.

Lindh's next court appearance was set for Feb. 6, partly to determine whether he will remain in federal custody pending trial.

If there is no grand jury indictment by that date, the government would be obligated to present some evidence that Lindh likely committed a crime.

The legal experts said the government may have to show that Lindh, who was wounded, was not on medication that impaired his thinking when he signed the waiver.

It also would be relevant to know what government agents said to him during the two weeks he was a cap-

tive prior to the FBI visit. "If it's a fact that he asked for a lawyer and then a statement was taken without a lawyer, the rules would prohibit introduction of that statement," said Lloyd Weinreb, professor of criminal law at Harvard University. "But I could imagine a case where a person says he wants to talk to a lawyer and then says 'I changed my mind, I want to tell you something.'"

Michael Nardotti, a former judge advocate general for the Army, said the defense could argue that Lindh should have been provided a lawyer upon request — even while in military custody — since he later became a civilian defendant.

The government would argue he was picked up as an enemy soldier and it would be permissible to treat him like all other captives — including interrogation without a lawyer.

Nardotti said he was unaware of a previous case where a captured enemy soldier was turned over to the civilian justice system.

Bush will seek \$11 billion to police nation's borders

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush will ask Congress to spend roughly \$11 billion next year on securing the nation's borders to keep out terrorists who would try to attack the United States by air, land or sea.

The president was going to Portland, Maine, today to announce plans to seek \$10.7 billion in next year's budget for border security, an increase of \$2.1 billion over this year.

The border security funds are part of an \$38 billion homeland security package that Bush announced Thursday.

The money will be used to

create "a seamless air, land and sea border" that weeds out terrorist threats without clogging the free flow of goods and people between countries, the White House said.

Bush also will seek a \$1.2 billion increase for the Immigration and Naturalization Service, so more agents and inspectors can be hired to focus on the border with Canada. Work on tightening that border already is under way; Bush's homeland security director Tom Ridge reached an agreement in December with Canadian Foreign Affairs Minister John Manley.

Black Virginia lawmakers seek to end flag salute, saying it evokes segregationist times

RICHMOND, Va. (AP) — The Virginia House of Delegates was brimming with post-Sept. 11 patriotism on the first day of the 2002 session, when it approved a proposal to start each daily session by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance and a salute to the state flag.

Two days later, on Jan. 11, the delegates learned through a newspaper article that the state flag salute was written in 1946 by a member of a Confederate heritage group. Now, despite having voted for the rule, black lawmakers say the salute evokes painful memories of a segregationist past and they want it discontinued.

"This is a flag issue that raises a flag — a red flag — for us," Delegate Dwight C. Jones said Thursday as black legislators announced they would propose an amendment striking the salute from the rules.

A vote is expected next week.

Critics says it's not the words in the salute that are troubling, but their connection to the United Daughters of the Confederacy.

The salute, written by Cassie Gravely, opens the Confederate group's meetings in Virginia. The

General Assembly adopted it in 1954 as "the official salute to the flag of Virginia."

Most legislators were not aware of the salute's origin until the Jan. 11 article appeared in the Richmond Times-Dispatch. Black delegates have argued against the tribute in speeches on the House floor, and several lawmakers, both black and white, now stand silently facing the Virginia flag each day while their colleagues recite the words:

"I salute the flag of Virginia, with reverence and patriotic devotion to the 'Mother of States and Statesmen' which it represents — the 'Old Dominion,' where liberty and independence were born."

Supporters of the salute said it is the words that matter — not the author or

the racial discrimination prevalent in Virginia at the time they were written. Delegate Robert McDonnell, the Republican who proposed the daily salute, is not backing down.

"The telling event as far as I'm concerned is that when I read the words, everyone understood them and agreed with them, and it passed on a unanimous voice vote," said McDonnell, who is white.

However, opponents of the salute say the fact that they are offended is reason enough to strike the rule.

"I don't want the echoes of bondage and segregation haunting my present and certainly not my future," Delegate Kenneth Melvin, who is one of 10 blacks in the 100-member House, said in an emotional floor speech Wednesday.

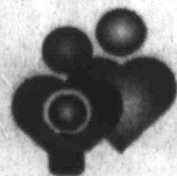
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Lawmakers still don't know what was in Enron documents

WASHINGTON (AP) — Some officials at Arthur Andersen were worried about a "heightened risk" of fraud in Enron's books a week before the energy company shocked stockholders with huge losses, an auditor's memo from last October shows.

The e-mail by Andersen auditor Mark Zajac warned that a computer analysis of Enron's financial activities in the third quarter of last year indicated "a red alert: a heightened risk of financial statement fraud," according to investigators.

The document, released by Rep. John Dingell, D-Mich., added to mounting evidence that Enron's outside accounting firm had strong misgivings about Enron business practices.

"We have considerable rascality," Dingell, ranking Democrat on the House Commerce Committee, summed up Friday on CBS's "The Early Show." "We have to find out

who is at fault for what."

A House hearing Thursday into the Enron Corp. collapse left lawmakers still certain of only one thing: Thousands of documents were destroyed by Enron's blue-ribbon accounting firm.

Questions about who ordered the shredding, and whether it was intended to stifle government investigations, were left unresolved after a Commerce subcommittee concluded its first public hearing into the largest and perhaps most devastating bankruptcy in history.

A week after the "red alert" memo, Enron reported a \$638 million third-quarter loss and disclosed a \$1.2 billion reduction in shareholder equity, partly because of hidden debt built up by a complex web of partnerships.

On the same day that Zajac wrote his memo to the head of the Enron auditing team, Andersen also hired a law firm in anticipa-

tion of possible lawsuits involving Enron, the Houston-based energy giant that spiraled into bankruptcy Dec. 2.

Andersen played down the significance of the computer analysis. And Zajac in the memo acknowledged the system produces "false alarms."

With 11 congressional committees and subcommittees eager to probe elements of the Enron debacle and its far-reaching fallout, this is only the beginning.

"We should consider this a practice session," Rep. Jim Greenwood, R-Pa., quipped after his panel grilled three witnesses from Andersen over their destruction of Enron-related documents last fall. That was when Enron's business problems began to emerge and government investigators were starting to take notice.

For the time being the focus is on paper shredding and what may turn into one of the nation's

biggest financial scandals. Some in Congress also want to probe Enron's ties to the White House.

Sen. Joseph Lieberman, D-Conn., whose Senate Governmental Affairs Committee also began hearings into Enron on Thursday, said the panel would issue subpoenas for Enron and Andersen's documents related to contacts with the White House or federal agencies and departments.

Lieberman's committee is focusing on why federal regulators did not raise warning flags about Enron's questionable business practices and intervene.

In the House, Greenwood said the hearings will "go wherever the investigation takes us." He added, "We have seen absolutely nothing that leads us in the direction of the White House."

Enron and its employees contributed more than \$500,000 to the Bush campaign last year. Kenneth Lay, who this week resigned as

Enron chairman, has been one of Bush's strongest supporters over the years. Andersen gave Bush \$146,000 during the past three years, according to the nonpartisan Center for Responsive Politics.

Campaign money seems to have made some lawmakers all the more aggressive in pursuing the Enron scandal.

Rep. Billy Tauzin, R-La., who has been among Andersen's favorite lawmakers when it comes to campaign help, giving him \$57,000, also has emerged as among the most aggressive inquisitors of Andersen and Enron from his perch as chairman of the House Energy and Commerce Committee.

"The burning question is why were these documents destroyed," Tauzin said Thursday, promising more hearings in two weeks, this time focusing on Enron itself. He also said the committee was far from finished with Andersen.

Doubts grow about need for economic stimulus bill

WASHINGTON (AP) — Months of stalemate between Democrats and Republicans over how best to give the nation's economy a jolt may have cost Congress a chance to do anything meaningful.

Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan and leading lawmakers are raising questions about whether passage of an economic stimulus package sought by President Bush since October would be too little, too late.

"There are a lot of mixed feelings about it," Senate Minority Leader Trent Lott, R-Miss., said. "Is there less certainty about its need now to help the economy? Yes, there is."

Lott spoke Thursday after Greenspan told the Senate

Budget Committee that a stimulus bill would have been "a clearly desirable action" three months ago — but that he is "conflicted" about whether one would do any good now that the recession is 10 months old.

"I don't think it is critically important to do," Greenspan said. "I think the economy will recover in any event."

Nonetheless, the Senate was scheduled today to continue debate on a scaled-back, \$69 billion package introduced by Majority Leader Tom Daschle, D-S.D., as an attempt to blend common elements of previous Democratic and Republican plans.

Neither side was completely satisfied with the bare-bones approach. A vote

was set on an amendment by Sen. Gordon Smith, R-Ore., to lengthen from one year to three years a bonus depreciation tax provision in the Daschle bill allowing companies to write off 30 percent of new investments.

Treasury Secretary Paul O'Neill endorsed the amendment in a written statement, saying it "greatly enhances the job creation that will be generated" by an immediate depreciation write-off.

As demonstrated by O'Neill's statement, the Bush administration remained committed to pushing for stimulus legislation despite ambivalence from Greenspan and some on Capitol Hill.

White House spokesman Ari Fleischer said Bush would continue to pressure

the Democratic-led Senate to act on broader legislation costing about \$90 billion that would also accelerate income tax cuts set to take effect in 2004, give businesses more generous investment write-offs and provide the jobless with a tax credit to help them afford health insurance.

"There are still clouds on the horizon ... and the president prefers to err on the side of creating jobs," Fleischer said.

