

FRIDAY

February 8, 2002

**WEATHER**

Tonight:



CLEAR

**TONIGHT** 32°-35° **TOMORROW** 50°-55°

**YMCA ready for annual support drive**

The Big Spring Family YMCA will kick off its annual support campaign on Tuesday, Feb. 19. The campaign raises funds to support the scholarships awarded to individuals and families who cannot afford to pay for YMCA services.

Last year, the YMCA awarded more than \$30,000 in financial assistance. Scholarships are awarded in the form of reduced fees.

The YMCA has also held its annual elections and voted new members to the board. They are Esthela Aguirre, Barbara Brumley, Steve Fraser, Gordon Leaman, Nike Nieto and Kim Shafer. Officers for the year are Raul Marquez, president; Troy Tompkins, secretary; and Duane Thomas, treasurer.

**WEEKEND TICKET**

**TODAY**

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

**SATURDAY**

Howard County Scottish Rite Club meets at 7:30 a.m. at the Masonic Lodge, 21st and Lancaster. Breakfast served.

The Evening Lions Club will give used eyeglasses to needy adults today from 9 a.m. to noon at Bob's Custom Woodwork, 409 East Third.

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

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

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

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

**Howard College coping with changes in GED program**

By **LYNDEL MOODY**  
Staff Writer

Changes in the General Educational Development test do not appear to be as intimidating at first thought, according to one instructor for the Howard College GED preparation course.

"It doesn't look like the changes are going to be as difficult as we first thought," said Debbie Klepper, director of adult basic education. "Overall, I think they were just updating the materials."

One of the main changes is in the math section. "It covers the same math,

decimals, percentages all the way to basic algebra and geometry," Klepper said.

The section is broken down into two parts and a calculator is now required for one portion. The testing center provides the calculator for the course.

The math section use to be all multiple choice, but in the new version some questions require the test-taker to fill in the answer or graph an answer.

"Overall the test is using more visuals — graphs, charts, political cartoons," Klepper said.

Another change is using more business-related documents.

"In excerpts they are using more business letters, memos and reports," she said. "The test is updated to use more practical applications we face today."

Students taking the new GED must write a 250-word essay, up from the previously required 200 words.

In the past, the test combined the scores for the multiple choice and essay portions for an overall score. Now the essay test is scored from 1 to 4, with 4 being the highest. A 2 is the minimum requirement to pass the essay section.

Updates to the test include:

- More business-related

and adult-context information.

• A better match up with recent state academic standards set for kindergarten through 12th grade.

• Language arts and writing portions have increased emphasis on organization.

• Math test allows use of a calculator for certain portions. Students are allowed to practice using a calculator before taking the test.

• Social studies test contains at least one excerpt from the Declaration of Independence, the U.S. Constitution, the Federalist Papers, or a landmark Supreme Court decision.

- Nonfiction reading

excerpts contain more business-related documents.

• Science test aligns with national science education standards.

Howard College offers a free self-paced preparation course for taking the GED test. Classes run from Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Tuesday and Thursday, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

"We are flexible with people's schedule," Klepper said. "We understand people have jobs. They can come and leave when they need to. They don't have to stay the whole time."

See **GED**, Page 2A

**BSISD wraps up public forums**

*Trustees will mull Anderson proposal soon*

By **LYNDEL MOODY**  
Staff Writer

After six public forums over the proposed closure of Anderson Kindergarten Center and realignment of school attendance zones, public opinion seems if not favorable at least resigned to the changes.



**MURPHY**

"I am very proud of the community for showing up at the forums. Tonight we had some great educational questions," Murray

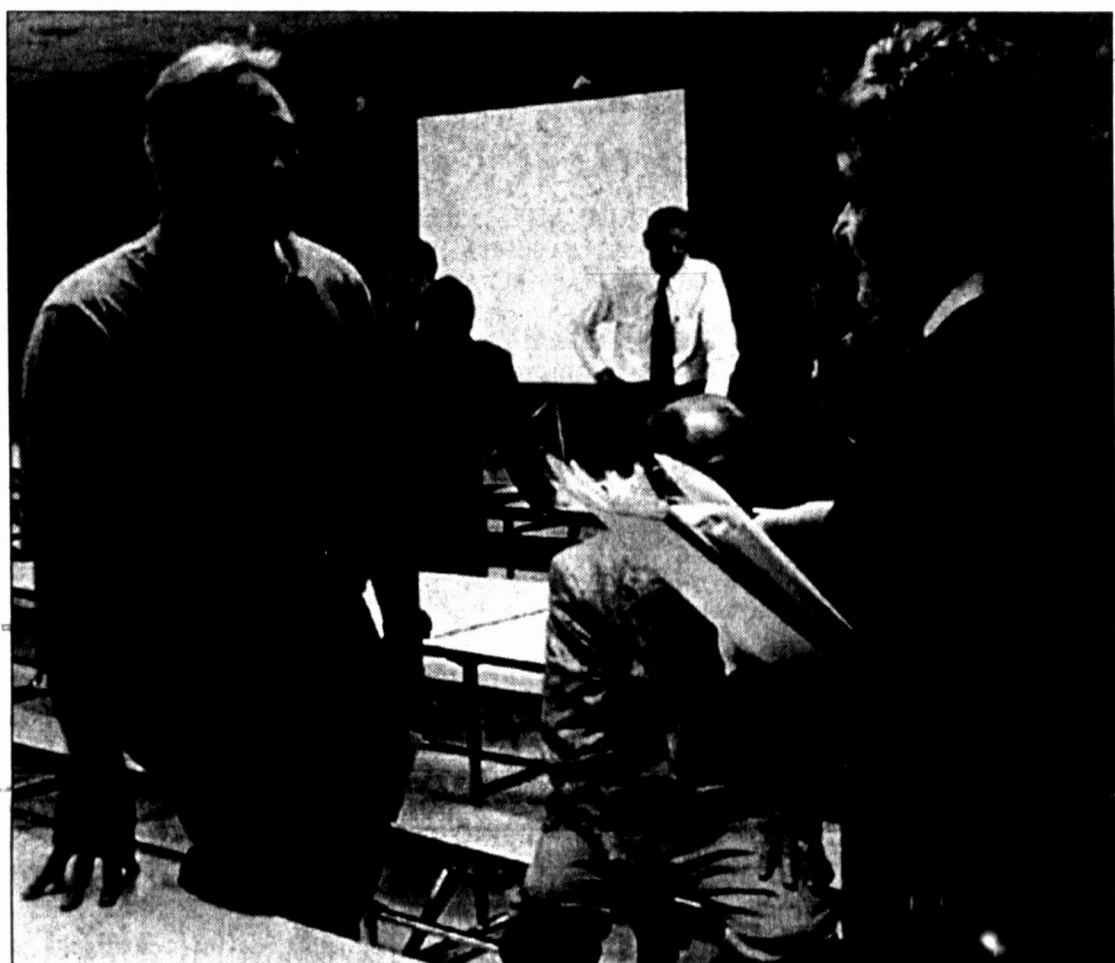
Murphy, Big Spring Independent School District superintendent said at the final forum Thursday. "I think the parents understand there needs to be a change."