The Daschle bill would extend unemployment benefits by 13 weeks; provide a new round of rebate checks of up to \$600 aimed at lower-income workers; allow the one-year, 30 percent depreciation write-off; and boost the federal match for what states pay for Medicaid.

Senate to probe Red Cross history of blood safety violations

WASHINGTON (AP) — Federal safety violations by the American Red Cross that have forced the charity to recall increasing numbers — thousands of pints — of blood products are prompting a Senate investigation.

The Red Cross issued 641 recalls in 2000, an 18-fold increase from 12 years earlier. While none of the recalls were the most serious type, most were classified as posing a small risk to patients — and government documents say some possibly hazardous blood was given to patients before word reached doctors not to use it.

Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle and Sen.

Edward Kennedy called the allegations serious, and Kennedy agreed to consumer advocates' request to investigate.

The disclosures "raise serious questions about the ability of the American Red Cross to ensure the safety of its blood supply," said Kennedy, D-Mass. "Congress needs to deal with these questions, too, and take whatever steps are necessary to guarantee the safety of the blood supply."

It is the latest black eye for the Red Cross, which provides 45 percent of the nation's blood and is fighting government regulators in federal court over this very issue.

Suffering Gospel s

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The Jewish rulers felt threatened because of their power of control over the people.

Their position of authority and power were in danger of being lost.

Many of their regulations were unbiblical and the teachings of the Man Nazareth challenged them.

They had crucified Jesus Christ and that His influence removed from the world. How wrong they were from the dead to be alive forevermore.

The new birth of which Jesus spoke to Nicodemus began on the Day of Pentecost.

The wind of the Spirit blew across and many people filled.

Their thirsty souls received the living water that Jesus had given to a woman at the well in Samaria.

There were so many who were pleased by this outpouring.

It was inevitable that persecution would come. The enemy was to sit idly by and let his grip on the world slip away.

The devil began to work through mankind to attempt to destroy the young church, but he was committed to the cause of God.

They felt privation for the Lord, rejoiced in the presence of the Spirit.

The church was young when persecuted. With the spread of the Gospel throughout Jerusalem, religious leaders of the day became concerned that they were losing their religious control over the people.

The devil has been in the bus attempting to do the purposes of God. Attempts to use the church only result in growing more of the young church.

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Suffering for the sake of the Gospel should be done willingly

As a pastor, I would like to encourage all the churches in the community who suffer for the sake of the Gospel.



MICHAEL WILLARD

The disciples of Christ suffered willingly for the Gospel's sake, but God's grace was sufficient for them and it will be for you too.

The Day of the Pentecost created an uproar throughout the city of Jerusalem. Many people were amazed at the events of the Upper Room and embraced this new experience of spiritual new birth.

In the days that followed, the number of believers multiplied quickly as revival swept the city, but some individuals were alarmed by the developments.

The Jewish religious leaders felt threatened because of their eroding power of control over the people.

Their positions of authority and prominence were in danger of collapse.

Many of their traditions and regulations were unBiblical and the teachings of the Man from Nazareth challenged them.

They had crucified Jesus Christ and thought that His influence was removed from Israel, but how wrong they were! Jesus had resurrected from the dead and was alive forevermore.

The new-birth experience of which Jesus had spoken to Nicodemus began on the Day of Pentecost.

The wind of the Holy Spirit blew across the city and many people were filled.

Their thirsty souls received the living water that Jesus had offered the woman at the well in Samaria.

There were some, however, who were not pleased by this spiritual outpouring.

It was inevitable that persecution would come. The enemy was not about to sit idly by and watch his grip on the souls of men slip away.

The devil began working through mankind in an attempt to destroy the young church, but they were committed to the cause of God.

They felt privileged to suffer for the Lord and rejoiced in the victory of the Spirit.

The church was still young when persecution erupted. With the rapid spread of the Gospel of Jesus throughout Jerusalem, religious leaders of the day became concerned that they would lose religious control of the people.

The devil has always been in the business of attempting to derail the purposes of God, but his attempts to use people to try and stamp out the church only resulted in it growing more and more.

The young church suf-

fered in many ways. Many lost friends, economic opportunities, and acceptance by family members.

Some suffered shame for the name of Jesus.

As the persecution increased in intensity, the disciples suffered physical abuse.

They were jailed and beaten, but they kept on preaching and spreading the Word of God.

God has always had courageous men and women who refuse to bend to pressure. Their faith and trust in God did not fail in the face of seemingly insurmountable obstacles.

There is a difference between suffering for foolish mistakes that we make and suffering for the Gospel's sake.

Some people may obey the Scriptures and still suffer, not because of the truth, but because they exercised poor judgment and behaved foolishly.

Such suffering for personal failure does not bring glory to the Lord.

David did not consider listening to the boasts and roars of Goliath.

He readily faced the intimidating giant because he knew God was with him.

Daniel refused to discontinue his prayer meetings when the threats of the law hung over his head.

Peter, John, and the other apostles refused to quit preaching just because the council commanded them to do so.

They chose to obey their divine call and mandate from God.

If we suffer for the Lord, we can rejoice in that our trial of faith will glorify Jesus.

The apostles left the council rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer for the Lord.

They had a victorious attitude about what had happened to them.

Instead of feeling sad over their aches and pains, they rejoiced and continued to preach, teach and witness with even greater boldness.

The early church was committed to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

They did not love their lives more than they loved God, for they willingly faced persecution and even death to spread God's truth.

To spread the Gospel message meant beatings and imprisonment, yet they felt honored and privileged to suffer for the Lord.

Instead of feeling depressed about their suffering, they rejoiced in their victory.

They refused to let persecution seal their lips; they became even more bold in their mission to spread the good news to the whole world.

So, I close with this thought from Romans 8:18, "For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us."

Michael Willard is pastor of Mt. Bethel Baptist Church

RELIGIOUS BRIEFS

NEW YORK (AP) — Religions other than Christianity and Judaism are much smaller than often estimated in the United States and "have hardly transformed the religious landscape" as some claim, a new study maintains.

The percentage of Muslims, Buddhists and Hindus has increased, but their numbers remain far below those of religions that are better established in United States, according to Tom W. Smith of the National Opinion Research Center at the University of Chicago.

The American Jewish Committee published his report, which is based on responses since 1973 to the General Social Survey, a poll that Smith directs.

In October, the Jewish committee issued a Smith paper concluding the number of U.S. Muslims has

been greatly exaggerated. American Muslims took issue with the report.

Smith repeats his assertion in this month's study, estimating that 1.9 million Muslims live in the United States. Most Muslim groups believe the number is between 6 million and 7 million.

Smith estimates 1.4 million Buddhists are in this country, compared to the 2.8 million to 4 million estimates often used. He also concluded the number of U.S. Hindus is less than 1.2 million, close to other estimates.

In the last decade, 2.6 percent of respondents to the General Social Survey identified with religions outside Judaism and Christianity, compared to 1.3 percent in the 1980s. Islam, Buddhism and Hinduism account for half of those in alternative faiths.

Despite this growing "market share," Smith said, their numbers remain small.

CHICAGO (AP) — The Rev. James M. Childs Jr. starts work Feb. 1 as director of a four-year study of homosexuality ordered last year by an assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

The study will produce a sexuality statement and shape future policy. Liberal Lutherans have been advocating ordination of openly homosexual pastors and blessings for same-sex couples.

Childs is a theology and ethics professor and former academic dean at Trinity Lutheran Seminary in Columbus, Ohio. He is taking a leave, since the job at Chicago church headquarters is full time.

Childs said the process "will be attentive to God's

Word, open, fair, rigorous, and as representative and participatory as possible."

NEW YORK (AP) — Rabbi Dan Ehrenkrantz has been named president of the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College in Wyncote, Pa.

The board of the college, which trains leaders in U.S. Judaism's smallest branch, made the appointment Jan. 13. He succeeds Rabbi David A. Teutsch, who resumes full-time teaching in July.

Ehrenkrantz, who graduated from the college in 1989, is rabbi of Congregation Bnai Keshet in Montclair, N.J., where he led a \$2 million capital campaign.

Reconstructionism, with 100 congregations, seeks to reformulate traditional practices and beliefs. The college, launched in 1968, has trained 200 rabbis.

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CHURCH NEWS

First United Methodist
"Are You in the Boat?" will be Jim Wright's message on Sunday. Wright is minister of music at First United Methodist.
The Praise and Worship Team also rehearses on Sunday at 2 p.m.
Noon Bible Study is at 11:45 a.m. on Jan. 23, and the Adult Handbell Choir will rehearse at 6:15 p.m. that evening with Chancel Choir rehearsal at 7:30 p.m.
Deadline to enroll for confirmation classes is Feb. 1, and classes begin on Feb. 7. The confirmation classes

are for youth in fifth through ninth grade. Classes will meet Thursday afternoons at 4:15 until March 28. A special confirmation service will be Easter Sunday. Call the church office to enroll.
Choir rehearsals for a new children's choir will begin Feb. 10, at 4 p.m. Children in Kindergarten through fifth grade are invited to join.
Plans for a trip to the Midland Community Theater is being planned by the Senior Adult Ministries for a Sunday afternoon in February. Anyone interested in attending should contact the church office.
First United Methodist Church is located at 400 Scurry. For more information on any of the programs

at First United Methodist Church, call 267-6394.
St. Mary's Episcopal
Everyone is welcome to attend worship services at St. Mary's Episcopal Church.
St. Mary's annual meeting will be this Sunday following the 10:30 a.m. Eucharist. We will not have an 8 a.m. service this Sunday.
For more information about St. Mary's Episcopal Church call 267-8201 or look us up on our web site at www.stmarysbst.org. St. Mary's is located at 1001 South Goliad.
First Christian
Dr. Jimmy Watson, pastor of First Christian Church (D.O.C.) will preach the ser-

mon, "A Christian Fish Story" during the morning worship service beginning at 10:50 a.m. Sunday School begins at 9:45 a.m. Paul Smith leads a Bible study on Wednesday mornings at 10:30 a.m. Ricky Simpson leads the youth on Sunday and Wednesday afternoons. If you would like your child to be involved in a youth group please call 267-7851.
"Come to the Welcome Table" is our theme here at First Christian. For more information about the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), see our web site at www.trydisciples.org.
First Christian is in need of pianist/organist. If you are interested in the position, please call the church office at 267-7851.

First Church of God
The First Church of God, located at 2009 Main Street, will host a video presentation Sunday from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
The video features authors, Robert S. McGee and Caryl Matrisciana, who answer questions about the Harry Potter series.
First Baptist Church
We invite you to come and worship with us this Sunday at 10:50 a.m. and again at 6 p.m. Our pastor, Rev. Dennis Teeters, will continue a series of sermons on Sunday morning on visions for the present day church titled "Renewing a Vision."
Hunters of the male kind: So...you think you're deer

chili is the best ever. Have we got a place for you to prove your point. February 2, at 5 p.m. in the Family Life Center at First Baptist Church, the men are having a "Wild Game Cook Off."
This feed is first and foremost an outreach activity for the Royal Ambassadors, a mission organization for the young men of the church.
Secondly, this is a fund raiser to assist these young men with their summer camp and other activities. If you would like to participate or get more information, call Lewis Boeker at 264-6218.
Reserve February 28th on your calendar.
Legacy Five will be here in concert.

Virginia home can monitor seniors, notice small changes that may indicate bigger problem

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va. (AP) — Jim Humphries stretches over the kitchen counter, rummaging through his shelves for a box of tea.
If he feels on display, it doesn't show.
But his house is watching him closely.
Seven redeye sensors track his every move, blinking on and off as he walks past.
There are sensors in his refrigerator and kitchen cabinets. Another soon will be installed at leg-level in the living room to monitor how Humphries is walking.
This unblinking "smart house" may seem a bit Orwellian, but its designers hope to use it in a benevolent way. They are checking up on people suffering from chronic conditions, such as Alzheimer's or osteoarthritis, whose symptoms are gradual and often overlooked.
By watching the person's activities over a long period of time, a smart home would notice small changes that may indicate bigger problems in the future. A slight limp, for instance, or differences in eating habits or the morning routine.
The Medical Automation Research Center in Charlottesville has been working on the house for

more than a year with the idea of helping independent-minded seniors who aren't ready to relinquish control of their lives to their children or a nursing home.
Project supervisor Robin Felder hopes to someday build a system that can monitor its residents' blood pressure and check if they're taking their medication. Researchers also are working on toilet sensors that could conduct a urinalysis and a kitchen console that would chart a person's diet by scanning the bar codes on grocery packages.
"Everybody I talk to has the same story of trying to care for a parent or grandparent as they get older," Felder said. "Somebody's got to deal with it, and hopefully technology can ease the burden."
If successful, the technology also would become available for the burgeoning group of seniors who live at home. During the past decade, the number of people older than 65 grew from 31.2 million to 35 million, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Nearly 80 percent of this group are homeowners, according to the American Association of Homes and Services for the Aging.
"There's a definite need for something like this,"

said AAHSA spokesman Bruce Rosenthal.
"Many people know they have a progressive ailment and know they're getting up in years, but they're not at the point of checking into a nursing home," Rosenthal said. "This would really give them — and their adult children — piece of mind."
Last spring, Felder persuaded tennis buddy Humphries — a 42-year-old registered nurse in perfect health — to become the guinea pig for the idea and turn his brick frame house into a research lab, indefinitely.
Researchers fastened motion sensors to the walls with blue poster putty, each sending a signal to a computer in his study.
"There was an initial reluctance to do this, knowing that they were tracking me all the time," Humphries said. "But within days, I got used to the little flashing lights."
The main challenge is to determine how to accurately interpret the massive amount of information coming each day from the sensors.
So far, Steve Kell, project manager for the smart house, has found only minor details about Humphries' lifestyle: "He doesn't watch TV — he lis-

tens to it from the kitchen."
But somewhere within the data log, researchers hope to eventually find his key behavior patterns — when he wakes up, what he generally eats for breakfast, if he showers every day. With that information, they can program the smart home to watch if Humphries starts to deviate from that pattern over time.
The center hopes to cram this technology into a small appliance with a simple plug and a few sensors that anyone could install, Felder said.
Companies offering the smart home service would receive the data, analyze the information and send health reports via the Internet back to the smart home, or the home of a concerned relative. The system also would be programmed to quickly notify a family

member if the person didn't get out of bed, stayed in the bathroom too long or seemed in some other way to be in trouble.
The sensors should be reliable as long as people remember to replace their batteries, Kell said. There also could be problems if the sensors aren't arranged so that they watch the entire house or if their gaze overlaps with other sensors, which would confuse the data.
A basic monitoring system using motion sensors is under development. Carillion Biomedical Institute, the center's business partner, could begin marketing the system in about a year. The kitchen and gait sensors could be available a few years later.
The entire system would cost only about \$300, Felder said. Users also would have

to pay an additional fee for some watchdog service that monitors the system to make sure the person is in good shape.
Despite the possible benefits to seniors, there is, however, one troubling aspect of the smart house. The information would be a gold mine for market research companies looking for better ways to sell products.
"Those ethical issues may come up: Who has access to this information, who's monitoring this data?" Rosenthal said.
Felder said the center does plan to provide universities with the data once it's been published in a scientific study.
"We won't make anything available that's not been scrubbed of its personal identification and the community where it came from," he said.

If you have a special love story to tell for Valentine's Day let us tell it! call Andreia Medlin at 263-7331 Ext. 238.

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IN B

Sands duo to All-Ame
Two members of the S and S Mustangs football team that reached the six-man state quarterfinals have been named to the 2001 6ManFootball.com All-American football team.
Junior Heath Webb Texas player the first team.
He was jo squad by team Floyd, a sen selected as a end on offens

Baseball bo to meet Mo
The Big S School Baseball Club will m p.m. Monday Athletic Training meeting room.
Members v preseason ho and a workd being asked ting ads for ready to be t
For more call Jim Cle 1069.

Hunter edu course sch
A hunter course, spons Texas Parks & Department, scheduled for at the Big S Chamber of offices locate ner of Third a
Class sessi for 8 a.m. to days. Steve and Boyce H instructors.
Anyone bor Sept. 2, 1971, to successful the TP&WD c being allowed hunting licen
For more i call 267-7891, 267-6957.

National LL meeting for
Big Spring Little League uled its org meeting for t son for Thursday, J Allan's Furni

ON T

TONIGHT H.S. BASKETBALL
6 p.m.
• Big Spring VG-VB.
6:30 p.m.
• Plains at C VB.
• Forsan at S VB.
• Grady at W VB.

ON TH

Radio H.S. BASKETBALL
5:45 p.m. — Lady Steers at Lady Mustangs 1490.
7:15 p.m. — Steers at Andre Mustangs, KBS

Television HOCKEY
7:30 p.m. — Mighty Ducks at Stars, FXS.

TENNIS
8:30 p.m. — Open, women's onship match,

IN BRIEF

Sands duo named to All-America team

Two members of the Sands Mustangs football team that reached the six-man state quarterfinals have been named to the 2001 6ManFootball.com All-America football team.



WEBB



FLOYD

Junior linebacker Heath Webb was one of 14 Texas players named to the first team.

He was joined on the squad by teammate Dusty Floyd, a senior who was selected as a second-team end on offense.

Baseball boosters to meet Monday

The Big Spring High School Baseball Booster Club will meet at 6:30 p.m. Monday in the BSHS Athletic Training Center meeting room.

Members will plan the preseason hotdog cookout and a workday. They are being asked to begin getting ads for the program ready to be turned in.

For more information, call Jim Clements at 267-1069.

Hunter education course scheduled

A hunter education course, sponsored by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, has been scheduled for March 2-3 at the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce offices located at the corner of Third and Gregg.

Class sessions are set for 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days. Steve Pointevint and Boyce Hale will be instructors.

Anyone born on or after Sept. 2, 1971, is required to successfully complete the TP&WD course before being allowed purchase a hunting license.

For more information, call 267-7891, 264-7033 or 267-6957.

National LL slates meeting for Jan. 31

Big Spring's National Little League has scheduled its organizational meeting for the 2002 season for 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 31, at Allan's Furniture.

ON TAP

TONIGHT H.S. BASKETBALL

6 p.m.
• Big Spring at Andrews, VG-VB.

6:30 p.m.
• Plains at Coahoma, VG-VB.

7:15 p.m.
• Forsan at Seagraves, VG-VB.

• Grady at Westbrook, VG-VB.

ON THE AIR

Radio

H.S. BASKETBALL

5:45 p.m. — Big Spring Lady Steers at Andrews Lady Mustangs, KBST-AM 1490.

7:15 p.m. — Big Spring Steers at Andrews Mustangs, KBST-AM 1490.

Television

HOCKEY

7:30 p.m. — Anaheim Mighty Ducks at Dallas Stars, FXS.

TENNIS

8:30 p.m. — Australian Open, women's championship match, ESPN.