"I will be happy to report next week to the board of trustees and feel like they will take the necessary actions to address our declining student enrollment."

Administrators wrapped up public talks over the proposed plan at Bauer Magnet Elementary School.

Citing declining enrollment, limited revenues and under-used facilities, the administration has recommended closing the kindergarten center and bringing kindergarten grades back to the elementary schools.

In order to accomplish this task, Goliad Elementary will be converted into an intermediate school housing the dis-



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

Big Spring Independent School District trustee Phil Furqueron, left, speaks with Bauer Magnet Elementary teacher Beverly Jeffcoat after a public forum Thursday. District administrators wrapped up public discussion on the proposed closure of Anderson Kindergarten Center and school zone realignment. The last of six forums was held at Bauer.

trict's fifth and sixth grades. Fifth grade will remain a self-contained concept.

Marcy, Washington and Kentwood elementaries will absorb the kindergarten through fourth grades housed at Goliad Elementary currently.

To make room for displaced Goliad students at Washington, rural students will be transferred to other elementaries.

Transfer students will have priority to remain at the school they currently attend as well their siblings. No other students

will be impacted by the changes.

Each of the six forums averaged about 30 to 40 parents and teachers in attendance who voiced their concerns and questions over the proposal for the 2002-2003 school year.

One of the largest concerns came from rural parents residing north of the city over the possibility of their children being assigned to Marcy Elementary School, a campus on the south side of town.

"Bauer, Washington and Moss are much closer to us

due to the fact that if something happens to our child we can get there faster," Julie Juarez, who has a first-grader at Washington, said at a forum in January. Juarez lives near the Luther community.

To address concerns, Murphy said the administration has recommend all rural students living north of town to be included in the Bauer school zone while students residing south of town will attend Marcy.

Keeping fifth grade a self-contained concept instead

See **BSISD**, Page 2A

**ALON USA to purchase key pipeline from Pride**

By **ROGER CLINE**  
Staff Writer

ALON USA's Big Spring refinery will soon be able to pump fuel directly to the Dallas-Fort Worth area by pipeline.

A L O N announced Thursday a plan to purchase a 150-mile pipeline that stretches from Abilene to Fort Worth from Abilene-based Pride Companies LP for an undisclosed sum.

The pipeline will be connected to ALON's Big Spring-to-Abilene pipeline, already in place.

"We plan to put our new pipeline into operation by the end of 2002," said ALON President and CEO Jeff Morris. "Acquiring this pipeline is key to our long-term strategy to offer consumers clean-burning fuel at low prices."

When complete, the pipeline will transport Big Spring's gasoline and diesel to the Dallas-Fort Worth area, a major market for the products.

Jim Crosby, ALON's general manager for business development, said the construction to connect the two pipelines in Abilene is currently in the engineering phase.

Crosby added that in the past, ALON has used third party common-carrier pipelines from the Gulf Coast to deliver fuel to the

See **ALON**, Page 2A

**Walker brings experience to her new post as city secretary/finance director**

By **ROGER CLINE**  
Staff Writer

Big Spring's new finance director and city secretary is in the difficult position of having to fill the shoes of Tom Ferguson, the retiring 27-year veteran of both posts.

Fortunately, Peggy Walker has served as Ferguson's assistant finance director for five years.

"Tom Ferguson worked in this position for 27 years, so he has 27 years of memories of how this job has evolved," she said. "A situation could arise and Tom could tell you 'Well, we dealt with this in this year, and this is how it worked out.' I obviously don't have 27 years of memories (in the job) but I do feel that I'm capable and I do look forward to the challenge."

Walker officially took over the job Feb. 1, but has been

acting finance director and city secretary since Ferguson retired a month ago.

Before starting work for Big Spring in 1996, Walker worked in several positions for the city of Victoria over a 10-year period, including accountant, budget analyst, senior secretary and account clerk. For six years before that, she worked as a billing clerk and secretary for an electric cooperative.

She earned her bachelor of business administration summa cum laude from the University of Texas of the Permian Basin in 1995.

Walker said she is settling into the job well.

"Some days I feel like I get quite a bit accomplished," she said. "It just depends on what comes up on any given day. If there are a lot of interruptions or new issues

See **WALKER**, Page 2A



HERALD photo/Roger Cline

Peggy Walker is hard at work as Big Spring's new finance director and city secretary, having taken over the positions from retiring 27-year veteran Tom Ferguson. Walker, who has been assistant finance director for five years, became acting city secretary and finance director in early January and took over the positions officially Feb. 1.

FEBRUARY 8 2002

OBITUARIES

Grace King

Funeral service for Grace King, 75, of Big Spring is pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home. Mrs. King died today, Feb. 8, 2002, in a local nursing home.

Viola Neas

Viola Neas, 85, of Big Spring, died on Thursday, Feb. 7, 2002, at Marcy House. Graveside funeral service will be at 3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 9, at Elmwood Memorial Park.



Abilene, with the Rev. Elwin Colom, pastor of First Baptist Church of Coahoma, officiating. She was born on Oct. 15, 1916, in Abilene and married Horace Erzell Neas on June 12, 1936, in Baird. He preceded her in death on Feb. 1, 1994.

Mrs. Neas grew up in Abilene and graduated from high school there. She came to Big Spring in 1994 after Mr. Neas' death. She was a homemaker.