Teen-ager Tryon gets rude awakening in PGA Tour debut

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. (AP) — Ty Tryon was looking forward to doing some of the high school homework he brought to the Phoenix Open, his debut as the PGA Tour's youngest rookie.

Anything to get his mind off golf. The 17-year-old player got a rude welcome, if not a rude awakening, after playing his first nine holes in 43 strokes and finishing with a 6-over-par 77. That left him second-to-last and 13 strokes behind first-round leader Steve Flesch.

Taking advantage of warmer, calmer conditions in the afternoon, Flesch birdied four straight holes early in his round and finished with

a 64, one stroke ahead of Duffy Waldorf.

Vijay Singh had a 66 in his first round of the year and was joined by Matt Kuchar, Tom Lehman and Skip Kendall.

Mike Weir and fellow Canadian Glen Hnatiuk were in the group at 67, while John Daly, Fred Couples, defending champion Mark Calcavecchia and Charles Howell III were at 68.

"I figure it can't get worse," Tryon said.

Tell that to Dudley Hart, who had the only score worse than Tryon. Hart had an 80, with 11 of those strokes coming on No. 18 when he

put three balls in the water.

For Tryon, one round does not define a career, much less a decision.

"Believe me, he won't shoot many 77s," Flesch said. "I saw Q-school on TV when he shot 66 with everyone watching. Today was knocking a little rust off, getting through that first PGA Tour round. He'll be fine."

Everyone was watching Thursday, or so it seemed.

Two security guards escorted him to the first tee, where 500 people gathered to watch a kid who still has two years left in high school.

Tryon expected to be nervous, and

he was. The surprise was the 41-degree weather and brisk winds. He spent the first several holes taking off his jacket to hit shots, putting it back on to stay warm.

"It's always hard when it's cold and windy, but when you got all the people and all the hype and stuff, it made it even tougher," he said. "But, I had to go through the toughest part, I guess. It might get a little easier from here, but I'm happy I went through it. You've got to experience the bad shots."

He gained experience, all right.

He hit into a greenside bunker on No. 10, his opening hole, then missed a 7-footer for par.

Hawks take 21-point win over NMJC

By VALERIE AVERY
Special to the Herald

Howard's Zach Moss came off the bench to score a team-high 18 points, and seven other teammates contributed as they raced past New Mexico Junior College 76-55 Thursday at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

The 21-point win gave Howard a 14-6 record and 2-2 in the Western Junior College Athletic Conference (WJCAC). The loss drops the Thunderbirds to 6-11 and 1-3.

Moss' under-the-basket play at the 6:00 mark gave Howard a comfortable 30-10 lead in the first half. But the Hawks would erupt for 14 more points to close out the first 20 minutes of play, 44-22.

The sophomore forward was removed from his customary starting position and came out with much-needed intensity for the Hawks, scoring his first of a handful of dunks with 7:35 in the first half.

Rodney Blackstock of Greensboro, NC, who leads team scoring with Moss at 16.8 ppg did not get his usual starting spot either, and came off the bench throwing in 13 points.

"We felt like we needed to shake (the starting line-up) up," Hawks Head Coach Chris Jans said. "Some of our guys were getting comfortable and maybe not working as hard as they could."

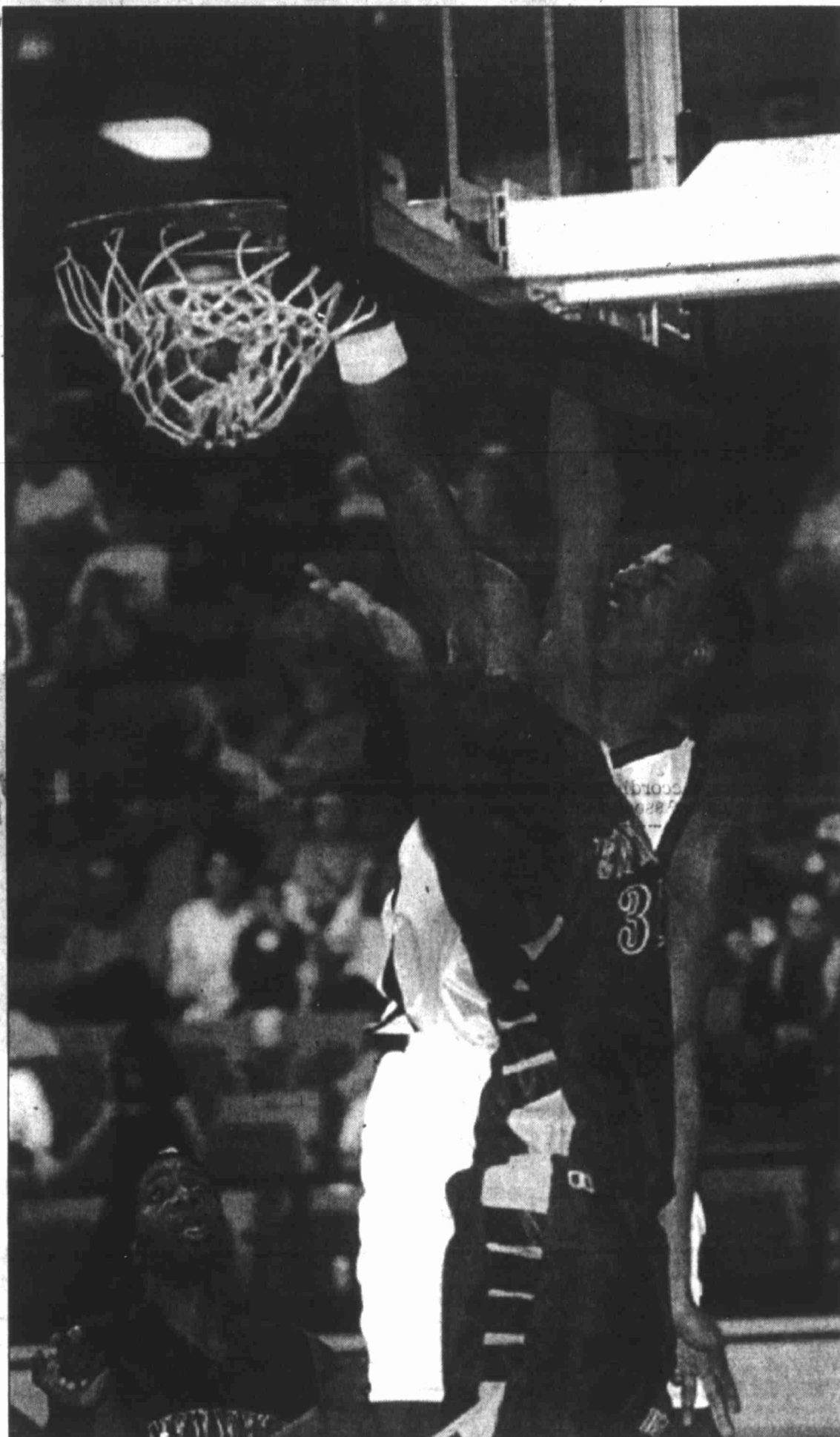
"They're good kids. It's just real easy to get in a routine. We had two guys who are our leading scorers. We just did a little shock treatment."

As a result, Howard got 49 points from its bench, while NMJC got four.

It appeared the contest was all but over at halftime as it appeared a scrappy NMJC squad ran out of gas. However, the Thunderbirds kept chipping away at Howard's formidable lead despite rotating only six players in the lineup.

"They were a little short on legs tonight," Jans said. "They've lost some guys. Some of his guys played a lot of minutes. We used that to our advantage and cranked up the intensity. And kept it up."

Sophomore Jason Gant of San Antonio, who finished with a double-double with 16 points and 10 rebounds threw in a basket to bring NMJC within 58-43 at the 8:08 mark. The Thunderbirds cut the lead to 12 before Howard took control of the game off of



Howard College's Zach Moss slams a dunk over the defensive effort of New Mexico Junior College's James Horner during the second half of the Hawks' 76-55 win over the Thunderbirds on Thursday night.

back-to-back buckets by Blackstock and Van Jamison, who grabbed a team-high seven rebounds.

Howard outrebounded (57-40) a much shorter but extremely athletic Thunderbird squad and caused 20 turnovers, which excited Jans.

"I was pleased with the way we played," the first-year head coach said. "We had some lapses, but I was

glad we kept our 20-point lead. I was very pleased with our first half."

After Blackstock made it 16-6, a usually quick-to-shoot Howard squad used the shot clock effectively hitting Moss under the basket for an 18-6 lead.

They followed strong passing with a stifling Hawk defense which caused the Thunderbirds to turn the ball over on a five-second

count. Moss topped it off with another dunk from Fears.

Freshman guard Dominique Brown, who notched a team-high six assists hit Brandon Haughton in the paint for a 39-18 advantage with less than 2:00 to play.

Brown, who was 3-for-5 from behind the stripe hit

See **HAWKS**, Page 3B

Lady Hawks fall short in end game

By VALERIE AVERY
Special to the Herald

Lady Thunderbird sophomore Cassidy Francis nailed two free throws with 1.75 seconds left to give New Mexico Junior College a 74-72 squeaker past Howard College Thursday at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

The Lady Hawks held an 11-point lead in the first half and led the entire game except for a brief 45-second period in the second half and the last 1.75 seconds.

Freshman Brittany Crouch of Slaton, scored her second of three consecutive baskets in a 2:00 span in the second half to give NMJC its first lead of the game at 45-44.