She was a member of First Baptist Church. She was an avid bridge player and belonged to Abilene Duplicate and Big Spring Country Club Duplicate.

Survivors include a daughter, Sandra Rhodes of Big Spring; a son, Dwight Sidney Neas of Houston; five grandchildren, Neasa Iden of Big Spring, Jeff Rhodes of Coahoma, Matt Neas of Austin, Mark Neas of Cincinnati, Ohio; and nine great-grandchildren.

She was also preceded in death by three brothers, two sisters and one grandson.

The family suggests memorials to Gideons International, Big Spring Camp, P.O. Box 133, Big Spring 79721-0133.

The family will receive friends on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the funeral home.

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

Paid obituary

GED

Continued from Page 1A

The materials are also provided for free.

For more information about the college's GED courses, contact Klepper at

**NAILEY-PICKLE & WELCH Funeral Home**  
Trinity Memorial Park and Crematory  
906 Gregg St.  
(915) 267-6331  
www.npwelch.com

**MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL**  
24th & Johnson 267-8288  
Mabel Kirkland, 93, died Wednesday. Services were 10:30 AM today at Myers & Smith Chapel.  
Wayne Crawford, 89, died Wednesday. Graveside services are 2:00 PM today at Silverton Cemetery, Silverton, TX.

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The Associated Press contributed to this story.

BSISD

Continued from Page 1A

of semi or completely departmentalized concept was another prominent concern that many parents raised during the meetings.

Departmentalizing concept means the students attend classes with different teachers instead of staying in one class with one teacher for the entire school day.

As a teacher for 12 years, Kelly Barrow wanted to make sure her fourth-grade daughter will continue to be in a self-contained concept when she attends Goliad next year. "Basically I have taught as a fifth-grade teacher in both a self-contained and departmentalized concepts and the kids do better when they stay with me all day," Barrow said.

Murphy said the district hopes to save \$600,000 to \$650,000 from closing the Anderson Kindergarten facility and another \$400,000 to \$500,000 by additional cuts in personnel throughout the district.

All personnel cuts will be handled through attrition. The board of trustees plans to schedule a vote on the proposal at the end of February or the beginning of March.

ALON

Continued from Page 1A

Dallas-Fort Worth area. "This will be much cheaper because we'll operate the line and not pay a third party," he said. "We'll ship Big Spring's barrels to the (Dallas-Fort Worth) metroplex instead of Gulf Coast barrels."

The Big Spring refinery produces 60,000 barrels of fuel each day, which are distributed under the FINA name as far east as Fort Smith, Ark., and as far west as Phoenix.

The refinery employs 195 workers locally and gets most of its crude oil from the Permian Basin. It can also access crude from the Gulf of Mexico through ALON's Amdel pipeline.

WALKER

Continued from Page 1A

that arise, I feel like I'm just putting out fire, or just shuffling paper. One day I go home feeling very confident, the next day I might go home thinking 'Oh my gosh.'"

The stressful nature of the job appeals to her, she said. "I've always been the type of person that deals well with deadlines," she said. "I like that pressure for some reason. This job has lots of deadlines."

Because of her accounting background, Walker said she feels more comfortable with her duties as finance director, but as city secretary she will preside over an

election in November. "Right now I think (the city secretary role) is taking up more of my time because I'm not as comfortable in that role yet. There still are a lot of the laws, the statutes, regulations, that I'm learning. Of course it's a slow process. You just can't ever know all of it."

Candidates can pick up information packets today at her office. "They can't actually file for the position yet, but we will have the packets available."

In her spare time, Walker said she likes to read. "I'm an avid reader," she said. "I enjoy almost everything. I don't particularly care for historical books, I want something a little more fun to read. But novels of any kind. I like certain biographies. I just finished 'A Painted House,' by (John) Grisham."

Walker lives in Midland with her husband, who works for that city. She has two children, 21 and 12.

Travelers complain of being groped by security

PHOENIX (AP) — Dozens of female travelers have filed complaints with the Federal Aviation Administration and state officials, claiming that male airport security screeners groped them under the guise of random body searches.

The complaints include 18 filed with the FAA by women who claimed they were singled out for pat-down searches when they were traveling alone, then groped or fondled by male agents, according to spokesman Jerry Snyder.

At least 35 women have contacted Arizona Attorney General Janet Napolitano about being improperly touched during pat-down searches, spokeswoman Pati Urias said, although none has filed a criminal complaint.

The complaints were made from Oct. 11 to Jan. 31. Security measures at airports have been tightened, and the use of random body searches increased since the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

Current policy allows female passengers to request female screeners, but no federal law requires airlines to provide an employee of the same sex to conduct searches.

CORRECTION

In Monday's edition of the Big Spring Herald, Hangar 25 Air Museum weekend volunteers Doris Stevenson and Ernie Hensley were misnamed as Eric Hensley and Joyce Stevenson in an

A BIG SPRING AROUND THE TOWN

article about the museum's annual meeting.

Volunteer Donna Groenke's name was misspelled in the article. Also due to information not given to the Herald, Emma Bogard, Tom Guess, Clarence, Hartfield and Richard Mitchell were not mentioned in the article as being honored for their work as volunteers.

FIRE/EMS

The following is a summary of EMS and Fire Department activity

3:22 p.m. — 900 block of Goliad, trauma call, one patient transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

5:36 p.m. — 1900 block of N. Hwy 87, medical call, one patient transported to SMMC.

6:32 p.m. — 2300 block of Gregg, traffic accident, three patients transported to SMMC.

8:10 p.m. — 1300 block of Utah, medical call, one patient transported to SMMC.

11:02 p.m. — 800 block of Anna, public service, refused.

8:20 a.m. — 2600 block of Langley, structure fire, out on arrival.

MARKETS

Noon quotes provided by Edward Jones & Co.

AT&T	15.95 +.05
Archer-Daniels	13.44 -.05
Atmos Energy	20.61 +.35
BP PLC ADR	46.14 +.23
Chevron/Texaco	81.83 +.08
Citigroup	45.53 +1.39
Compaq	11.33 -.33
Cornell	12.3 +.24
Dell	25.85 -.35
Du Pont	42.22 +.42
Exxon Mobil	38.12 -.2
Halliburton	13.57 +.48
IFCO Systems	.7 nc
IBM	105.2 +1.29
Intel Corp	32.03 -.28
NUV	9.42 -.02
Patterson Ener	20.59 -.12
Pepsico Inc	48.1 -.5
Phillips Petro	57.15 -.2
SBC Comms	35.52 +.42
Sears Roebuck	51.3 +.1
TXU Corp	49.22 -.35
Texas Instrument	29.67 +.13
Total Fina	71.04 +1.03
Unocal Corp	34.1 -.41
Wal-Mart	58.55 +.16
Wal-Mart/Mexico	28.87-.29.7
AMCAP	15.16 -.06
Europacific	25.37 +.12
Prime Rate	4.75 %
Gold	301.5 - 304.7
Silver	4.38 - 4.45

RECORDS

Thursday's high 64  
Thursday's low 32  
Record high 83 in 1943  
Record low -5 in 1933  
Average high 60  
Average low 29  
Precip. Thursday 0.00  
Month to date 1.42

TEXAS LOTTERY

PICK 3: 0,0,3  
CASH 5: 4,21,27,30,39

Year to date 1.42  
Sunrise Saturday 7:34 a.m.  
Sunset Saturday 8:26 p.m.  
Sunrise Sunday 7:33 a.m.  
Sunset Sunday 8:27 p.m.

POLICE

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

• ELROY JOHNSON, 17, of 510 Lancaster was arrested on a Howard County warrant.

• CONSTANCE WILSON, 49, address unknown, was arrested to hold for the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office.

• JIMMY JOE SANCHEZ, 24, of 1005 E. 16th St. was arrested on a Howard County warrant.

• DANIEL ROBINSON, 22, of Duncanville was arrested to hold for the Howard County Sheriff's Office.

• BRANDY SEVERANCE, 24, of Duncanville was arrested to hold for the Howard County Sheriff's Office.

• EUNICE GONZALEZ, 21, of 1607 Tucson was arrested on two Howard County warrants.

• DEBRA LEGG, 41, of 1018 Baylor was arrested on a Martin County warrant.

• FORGERY was reported in the 2500 block of South Gregg. Items worth about \$10 were stolen with the forged check.

• ASSAULT CLASS C/FAMILY VIOLENCE was reported in the 1500 block of East Cherokee Street.

• MINOR ACCIDENT was reported in the 200 block of West FM 700, the 1700 block of East Third Street, the 100 block of Circle Drive.

• MAJOR ACCIDENT was reported in the 2000 block of South Gregg Street.

• DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE was reported in the 1100 block of East 12th Street, the 1900 block of East 11th Place, the 1500 block of East Cherokee Street.

• DISTURBANCE or FIGHT was reported in the 2700 block of Wason Road.

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity during the month of January:

• DETECTIVE CASE LOAD:

- Investigators: 4
- Clearance: 33 percent
- Previous cases: 102
- Newly assigned cases: 53
- Cleared: 51
- Inactivated: 10
- PROPERTY:
  - Stolen: \$70,871
  - Recovered: \$31,089
- IN-HOUSE TRAINING:

Officers: 27  
Class-hours: 107

• ADULT ARRESTS:  
- Total: 98  
- Drunk: 24  
- Weapons: 1  
- Driving Under the Influence: 8

- Narcotics: 10  
- Assaults: 11

• JUVENILE ARRESTS:  
- Total: 16  
- White: 11  
- Black: 5  
- Burglary: 2  
- Theft: 1

- Liquor Law: 1  
- Curfew: 1  
- Runaway: 6

• CRIMES REPORTED:  
- Sexual Assault: 3  
- Robbery: 1  
- Assaults: 34  
- Burglaries: 22  
- Theft: 49

- Unauthorized Use of a Motor Vehicle: 3  
- Family Violence: 16

• S.T.E.P. PROGRAM:  
- Officers: 12  
- Overtime: 93 hours  
- Citations issued: 77  
- Written warnings issued: 77

- Miles driven: 705.8  
• PATROL STATS:  
- Miles driven: 27,896  
- Gasoline used: 23,711 gal-

lons  
- Written reports: 341  
- Accidents: 65  
- Arrests: 112  
- Driving under the influence: 7

- Citations: 460  
- Written warnings: 343  
- Field Interviews: 199  
- Alarm Responses: 70  
- Open Door Investigations: 20

- Building Checks: 1,089  
- House Watches: 307

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401 S. Main  
CHILDREN \$5.00 ADULT \$8.00  
263-7480  
THE RITZ Theatre is now playing 1st run movies  
Black Hawk Down (R)  
Daily 7:00 & 9:30 Sat. & Sun. 4:30  
\*Rollerball (PG-13)  
Daily 7:20 & 9:40 Sat. & Sun. 4:50  
Mothman Prophecies (PG-13)  
Daily 7:10 & 9:20 Sat. & Sun. 4:40

**CINEMA 4**  
I am Sam (PG-13)  
Daily 4:20 & 7:00 Sat. & Sun. 1:30 Fri. & Sat. 9:50  
Walk To Remember (PG)  
Daily 7:10 Fri. & Sat. 9:40  
\*Big Fat Liar (PG)  
Daily 4:50 & 7:30 Sat. & Sun. 2:00 Fri. & Sat. 9:30  
\*Collateral Damage (R)  
Daily 4:40 & 7:20 Sat. & Sun. 1:50 Fri. & Sat. 10:00  
A Beautiful Mind (PG-13)  
Daily 4:30 Sat. & Sun. 1:40  
ADULTS: \$6.00  
\$3.50 ALL MATINEES, CHILDREN & SENIOR CITIZENS  
\*PASS RESTRICTED  
**STAR**  
Joe Somebody (PG)  
Slackers (R)  
Lord of the Rings (PG-13)  
Orange County (PG-13)  
Admission: \$2.00  
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**SEARS CORRECTION**  
In the Thursday, Feb. 7th Issue of the Big Spring Herald, The Sears preprint labeled "Big President's Day Sale" was actually inserted one week early. The correct sale dates for this preprint is Friday, Feb. 15th-Monday, Feb. 18th. The preprint that should have been in the Feb. 7th issue will actually insert today. The Big Spring Herald regrets any inconvenience this may cause Sears' customers.