NMJC last led 47-44 at the 13:40 mark after Crouch's third field goal. They would not regain the lead until the waning seconds when Francis hit the two biggest shots of the game.

Howard regained the advantage after the Lady Hawks' Sherice Risby hit her third three-pointer to give the home team a 50-47 advantage. But each time NMJC made a run, Howard would respond.

The Lady Hawks led 72-70 when LaTasha Matthew scored her second basket in the span of two minutes at the 1:00 mark. Freshman Zaneta Lane drew the foul with :47 remaining and hit both free throws, despite Head Coach Joey Wells' timeout to try and freeze the shooter.

Howard worked the shot clock, and Risby got off a quick three but the shot was off. The Lady Thunderbirds called a timeout with :13 remaining, and Francis was fouled driving to the basket with 1.75 remaining.

After Francis made her two free throws, Wells called time out, but the Lady Hawks were unable to get off a shot, turning the ball over once more.

Howard College drops to 7-12 and 1-3 in WJCAC play. The Lady Thunderbirds chalked up their first conference win, improving to 1-3 and 9-11.

"We did not compete," a clearly dejected Wells said. "We did not show up. We had poor substitution and

See **LOSS**, Page 3B

Safin gets to Australian Open final thanks to rain delay

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) — A cooling rainstorm was just what Marat Safin needed.

Saying, "I had no chance to win if it didn't rain," Safin took advantage of a 50-minute delay in Friday's Australian Open semifinals, winning 11 of the final 13 games against Tommy Haas to advance to the final against Thomas Johansson.

The 2000 U.S. Open champion, whose 22nd birthday coincides with Sunday's final, was trailing the seventh-seeded Haas two sets to one when rain forced the suspension.

With the roof of Rod Laver Arena closed and the temperature dropping from 95 degrees to 75, Safin used his booming serve the last two sets to win 6-7 (5), 7-6 (4), 3-6, 6-0, 6-2.

"Thank God it started to rain," said Safin, who was leading 1-0 in

the fourth set when the rain came. "I needed the break and God gave it to me."

The semifinal lasted 4 hours, 28 minutes, including the interruption. Safin's quarterfinal win over Wayne Ferreira lasted just 28 minutes before the veteran South African quit with an abdominal strain while trailing 5-2.

The Russian admits he doesn't like the heat. He held both arms up in triumph when the semifinal was suspended.

"I didn't make any miracles," Safin said. "I just didn't give him any chance after the break. I made the break (of serve) straight away, because he wasn't warm enough. I took this chance and I started to serve better and I started to return — I changed completely the game."

Haas agreed that the rain delay

made all the difference.

"He picked up his game," Haas said of Safin. "The roof was closed, it was a bit more like an indoor game. It just didn't go my way."

"Mentally, I was totally there, (but) my legs weren't there anymore."

Added Haas, "I don't think the break helped me much. I had to start all over again and he came out on fire. That's just the way it is."

It was a good omen for Safin, who also got the benefit of rain during his winning run at the U.S. Open two years ago. He won the opening two sets of his third-round match against Sebastien Grosjean, but wilted in the heat as the Frenchman rallied to even it at two sets apiece.

He used a rain break then to shower and change socks, then returned to oust Grosjean and went

on to take the title.

Before the break Friday, Safin needed a medical timeout for cramping and heat stress. He later needed treatment for blisters on his hands.

In the first set tiebreaker, a forehand volley miss that left Safin trailing 4-6. Haas then won it with a backhand down the line.

Repeating the sequence of the first set, Haas broke first in the second and then was broken back.

In the second, two double-faults by the German helped Safin make it 3-3. The ninth-seeded Russian gained a 5-3 lead in the tiebreaker with two winners and cashed in his second set point with a heavy serve.

Haas saved a break point at 2-2 in the third set with a diving forehand drop volley that left him sprawling over the hardcourt.

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SPORTS EXTRA

TOP 25 - MEN

Table listing top 25 men's college basketball teams with rankings and records.

TOP 25 - WOMEN

Table listing top 25 women's college basketball teams with rankings and records.

NAIA - MEN

Table listing NAIA men's basketball teams with rankings and records.

NAIA - WOMEN

Table listing NAIA women's basketball teams with rankings and records.

HIGH SCHOOL POLL

Table listing high school basketball rankings for boys and girls.

Table listing various sports teams and their records.

Table listing various sports teams and their records.

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Denton Ryan's Battle tops TSWA Class 4A All-State Football team

Quarterback James Battle, who led Denton Ryan to the Division I state title, was named Thursday as Offensive Player of the Year on the Collin Street Bakery/Texas Sports Writers Association Class 4A All-State Football Team.

Battle threw for 3,066 yards with 38 touchdowns and added 566 yards rushing with 11 TDs. Denton Ryan defensive lineman Brian Smith was the Defensive Player of the Year.

Wide receivers — Broderick Jones, Ennis, 6-1, 175, Sr.; Vincent Marshall, Ennis, 5-8, 180, Sr. Quarterback — (tie) James Battle, Denton Ryan, 6-2, 190, Jr. and Graham Harrel, Ennis, 6-0, 175, Jr.

Running backs — Corey Douglas, La Marque, 6-6, 225, Sr.; Michael Sullivan, San Antonio Roosevelt, 6-6, 200, Sr.; Corey Clark, Smithson Valley, 6-5, 215, Jr.; and (tie) Grant Edson, Highland Park, 6-1, 270, Sr.; Brett Valdez, Brownwood, 6-4, 210, Sr. and Aaron Kohlsaat, Corsicana, 6-4, 300, Sr.

Linebackers — Chad Price, Bay City, 6-1, 185, Sr.; Orlando Madrid, Pampa, 6-1, 205, Sr.; Tyler Ryan, Southlake Carroll, 6-0, 200, Jr.; and Cody Blossom, Woodway, 6-0, 185, Sr. Secondary — (tie) Jeff Ballard, Friendswood, 6-1, 190, Sr. and Aaron Bybee, Smithson Valley, 6-2, 195, Sr.

Defensive Player of the Year — James Battle, Denton Ryan, 6-2, 190, Jr. Defensive Player of the Year — Brian Smith, Denton Ryan, 6-3, 200, Sr. Coach of the Year — Sam Harrel, Ennis.

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HAWK

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"We had son practices this said of the w put in afte Midland Colle the Chap played our tonight."

"We still h games to be game has the tance."

Howard Co with Frank Ph Monday at 7:5 Dorothy Garre

poor deci and what it bo I tried to play first half and hurting us. W go at anybody. After openin ence play wit Odessa, the I have been on a skid. After los of the contest last week, Ho Midland Colleg rout.

Howard sho quick 16-4 lea Lady Thunderb it with bas Stanton prod Madison and NMJC's go-to pl Washington. Williams was behind the arc scoring — one o the glass to within 31-25 remaining.

But freshm Alexis Burton o Chris Carmich of her team-hig to send the I into the locker 35-29 advantage Coahoma Kortney Kempe Lady Hawks off foot in the seco a three to push 40-31. But NMJ ging away unti brief lead at 45- left. Frank Phill College visits H Dorothy Garre Monday for a 5 off. "They are to said. "They ar better than he played tonight er"

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NMJC 74, LADY HAWKS 72 NMJC — Cassandra Alisha Standridge 0 0 0 0; 10; Sommers Verret Washington 2 3 3 19; Zentia Lane 1 2 11; Rach Cassidy Francis 4 2 4 10. HOWARD — Vangela Shaleneaux Campbell 0 0 0 2 14; Alton Stowers 1 0 0 2-2; 5; Sherice Risty 1 Matthew 2 0 0 4; Chris Shaleneaux Buckley 11 0 0 1 0 2 2. Totals: 33 37 72 Three-point goals: Howard 7 (Burton, Risty); NMJC 10; Howard 1 Technical fouls: None (Washington 13, Lane 8); 15; Records: NMJC is 9-1 7-12, 1-3.

HAWKS

Continued from Page 1B

his last of three three-pointers in the last few seconds of the first half for the 44-22 lead at intermission.

NMJC shot itself out of the game throwing up 11 from behind the arc and only hitting two. It was more of the same in the second half as they were 1-of-7. Howard was 3-7 in the first half but a dismal 1-of-9 in the second half for a game percentage of 25 percent.

"We had some really good practices this week," Jans said of the work the team put in after losing to Midland College Monday at the Chap Center. "We played our hearts out tonight."

"We still have a lot of games to be played. Every game has the same importance."

Howard College tips off with Frank Phillips College Monday at 7:50 p.m. in the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

HAWKS 75, NMJC 55
NMJC — Louis Martinez 4-9 12; Heath Day 0 12; James Horner 2 0-1 4; Victor Colon 2 3-8; Jason Gant 5-6 15; Tareck Leach 4 6-14. Totals: 18 1-29 55.
HOWARD — Jared Fears 0-0 0; Zach Moss 9 0-1 18; Van Jamison 6 2-2 14; Rodney Blackstock 4 4-5 12; Andre Richardson 0 5-6 5; Artavus Payne 1 3-4 5; Gilbert Giaster 0 0 0; Tyrone Payne 2 1-2 5; Andre Wright 0 0 0; Dominique Brown 3 2-2 11; Brandon Haughton 2 2-5. Totals: 27 18-24 76.
Three-point goals: NMJC 2 (Colon); Howard 4 (Brown 3, Blackstock). Total fouls: NMJC 18, Howard 23. Fouled out: none. Technical fouls: None. Rebounds: NMJC 40 (Gant 10, Martinez 7), Howard 57 (Jamison 7, Payne 6). Assists: NMJC 6-14, 1-3; Howard 14-6 and 2-2.