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**ROSES**  
Remind your loved ones just how special they are with a gift of flowers on Valentine's Day.  
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Gifts & Decorator Items  
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Gramm for Texas

WASHINGTON, Texas Sens. Phil Gramm and Kay Bailey Hutchison both Republican ways on a vote whether to cap subsidies at \$275 million. Gramm voted against it.

Gramm supports the bill because of his over the high schools contained in the bill," Gramm said. "This amendment means by reduce that spend."

Under existing farms can receive subsidies for pr

North in con

DALLAS (AP) Texas grand jury ed a businessman by federal regul representative Internet service targeted in a terrorism task fo

Ihsan "Samm" was arrested T charges of mak ments of compu Saudi Arabia, Jordan after Commerce barred him

September fro international sa Elashyi, 41, i by the Department as a tive of InfoCo

Air term

GRAPEVINE screener's failure federal air mars ty at Dallas-F International Al the shutdown o nal and evacuat dreds of pass more than Thursday night.

Law officers screener failed T Department of P to verify the badge upon Terminal E.

The evacuat shortly after 7 p

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Gramm for Hutchison against

# Texas senators split on farm subsidy cap

WASHINGTON (AP) — Texas Sens. Phil Gramm and Kay Bailey Hutchison, both Republicans, split ways on a vote Thursday on whether to cap agricultural subsidies at \$275,000 a year.



GRAMM HUTCHISON

Gramm voted for the cap and Hutchison voted against it.

Gramm supported the cap because of his "concerns over the high spending levels contained in the farm bill," Gramm spokesman Larry Neal said.

"This amendment offered one means by which to reduce that spending," Neal said.

Under existing rules, farms can receive unlimited subsidies for production of

grain, cotton and soybeans, and growers can get \$80,000 more under a separate program that provides fixed annual payments.

The vote was on an amendment to a Democratic farm bill that the Senate still must approve. The cap could kill the Democratic bill.

Hutchison said she voted against the cap because she said it would not allow a married couple to have separate farms and it denies farmers access to certain loan programs. She said the measure sets a cap for single farmers at \$225,000.

"I don't disagree with the need to have some caps, but I think this amendment was wrong ... It's a huge marriage penalty," she said.

Rep. Larry Combest, House Agriculture Committee chairman, declined comment on the vote, saying he would wait for the vote on the final bill.

Rep. Charlie Stenholm, ranking Democrat on the House agriculture commit-

tee, said the vote would "complicate grossly getting a bill out of the Senate."

Some in agriculture have hoped a new farm bill would be passed by April, when Congress rewrites its budget resolution. Any later and farm programs could lose money.

Agriculture is Texas' second largest industry with actual receipts to growers totaling about \$14 billion. It ranks No. 2 in the nation for agricultural production, according to the Texas Agriculture Department.

The agriculture department estimates that the industry has an \$80 billion economic impact to the state.

# North Texas computer company owner arrested in connection with shipments to Saudi Arabia

DALLAS (AP) — A North Texas grand jury has indicted a businessman described by federal regulators as the representative of an Internet services company targeted in a search by a terrorism task force.

Ihsan "Sammy" Elashy was arrested Thursday on charges of making 12 shipments of computer goods to Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Jordan after the U.S. Commerce Department barred him in mid-September from further international sales.

Elashy, 41, is described by the Commerce Department as a representative of InfoCom Corp., a

Richardson Internet services company operated by three of his brothers. InfoCom was the target of a three-day search by a federal terrorism task force in early September.

A federal grand jury indicted Elashy on felony charges of violating a government order suspending his export license.

Indictment of Elashy was the first criminal action stemming from a two-year investigation by the North Texas Joint Terrorism Task Force, according to The Dallas Morning News' Friday.

Each charge carries a

maximum penalty of five years imprisonment and a \$250,000 fine.

Elashy is the principal owner of Tetrabal Corp., a Richardson computer sales company he founded in 2000.

U.S. Magistrate Jeff Kaplan ordered Elashy held until a detention hearing Friday. The suspect has denied wrongdoing.

An asset-freezing order served on InfoCom, the target of a three-day federal search in early September, cited a \$250,000 investment by the wife of a political leader of the terrorist group Hamas. The reason for the

search has not been disclosed.

An order by the Commerce Department's Bureau of Export Administration temporarily suspended export privileges of InfoCom and Tetrabal for allegedly shipping equipment to Libya and Syria without authorization.

An InfoCom client co-founded and directed by one of Elashy's brothers, Holy Land Foundation for Relief and Development, closed in December after the Treasury Department accused the self-described charity of being a Hamas front and seized its assets.

# Air terminal evacuated after air marshal wasn't checked

GRAPEVINE (AP) — A screener's failure to verify a federal air marshal's identity at Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport forced the shutdown of one terminal and evacuations of hundreds of passengers for more than an hour Thursday night.

Law officers said the screener failed to notify the Department of Public Safety to verify the marshal's badge upon entering Terminal E.

The evacuation began shortly after 7 p.m. The ter-

minal reopened at 8:10 p.m. Passengers already seated on four flights had to be evacuated, said FAA spokesman John Clabes.

Three other planes that took off before they could be stopped and evacuated were to be screened upon arrival at their destinations.

The flights included two Delta Air Lines flights, 722 and 237, to Atlanta and another Delta flight to Oklahoma City.

Airport spokesman Ken Capps said FAA regulations mandate that screeners noti-

fy the DPS before allowing marshals to enter the terminal.

"Right now we're operating under zero tolerance for security and the FAA made the determination to shut down the terminal and the airport supported that decision," he said.

He said screeners are also supposed to contact the airport's public safety officers to verify the identification of other law enforcement officers who pass through security checkpoints.

Clabes said an FAA repre-

sentative who saw the security lapse notified law enforcement.

Several hundred people were evacuated from the terminal and were re-screened to enter the terminal, Clabes said.

He said the air marshal was found on one of the flights that landed in Atlanta.

## STATE BRIEFS

### Disguise fails to fool border agents

FALFURRIAS (AP) — A Florida man federal border agents said was disguised as a priest was arrested, with more than 300 pounds of marijuana discovered inside his vehicle.

The U.S. Border Patrol said drug-detecting dogs at an inspection station alerted agents to the rental car being driven by the man claiming to be a priest.

Carlos Quevedo, public affairs officer for the Border Patrol, said the man was wearing the traditional garments of a priest, including a black shirt with a white collar, and with a statuette of the Virgin Mary on the dashboard of the vehicle.

Quevedo said the man was referred for secondary inspection when the dogs started barking at the trunk of the car.

Agents discovered 310 pounds of packaged marijuana in the trunk of the vehicle during their examination.

Quevedo said the man, who had warrants for his arrest out of Florida and a history of drug trafficking, was arrested and turned over to the Drug Enforcement Agency in Corpus Christi.

### Bodies found in Missouri City

HOUSTON (AP) — Police who found three men bound and shot to death in a Missouri City home also discovered the 3-year-old daughter of one of the victims asleep in a back bedroom.

Officers responding to a woman's frantic call for help Thursday entered the one-story, brick house about 6 a.m. They found the girl, who apparently slept peacefully during the shootings, in a bedroom and the men's bodies in the kitchen.

One of the victims was identified as the girl's father, 24-year-old Eric D. Ward, who lived there. Police said another victim was his brother Derrick, 22. The third man's name was being withheld until relatives could be notified.

Police had not determined a motive or suspects in the slayings, department spokesman Dan Flagg said.

The bodies were discovered about 5:45 a.m. by the girlfriend of one of the men, Flagg said. She arrived at the house and ran to a neighbor's house after finding the bodies, he said.

Flagg said the girl was unharmed and totally unaware of what had happened. She was taken to the police station, where her mother picked her up.

### Sanchez has slim lead over Morales

DALLAS (AP) — South Texas businessman Tony Sanchez has moved his fledgling candidacy ahead of former Attorney General Dan Morales in the race to win the Democratic nomination for governor.


Sanchez has a slim lead over Morales in a statewide poll of likely Democratic primary voters by The Dallas Morning News.

Sanchez was favored by 36 percent of respondents and Morales by 28 percent, according to the telephone poll of 654 likely Democratic primary voters. About one-third are undecided, the poll found. The poll has a margin of error of plus or minus 4 points.

"You would give Sanchez the edge at this point over Morales, but it's certainly very close," pollster Julie Weprin told The Morning News in Friday's editions.

Blum & Weprin Associates Inc. conducted the survey Feb. 1 through Tuesday.

FEBRUARY 8, 2002



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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.

**Ken Dulaney**  
Publisher  
**John A. Moseley**  
Managing Editor  
**Bill McClellan**  
News Editor

## OUR VIEWS

# We salute:

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

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

This week we salute:

- **GOLIAD SCIENCE TEACHER DAVID THAYER**, whose innovative teaching skills have sixth graders learning Power Point.
- **AREA BOY SCOUTS**, who celebrated Scout Week this week, and for another successful Scouting For Food drive last Saturday.
- **HOWARD COUNTY SHERIFF'S POSSE**, on its laugh-a-minute donkey basketball fund-raiser.
- **VOLUNTEERS RICKY JAMES, RICHARD NIX, JESSIE ALBA AND JOE CLARK**, on receiving Legion of Honor certificates during the Four Chaplains memorial service at the VA Medical Center.
- **TOM FERGUSON**, on his retirement after nearly 27 years as secretary and finance director for the city of Big Spring.
- **VITA VOLUNTEERS**, who each Monday from 9 a.m. to noon assist Howard County residents in preparing their tax returns at the Spring City Senior Center.

*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:**  
I just wanted to say thank you for allowing The Salvation Army to set up an "Angel Tree for Seniors" at your establishment.

Because of the care and concern you have for Big Spring, our Christmas program was very successful, and many senior citizens who normally would have had nothing had a wonderful Christmas.

I also wanted to say thank you for the Herald's support of all we do. I appreciate the positive publicity that is given by the staff. May God richly bless you and yours in all that you do.

Again thank you for your support.

**CAPT. RUSS KEENEY**  
COMMANDING OFFICER  
BIG SPRING

**TO THE EDITOR:**  
On behalf of the Wilderness Camp inmates I would like to say a big "thank you" to Craig Felty of Cornerstone Church and Malcom Pointon of Christ's Community Church and

their congregations for feeding the inmates on Jan. 25 at Dora Roberts Community Center.

The 140-plus inmates and 20 officers enjoyed a meal of chicken strips, mashed potatoes, gravy, baked beans, variety of bread, ice tea, plus some wonderful cake and peach cobbler.

Malcom Pointon gave the opening prayer, a video of the Festival of Lights was shown, then the group of inmates entertained with several spiritual songs.

This is a way that two congregations come together for this effort. Should you feel your church is too small, and you desire to feed the inmates, contact another church like these did and put it together. We already have April and October scheduled, and a church is looking at July, so hopefully I have this year covered. Any church or organization interested in doing this for the inmates that do so much for our community may contact me at 263-4607.

**PAT SIMMONS**  
BIG SPRING

## How To Contact Us

- The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions. In order that we might better serve your needs, we offer several ways in which you may contact us:
- In person at 710 Scurry St.
  - By telephone at 263-7331
  - By fax at 264-7205
  - By e-mail at johnmoseley@bigspringherald.com.
  - By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721.

# Bush's internal contradictions are showing

Excuse me, but the Bush administration's "internal contradictions," as the communists used to say, are showing like a dirty slip. On Jan. 25, the administration ordered federal agencies to review their contracts with Arthur Andersen and Enron, saying the scandal swirling around the companies raise doubts about whether they should continue to receive taxpayer money.



**MOLLY IVINS**

This would be well and good if the same administration had not, on Dec. 27, repealed a Clinton-era rule that prevents the government from awarding federal contracts to businesses that have broken environmental, labor, tax, civil rights or other laws. What we have here is not so much hypocrisy as complete incoherence.

Shouldn't they have to wait at least a month before they contradict themselves? Or maybe the Bush doctrine is that you can give government contracts to chronic lawbreakers as long as they're not in the headlines.