LOSS

Continued from Page 1B

poor decision-making and what it boils down to is I tried to play 10 kids the first half and it ended up hurting us. We just didn't go at anybody."

After opening up conference play with a win at Odessa, the Lady Hawks have been on a three-game skid. After losing at the end of the contest to Clarendon last week, Howard fell to Midland College in a 93-56 rout.

Howard's statistics were better than NMJC's in every category, except free throws and rebounds. The Lady Thunderbirds were 9-of-16 for 56.3 percent, while Howard was 3-for-7 for 42.9 percent. NMJC grabbed 48 boards and Howard had 40.

The Lady Hawks shot 44.3 percent and 29.2 percent from behind the stripe. NMJC was 42.5 percent and 17.6 percent from the three-point line.

Shamieka Buckley contributed one of her best games, hitting a double-double with 22 points and 15 rebounds.

Howard shot out to a quick 16-4 lead, but the Lady Thunderbirds cut into it with baskets from Stanton product Rachel Madison and four from NMJC's go-to player Tiffany Washington. Cassandra Williams was 3-of-7 from behind the arc in first half scoring — one of those off the glass to pull NMJC within 31-25 with 1:45 remaining.

But freshman guard Alexis Burton of Arcola fed Chris Carmicheal with one of her team-high six assists to send the Lady Hawks into the locker room with a 35-29 advantage.

Coahoma freshman Kortney Kemper started the Lady Hawks off on the right foot in the second half with a three to push the lead to 40-31. But NMJC kept plugging away until they took a brief lead at 45-44 with 14:15 left.

Frank Phillips Junior College visits Howard at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum Monday for a 5:50 p.m. tip-off.

"They are tough," Wells said. "They are 15 points better than the team we played tonight and quicker."

...

NMJC 74, LADY HAWKS 72
NMJC — Cassandra Williams 5 2-2 15; Allie Standridge 0 0 0; Britney Crouch 5 0 0 10; Sommers Verrett 2 1-2 5; Tiffany Washington 8 3-6 19; Otiasha Brown 0 0 0; Zanetta Lane 5 1-2 11; Rachel Madison 0 0 0; Cassidy Francis 8 2-4 10. Totals: 31 9-18 74.
HOWARD — Vanja Menter 2 0-3 4; Shanika Campbell 0 0 0; Alexis Burton 5 1-2 14; Alton Stowers 1 0 0 2; Kortney Kemper 1 2-2 5; Sherice Roby 5 0-5 13; LaTasha Matthew 2 0 0 4; Chris Carmicheal 3 0 0 6; Shamieka Buckley 11 0 22; Marketa Hoerns 1 0 2. Totals: 39 27 72.
Three-point goals: NMJC 3 (Williams); Howard 7 (Burton, Roby, 3 Kemper). Total fouls: NMJC 10; Howard 17. Fouled out: None. Technical fouls: None. Rebounds: NMJC 48 (Washington 13, Lane 8); Howard 40 (Buckley 15). Assists: NMJC 15-11, 1-3 and Howard is 7-12, 1-3.

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FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD
4th & Lancaster 267-7971

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401 East 4th 267-2291

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1108 E. 6th 267-1915

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457-2342

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2000 W. FM 700 267-1639

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CHRIST'S COMMUNITY CHURCH
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KINGDOM HALL JEHOVAH WITNESS
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701 Runnels 263-4211

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1995 Ford Explorer, good condition, \$6,000. Call 267-1379, leave message.
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'90 Chevy Ext. Cab. 133k. Needs paint. 965-3478 Weekends & after 6pm weekdays.
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'95 Chevy 4x4 Pickup
'88 Chevy Crew Cab Pickup
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Inspection of vehicles at Coahoma Office east of Coahoma in I-20 (exit 192) between 8am and 5pm. Phone 915-394-4991. Bids will be opened Feb. 8th.

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Full time & part time positions needed at Kate's Fina Mart. If you're friendly and motivated apply in person @ 1100 N. Lamesa Hwy

Full-time & Part-Time Customer Service Representative for busy office. Must have typing, ten key & excellent phone skills. Non smoking office. Benefits. Send resumes to: P.O. Box 532, Big Spring, TX 79721

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Full-time truck driver with CDL needed at West Texas Food bank. Must have clean driving record and be able to lift at least 50 lbs. Apply in person only at 1208 E. 3rd.

Immediate opening for full-time Loan Secretary, 1-2 years secretarial experience. Must pass background check and credit check. Bring resume and apply in person at American State, 1411 Gregg St.

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Louise Sneed 1st Garage/Estate Sale. 5 miles N of blinking light, Gail Hwy. Piano, lime oak furniture. 9:00-5:00 Fri & Sat.

Our first in 10 years, remodeled the house, have leftovers. 2 pickup rear windows. Lots of baby items; baby girl new born to 3 yrs. Too much to list. Sat. 10am No early birds! 2205 Warren

P.J.'s Inside Sale: 2210 Main, Fri. & Sat. 10-5. Couches, chairs, dishes, pots & pans, silverware, small appliances. Cheap! Cheap!

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Small dog - 20 lb. male mixed Pappion White long haired with tan markings, wearing brown collar with red rabies tag. Call 266-4548, 267-6291, 270-8891

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Nice large 3 BR, 2 bath brick home with fireplace, in quiet neighborhood, 700 Dallas. \$775/mo. \$700/dep. Call 263-5000

Unfurnished house for rent 4BR 2 1/2 bath \$300 mo. 2 bdr \$220 mo. Also have 3 bdr. \$240/mo. 264-0510

BEAUTIFUL GARDEN COURTYARD
Swimming Pool
Private Patios
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Appliances
Most Utilities Paid
Senior Citizens Discount
1 & 2 Bedroom Unfurnished
PARKHILL TERRACE APARTMENTS
800 W. Marcy Drive 263-5555 263-5000

UNFUR. HOUSES FOR RENT
1407 Sycamore, Clean, 3BR, 1 bath, CH/A, Stove & refrigerator furnished. Fenced yard. \$400/mo. \$200/dep. Call 267-1543

1409 E. 18th 3 BR, 1 1/2 bath, Carport, cellar, Water paid. \$530/mo. \$295/dep. Call 263-3689

2 bdr. den, carport, water & gas paid, 111 E. 16th. \$465/mo \$200/dep. 267-6667

2 Bedroom house, also 1 Bedroom house. Call 263-5818

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

3 BR, 1 bath, New carpet/paint. Fenced yard. \$350/mo. + dep. Call 267-5952.

3 BR, 2 bath, brick, 2 car garage, w/door opener. Nice spot for garden, just outside city limits. Water paid. 1/2 acre +. \$600/mo., \$350/dep. No inside pets. 263-6922 or 264-3976 after noon.

448-B Armstrong 4 Bdr. 1 bath, CH/A \$375/mo. \$150/dep. 268-1792 or 264-6006

607 Elgin Nice 3BR 1 bath, carport, CH/A, Washer/dryer connections. Newly remodeled. Tile floors \$435/mo. \$295/dep. 263-3689

Clean 1Bdrm Duplex with stove & fridge \$200/mo. \$150/dep. References 267-1857

FOR SALE OR LEASE: 3BR/2BTH Brick, Oil gar. \$990/mo. 4214 Thea call Joe 353-4751 or Home Realtors 263-1284

For Sale or Rent 1,2,3, or 4 Bedroom Homes OWNER FINANCE 267-3905

Mountain View Lodge is now hiring Charge Nurses for all shifts. Excellent starting pay, benefits, and working environment. Apply in person at 2009 Virginia.

Mountain View Lodge is now hiring for the position of MDS Coordinator. Excellent starting pay, benefits and working environment. Apply in person at 2009 Virginia.

Very nice 2-3 Bedroom 1/2 bath house in Coahoma School District. Located on Miller A Road in Sand Springs. Now available for lease. \$400.00/mo. plus deposit. Please call 1-888-354-7041 and leave your phone number.

MOBILE HOMES FOR RENT
For Rent, 2BR, 1 bath mobile home in Coahoma. For more information call 394-4669.