The repeal of the Clinton rule by the Bushies — nicely timed for minimum attention between

Christmas and New Year's — stopped federal agencies from considering the law-breaking record of corporations in the process of granting contracts. As you know, many corporations repeatedly violate the law, and if and when they are caught, they pay a slap-on-the-wrist fine and continue on their merry way. A study by The Associated Press found hundreds of contractors that remain eligible for federal contracts despite having been convicted of or sued for defrauding the government.

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce naturally denounced the Clinton rule as "blacklisting" and even organized a National Alliance Against Blacklisting with other business groups. Blacklisted for repeatedly breaking the law? What a dreadful thought. Lawbreakers have to make a living, too, so why not reward them with millions of taxpayer dollars? Why should "three strikes and you're out" apply to corporations as well as to gormless citizens who shoplift sandwiches? Who do you think is running this country?

Unless, of course, the corporation is Arthur Andersen or Enron and a source of political embarrassment to the administration. Bush is crawling away from his old friend Kenny Boy just as fast as he can.

Another mind-bending example of the Bush method of governance —

which shell is the pea under today? — was last week's announcement by Health and Human Services that poor women would be able to get prenatal care under CHIP (the Children's Health Insurance Program) by defining a fetus as "child." This move set off a great squawking from the pro-choice lobby.

Kate Michaelman of the National Abortion and Reproductive Rights Action League said: "This is not about health care for women. It's all about politics. It's about undermining a woman's right to choose, disguised as health policy." Meanwhile, the right-to-lifers were crowing. Their national spokesman said, "We applaud this proposal to recognize the existence of the unborn child in order to allow the baby, and the mother as well, to receive adequate prenatal care — a concept to which only the most extreme pro-abortion ideologues will object." Ha, ha, ha, even the liberals will have to support this one.

Whether or not the administration intended a sneak attack on abortion rights, the fact is the move is irrelevant.

In case you haven't noticed, CHIP is running out of money. In Texas, where Gov. George Bush's tax cuts left the budget cupboard bare, the program is in deep doo-doo, with a projected deficit of \$105 million for the biennium. Faced with the across-the-board "belt-tightening" order from Gov. Rick

("Goodhair") Perry, our health commissioner came up with a creative package: freeze enrollment, put kids on a waiting list, delay starts dates for coverage and reduce the length of automatic enrollment. This is the famous Texas ploy of making it so difficult and unpleasant for people to apply for help to which they are entitled that practically no one makes it through the bureaucratic maze.

What difference does it make if you declare poor women are eligible for prenatal care when the whole program is broke? Just put the "unborn child" on the waiting list with everyone else, soon it will be a born child, also unable to get health insurance, thus saving us all a lot of pointless debate.

Jamie Galbraith, the useful University of Texas economist, has a sensible suggestion about what we can do about the looming crisis in state budgets: "Recreate a revenue-sharing program for the states, with a pass-through to cities, on a scale sufficient to plug the budget gaps. Let's say \$100 billion in the first year. Pass it with very few strings, as a block grant, and get past the Washington gridlock. Revenue sharing has Republican lineage; it ought to be a bipartisan cause today. The federal government could also make it easier for states to borrow in support of their capital programs."



HOWARD TINSLEY, THE GREAT SPEAKING 2/02

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# How best then, to take on Iraq?

The president's State of the Union address linked the regimes of Iraq with those of Iran and North Korea in an "axis of evil." It was reminiscent of the Axis Powers (Germany, Italy and Japan) in World War II and of President Ronald Reagan's description of the Soviet Union as an "evil empire." But there are differences.

First, what is the president's objective? Clearly, it is to topple those regimes. How? Are American and allied forces going to invade each of those well-armed nations? Yes and no.

What makes the most sense is to go after Saddam Hussein in the Iraqi capital, Baghdad, because once he falls, the mere threat of attack is likely to change the calculus in Iran and

North Korea.

So the most immediate question is how best to take on Iraq. Allied forces already control two-thirds of Iraq's airspace in what is called the no-fly zones in the North and South. And control of the air is the necessary first step. The problem comes with an invading force.

The Southern Iraqi Shiite Muslim rebels rose up after the Gulf War in 1991 only to be slaughtered by Saddam's forces while U.S. and allied forces stood idly by. The Kurds in the north were also attacked by Saddam's forces, but there, American and allied forces created a sanctuary. However, the Kurds are engaged in an ongoing struggle with Turkey, a strong U.S. ally and NATO partner.

Northern Alliance had an army in the field constantly engaged in combat. It was a force with equipment, leadership and experience. So a repeat of the Afghan experience is unlikely.

Other options must be considered. A long conflict of attrition while the Southern and Northern rebels are armed and trained must be ruled out. The problem is that Saddam's development of weapons of mass destruction continues, making time our enemy. Another Desert Storm-like invasion would take months to mount and would be upsetting to Iraq's neighbors. Saudi Arabia, having forgotten that America saved it from Saddam's clutches, has already asked the United States to reduce its military presence in its country.

Perhaps the best solution is to insert overwhelming forces directly into Baghdad. Control of the air makes it possible. And the objective — Saddam Hussein and his upper-echelon loyalists — would be

targeted, rather than the Iraqi people or even the Iraqi Army, which would quickly disintegrate into confusion once its leaders were on the run. Certainly, this is a scenario just witnessed in Afghanistan, when both Omar and bin Laden became more concerned for their own safety than the safety of their troops.

Interestingly, the new film, "Blackhawk Down," about the U.S. attempt to capture a warlord and his lieutenants in Somalia, shows what happens when insufficient troops are sent into the center of a hostile city. It was a disaster. What needs to be noted is that that disaster would have been a success had enough troops, proper equipment, and better planning been involved.

But regardless of the method used, removal of Saddam Hussein and his regime in Iraq could have only a chilling effect on the leaders of Iran and North Korea and, more importantly, upon the people they rule.

Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld said the step Thursday it "could be a precedent for the other words, de the Geneva applies now wo United States a ment against n of U.S. troops the future.