Barcelona Apartments "Call For Move-In Specials"
All Bills Paid
638 Westwood Dr. 263-1311

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Saturday, Jan. 26:

Carefully consider your goals this year. Make "you" your highest priority, focusing on your work and health. No one can guess what you feel. Learn to express your feelings more often. Your temper often pops out, surprising even you. You're unusually active this year, and you might make a major purchase, possibly a car or computer. If you are single, romance will enter your life through your day-to-day activities. Anywhere from August on, you could find yourself in a major relationship. You might just decide to tie the knot. If attached, sometimes you will agree to disagree; however, summer 2002 provides many opportunities for greater closeness. CANCER works well with you.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult
ARIES (March 21-April 19)**** Early talks set a mellow tone until you decide you must do something. Your action needs to follow your authentic feelings rather than an immediate knee-jerk reaction. Listen to yourself in a discussion. Your family remains your highest priority. Tonight: Invite others over.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)**** Your words ring the right note, though by someone's reaction you could doubt it. Could this person just be hot tempered? Easy works. Understand someone's gripes. Speak to others. An older friend or relative's suggestions help. Tonight: Out and about.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)**** Your finances rapidly become a major priority. You find ways to enhance your immediate status. You have a choice: save or spend. Ultimately, only you can decide your future actions. You will be convinced your decision is right. Tonight: Do some-

thing a bit out of the ordinary.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)**** Someone makes a direct request. Listen to this person, as he or she asks for something very important to him or her. Refuse to be intimidated by a fiery individual close to you. Go out and make happen what you want. Someone will respond. Tonight: Enjoy being top dog.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)*** Take your time as someone presents his or her ideas. A change in scenery might disappoint you, but ultimately flexing draws much happier results. If someone wants to hide out with you, go along. Fun happens when you relax. Someone shares more. Tonight: Continue playing it low-key.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)**** Friends drive a hard bargain, but they mean well. Others want your company and are willing to sabotage your present set of plans. Clean up a project. An associate or loved one balks at your flex. Don't worry so much about this person. He or she will join in on his or her own time. Tonight: Where the gang is.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)**** Others make demands, and you respond. You might be highly sensitive, as if you're in a work situation. You derive a lot of pleasure from a responsibility. A child or loved one seeks you out. Grab an opportunity while you can. Tonight: Where the action is.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)**** Take off. Opt for different surroundings. You naturally have a good time wherever you are, enjoying life to the utmost. Your laughter and happy ways draw someone's attention. Someone you meet now could become a long-term relationship. Stay open to possibilities. Tonight: Continue with the new.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)**** Choose your words and share more of

HOROSCOPE

your feelings. Think about a partner and what would make this person happy. Give more of yourself, and your relationship will become far toastier. If single, a relationship could be budding from a flirtation. Tonight: Go along with someone's desires.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)**** Your popularity soars. Many possibilities surround you. Think carefully about a financial expenditure. Spending some money on the quality of your life might be wise. Remember that you can't take your money with you when you die. Enjoy the moment. Tonight: Parties occur wherever you are.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)**** Get into a project or sleep in if you wish. Make this a special day just for you. Think in terms of enjoying your life more and perhaps doing less. Cancel a minitrip if you want. Loved ones support you in your search for a happier, more satisfying relationship. Tonight: Whatever makes the Water-Bearer

happy.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)**** Whisper in someone's ear. Share more of your feelings. Your warm emotions find a natural audience. Listen to someone's feedback carefully. This person sometimes plays devil's advocate with spending and risk. Add more spice to your life without than tossing your funds away! Tonight: Play away.

BORN TODAY
Actress Ellen DeGeneres (1958), musician Eddie Van Halen (1955), cartoonist and dramatist Jules Feiffer (1929)

For America's best extended horoscope, recorded by Jacqueline Bigar, call (900) 740-7444, 99 cents per minute. Also featured is The Spoken Tarot. Callers must be 18 or older. A service of InterMedia Inc., Jenkintown, Pa.

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Coach gives eloquent response in defense of football

Dear Ann Landers: As someone who reads your column every day, I took exception to the letter from Bill Phar, ex-member of George Halas' Taxi Squad, who said football can be dangerous and kids can get badly hurt.

I played football for 13 years, and have been a high school teacher and football coach for the past 19 years. I understand Mr. Phar's concern, but football is not a "contact" sport. It is a collision sport. There will always be injuries, but let's get some facts out there. More young people will die from car accidents than will ever get seriously hurt playing football. Cross-country and track cause a greater number of lower-extremity injuries (hamstring, hip, knee, ankle, groin, and so on) than any other sport. Soccer causes more injuries than all other sports combined.

I agree that no child should be forced to play football if he has no interest in it. Overzealous parents are a problem in any sport. We athletic coaches are the last line of discipline in our public schools. I have changed and influenced more lives on the football field than I ever have in the classroom. Football is a tough, demanding sport, but it also teaches character, discipline, commitment and dependability.

There are risks in every sport, but you cannot stay locked in your room because you are afraid of being hurt. The head of the English department at Erasmus High School in Brooklyn, N.Y., stated, "Football may be the best taught subject in American high schools because it is the only subject we haven't tried to make easy." — Mike Foristiere, Boise, Idaho

Dear Mike Foristiere: Thank you for your eloquent defense of high school football. I agree that team sports can provide a wonderful learning experience, but no child should be forced to participate. Mr. Phar pointed out that children are too often injured because they are not matched appropriately by weight, or are forced to endure unnecessary pain in order to "toughen them up." There are good and bad coaches in every sport. The good ones are priceless. The bad ones should shape up.

Dear Ann Landers: I hope you can stand one more letter about smokers and cars. As a police officer, I have investigated many automobile accidents. I'd say that

cigarette smoking played a part in many of these accidents. Sometimes, a driver would drop a lit cigarette in his lap or on the floor, and then spend valuable moments searching for it. Other accidents were caused by distracted drivers trying to light up, open their cigarette pack or brush ashes out of their eyes.

If these people want to smoke themselves to death, it's OK with me, but they should not be harming others in the process. Driving is complicated enough these days. The addicts should pull over for their nicotine fix. — Highway Cop in New York

Dear N.Y. Cop: You've seen it all. Advice from you is much more meaningful than anything I might say. Thanks for sitting in my chair today.

Dear Ann Landers: My husband and I recently visited a city where we have several friends. We asked another couple to meet us for dinner at a pricey, five-star restaurant. We told them the prices on the menu ahead of time because we didn't want to surprise them. They agreed to join us, and we made reservations for four.

When we arrived in town, we called our friends to reconfirm. They said they were looking forward to seeing us. An hour before they were due to pick us up at our hotel, they phoned and casually mentioned they were going to have dinner with another couple at their home and would join us at the restaurant for dessert.

What would you have done? — Houston Diner

Dear Houston: I'd have picked up the entire check, including their dessert, paid it with a smile and considered it "The Last Supper."

Is life passing you by? Want to improve your social skills? Write for Ann Landers' booklet, "How to Make Friends and Stop Being Lonely." Send a self-addressed, long, business-size envelope and a check or money order for \$4.25 (this includes postage and handling) to: Friends, c/o Ann Landers, P.O. Box 11562, Chicago, Ill. 60611-0562. (In Canada, send \$5.15.) To find out more about Ann Landers and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at www.creators.com.

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ANN LANDERS

TOO LATE
For Lease/Sale, Parkhill 2 bedroom, 909 W. 16th, cent. heat. \$350 per month. \$150 deposit. 267-2656 Agent.

INSIDE MOVING SALE. Furniture, stereo, lawn mower, refrigerator, washer/dryer, sports cards, camping equipment, misc. Sun. 1-5, 1706 Laurie.

Nice clean 3 bdr, 1 bath, fenced yard. Range, refrigerator, dishwasher, CH/A. \$400. mo. 267-7360.

For Sale 1998 Lincoln Continental 4 dr. Fully loaded. 33,000 actual miles. Call 267-6913 or 264-0503.

Waitresses needed. Split shift. Must be 18. Apply in person at Red Mesa Grill 2401 Gregg.

Store Closing! Everything Must Go! 60% off everything excluding furniture. Sat., Jan. 26th, 10-5, 22nd & Scurry.

PUBLIC NOTICE
The City of Big Spring, Big Spring, Texas is accepting bids for the following:
Underground Sprinkler System at the Roy Anderson Park Project; Parks 2002-01 All bids must be submitted by 2:00 PM, local time, Thursday, February 7th, 2002 at the City Council chambers or sealed bids may be mailed directly to: Mr. Todd Darden, Director of Public Works The City of Big Spring 307 E. 4th Big Spring, Texas 79720 - 915-264-2500 A refundable \$50 deposit will be required for each set required. No Pre-bid conference will be held. The City of Big Spring reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive all formalities. #3432 January 25 & 27, 2002

PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE OF APPLICATION OF FLUID INJECTION Schleicher Operating Corp., PO Box 259005, Dallas, Texas for an amended permit to inject fluid into a formation which is productive of oil or gas. The applicant proposes to inject fluid into the San Andres Formation, E.T. Strain #21. The proposed injection well is located 10 miles northwest of Colorado City, Texas in the Sharon Ridge (1700') Field in Mitchell County, Texas. Fluid will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 1655 feet to 1738 feet. LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Texas Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas. Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected, or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing within fifteen days of publication to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711 (Telephone 512/463-6792). #3431 January 25, 2002

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5 Lines	17.82	24.68	32.20				
6 Lines	19.78	28.54	37.14				
7 Lines	21.28	31.70	41.78				

20 characters per line including punctuation and spaces

BOLD FACE TYPE EXTRA

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
PHONE _____
START DATE _____
IF USING CREDIT CARD: VISA MASTERCARD DISCOVER
CARD NUMBER: _____ EXP. DATE _____

MUST GO!!
Our Loss = Your Gain

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(1) Ford Taurus Sedan
(1) Ford Mustang V-6
(1) Ford ZX2 - 2-Dr.
(1) Ford Focus 2X3
(1) Nissan Maxima GLE
(2) Mercury Sable 4-Dr.
(2) Ford F250's
(3) Ford F150 Supercabs
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LOOK TO THE BIG SPRING HERALD FOR ALL OF YOUR LOCAL NEWS, SPORTS AND INFORMATION

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FRIDAY												JAN. 25													
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Midland	Odeasa	Dallas	FAM	KOSA	WFAA	KWES	WTBS	UNI	DISN	NASH	TMC	SHOW	HBO	KMLM	A&E	DISC	TNT	TLC							
6:30 PM News Fortune	King of the Hill Raymond	Cyberchase Zoboofoo	Funnies Home Videos	News Ent. Tonight	News (CC) Fortune	News Seinfeld (CC)	Friends (CC) Fresh Prince	Intrusa	Proud Family Lizzie	Mad TV (CC) Conspire	(CC) Movie: A	Paris: The Movie (CC)	Inside the NFL (CC)	Church John Hagee	Law & Order (CC)	In the Tracks of the Rhino	Pretender (CC)	Secrets of Forensic Science							
7:30 PM Funnies Home Videos	The Chamber (CC)	Now With Bill Moyers (CC)	Movie: Police Academy 4	King Ellen (CC)	Funnies Home Videos	Providence (CC)	Movie: Lost & Found	Amigas y Rivales (SS)	Moyle: A Simple Wish	Star Trek: Next Gener.	Walk in the Park (CC)	Movie: Highlander: Endgame (CC)	Picture Perfect: Sports	Update With Faye Hardin	Biography (CC)	Unperfect Crime	Law & Order (CC)	Troopers							
8:30 PM Once and Again (CC)	24 (CC)	Wash. Week Wall St. Week	Citizens on Patrol	First Monday (CC)	Once and Again (CC)	Dateline (CC)	Derecho de Nacer (SS)	(CC) Movie: Wish Upon a Star (CC)	Star Trek: Next Gener.	Movie: Mission: Impossible 2 (CC)	Stargate SG-1 (45) Chris	Isaiah Red Shoe	Greenlight	Hour of Healing	Shackleton	Justice Files	Movie: The Mummy (CC)	Space Explorer							
9:30 PM 20/20 (CC)	Cops (CC) Blind Date	To Be Announced	Whose Line? Whose Line?	48 Hours (CC)	20/20 (CC)	Law & Order	Movie: Lost & Found	Disenador La Hora Pico	Wish Upon a Star (CC)	Star Trek: Next Gener.	Impossible 2 (CC)	Isaiah Red Shoe	Greenlight	Hour of Healing	Shackleton	Justice Files	C.I.A. Sexponage	Robotica							
10:30 PM News Nightline	Jerry Springer (CC)	News-Lehrer (CC)	700 Club (CC)	News (CC) Late	News (CC) Nightline	News (CC) Tonight	P. Impacto Noticiero Univ.	Bug Juice 3!	Star Trek: Next Gener.	(05) Movie: The	Isaiah Red Shoe	Greenlight	Hour of Healing	Shackleton	Justice Files	Movie: The Mummy (CC)	Troopers								
11:30 PM Final Score Politically Inc.	Suddenly Mad Abl. You	Industry (CC) Red Green	Wonder Years Who's Boss?	Show (CC) Phoenix Open	Ent. Tonight Politically Inc.	Show (CC) (-37) Late	Movie: Dead Calm	Humor-Comed.	So Weird (CC) In a Heartbeat	Conspire Small Shots	Pompatus of Love	Women (35) Movie: X-Men (CC)	(15) Movie: Update With Church	Biography (CC)	Unperfect Crime	Monday Night Mayhem	Space Explorer								
12:30 AM Cheers Maximum	Spin City (CC) Paid Program	Red Green Doctor Who	Paid Program Paid Program	Late Late Show (CC)	(12:05) Oprah Winfrey (CC)	Night (CC) Frasier	Maria la del Barrio	Zorro (CC) Mickey Mouse	Fame for 15	Movie: Flawless	Judge Dredd (CC)	Faith Pleases God	Movie: The Silence of the	Movie: The Silence of the	Movie: The Silence of the	Movie: The Silence of the	Movie: The Silence of the								

DENNIS THE MENACE



"How's everything up there in the big corral, pardner?"

FAMILY CIRCUS



"I wouldn't want to have a bobble head. My fork might miss my mouth."

BLONDIE



BEETLE BAILY



B.C.



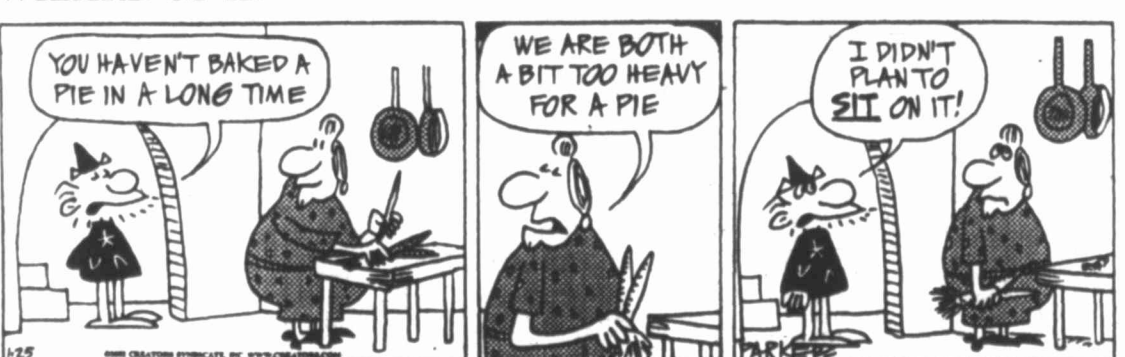
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SNUFFY SMITH



HI AND LOIS



GASOLINE ALLEY



THIS DATE IN HISTORY

The ASSOCIATED PRESS
Today is Friday, Jan. 25, the 25th day of 2002. There are 340 days left in the year.
Today's Highlight in History:
On Jan. 25, 1961, President Kennedy held the first presidential news conference carried live on radio and television.
On this date:
In 1787, Shays' Rebellion suffered a setback when debt-ridden farmers led by Capt. Daniel Shays failed to capture an arsenal at Springfield, Mass.
In 1890, reporter Nellie Bly (Elizabeth Cochrane) of the New York World completed a round-the-world journey in 72 days, six hours and 11 minutes.
In 1890, the United Mine Workers of America was founded.
In 1915, the inventor of the telephone, Alexander Graham Bell, inaugurated U.S. transcontinental telephone service.

In 1946, the United Mine Workers rejoined the American Federation of Labor.
In 1947, American gangster Al Capone died in Miami Beach, Fla., at age 48.
In 1959, American Airlines opened the jet age in the United States with the first scheduled transcontinental flight of a Boeing 707.
In 1971, Charles Manson and three women followers were convicted in Los Angeles of murder and conspiracy in the 1969 slayings of seven people, including actress Sharon Tate.
In 1981, the 52 Americans held hostage by Iran for 444 days arrived in the United States.
In 1990, actress Ava Gardner died in London at age 67.
Ten years ago: Finance ministers from the Group of Seven nations met in Garden City, N.Y., agreeing to intensify their cooperation to stimulate the world's sluggish economy, while leaving it to each country to decide how.
Five years ago: Responding to recent cases of deadly food poisoning, President Clinton said in his weekly radio address that he would seek \$43 million to implement a state-of-the-art early warning system for food contamination. Astrologer Jeane Dixon died in Washington, D.C., at age 79.
One year ago: A jury in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., found 13-year-old Lionel Tate guilty of first-degree murder in the death of a 6-year-old family friend (Tate had said he accidentally killed the girl while imitating moves by pro wrestlers).
Today's Birthdays: Journalist-author Edwin Newman is 83. Georgian President Eduard Shevardnadze is 74. Actor Dean Jones is 71. The former president of the Philippines, Corazon Aquino, is 69.

Answer to previous puzzle

DORA	GUAM	SCHWA
ICES	ISLE	AHEAD
FEMA	VOLT	LETGO
FANNIE	FARMER	
UNA	LAA	OSS
SUNBOW	FNUMBERS	
ESTE	AFRO	AORTA
RAYROMANO		
ISSEI	USER	THEM
PORTRAIT	GUAVANA	
OUI	TOT	PUP
WILLIAM	GOLBY	
CRAIG	EDGE	LOLA
OOMP	SEEN	LIEN
BESET	SORT	ADDN

Newsday Crossword APPOSITE OPPOSITES by R. Silvestri Edited by Stanley Newman

ACROSS	59 Trunk item	7 RPM indicator	39 To date
1 Blockhead	62 Racing	8 Bell town	40 Needed
5 Heavy	family name	9 Boxer Spinks	aspirin
__ music	63 Ellipse	10 Snafus	41 Miss-named?
10 Labyrinth	64 <i>The Morning Watch</i> author	11 Bunyan's tool	46 IOU
14 Mother of Horus	65 Goof-off	12 Sharp turn	47 NNW
15 Fill with joy	66 __ up (come clean)	13 Letter from Greece	opposite
16 Turnpike turnoff	67 It has a head and hops	21 Triple trio	48 Four Seasons song
17 Judge's request	68 Yes-man	22 AMA group	50 Mount
18 Smaller than mini	69 Shoe saver	25 Wicked thing	52 Throw in the towel
19 Video-game name	DOWN	26 "Done!"	53 Destroy
20 What an enemy whispers?	1 Ice-cream servings	27 In the neighborhood	54 Cuba, to Castro
23 Tram load	2 Ibsen's home	28 Pope's emissary	55 Barn area
24 Pie ingredient	3 Stead	29 Accustomed	56 Greater than
28 Lengthy recitation	4 Lenin depositee	30 Clavell novel	57 Ming thing
32 Equestrian sport	5 Part of ROM	31 Ocean abbr.	58 Otherwise
35 Related maternally	6 Cream of the crop	32 Washday aid	59 Start of a one-two
36 La Scala highlight		33 Go up	60 Grow up
37 Brady Bill opposers		34 Ingest	61 Copyright symbol
38 Robber's lookout?		36 Up to the job	
42 Dada artist			
43 Gen. Robt.			
44 Big name, for short			
45 He keeps on truckin'			
48 <i>St. Elmo's Fire</i> actress			
49 Everage's namesakes			
50 Seashell seller of rhyme			
51 Affection in return?			