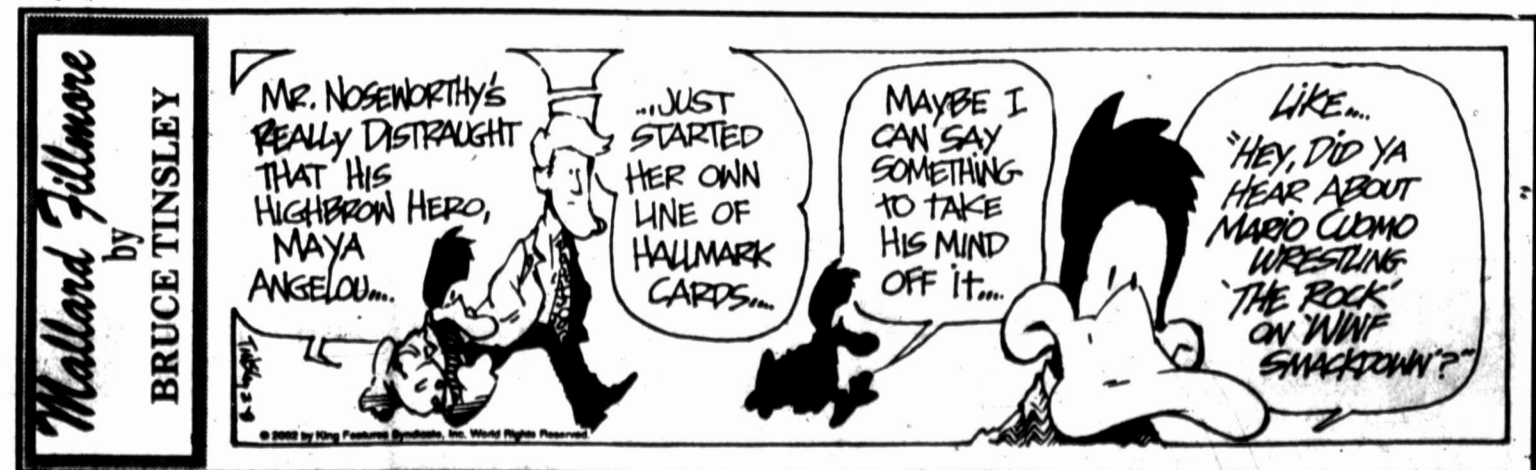
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The president key POW issue but that left the whether the Afghanistan detainees fall



**Mallard Fillmore**  
by **BRUCE TINSLEY**

# Ex-En

WASHINGTON Despite a reput hands-on manag Enron Corp. chief Jeffrey Skilling knew nothing of dealing and schemes that engulfed the scandal and bank Skilling, who from Enron i before the compa problems be lic, told a co panel Thursday he left he "did the company w financial peril."

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The president key POW issue but that left the whether the Afghanistan detainees fall

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## Ex-Enron exec: Out of loop on partnership deals before collapse

WASHINGTON (AP) — Despite a reputation as a hands-on manager, former Enron Corp. chief executive Jeffrey Skilling insists he knew nothing of the self-dealing and accounting schemes that eventually engulfed the company in scandal and bankruptcy.

Skilling, who resigned from Enron in August before the company's financial problems became public, told a congressional panel Thursday that when he left he "did not believe the company was in any financial peril."

But lawmakers said they found it hard to believe that Skilling, described by some colleagues as a "control freak," could have been that much in the dark about the complex web of outside partnerships that investigators said was designed largely to conceal Enron's losses, hide its debts and make a handful of executives rich.

Two of those executives — Andrew Fastow, former chief financial officer, and Michael Kopper, who worked for Fastow — invoked their constitutional right under the Fifth

Amendment and refused to testify Thursday before the House Energy and Commerce investigations subcommittee.

So did Richard Buy, Enron's former chief risk officer, and Richard Causey, its former chief accounting officer. Former chairman Kenneth Lay is expected to do the same next week when he appears before two other committees that have subpoenaed his testimony.

Fastow created the controversial partnerships, which investigators say were at the heart of Enron's col-

lapse, and brought in Kopper to run one of them. Together the two made \$40 million in transactions investigators say were marked by self-dealing and conflicts of interest.

A dozen congressional committees are investigating the Houston-based energy-trading company, as are the Securities and Exchange Commission and the Justice Department. Enron entered the biggest bankruptcy in U.S. history on Dec. 2.

Millions of investors lost money, and thousands of current and former Enron

employees lost the bulk of their retirement savings when the company collapsed, prompting moves by President Bush and Congress to consider rewriting laws covering private retirement plans.

During nearly three hours of intense questioning Thursday, Skilling repeatedly said he had no reason to believe Enron's off-the-books partnerships were a problem.

He also said he did not recall a board of directors meeting in which it was made clear that he was sup-

posed to approve all deals involving the partnerships that concealed hundreds of millions of dollars in debt and overstated the company's profits by more than \$1 billion over several years.

Two Enron senior executives said they had raised serious concerns about Fastow's business dealings nearly two years ago, but were rebuffed. At the core of their concerns was what they considered to be clear conflicts of interest involving Fastow and the partnerships to the detriment of Enron shareholders.

## Deductible for higher-income veterans faces tough road in Congress

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush's proposal to require veterans with incomes as low as \$24,000 to pay a \$1,500 deductible for using the Veterans Affairs health care system is drawing heat.

The government has to adequately fund the system, said Rep. Christopher Smith, R-N.J., chairman of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee, "but pricing people out of it with a high deductible isn't a viable way."

The deductible was included in Bush's 2003 budget plan as a means of coping with rapidly growing participation in VA health

care programs. The administration estimated savings of more than \$1 billion from the deductible, predicting reduced costs of \$885 million and increased collections of \$260 million.

The need for new revenue grows out of a 1996 law that opened VA medical facilities to nearly all veterans, not just the very poor and those with military disabilities.

Since then, the number of veterans enrolled in VA health care has doubled, to 6 million, and one-third of those are now higher-income veterans with no service-related disabilities. Those "priority 7" veterans

have incomes of at least \$24,000 if single or \$28,000 if married and have no service-related disabilities.

The VA pointed out that many veterans — such as those with illnesses related to the Gulf War or Agent Orange, those exposed during atomic tests or recipients of the Purple Heart — would not pay the deductible regardless of income.

The Veterans Affairs Department said the increased usage, along with higher costs for drugs, health care inflation and new mandates such as emergency, mental health and long-term care, "have all

contributed to a financial challenge and hard budget decisions."

"We have an explosion in our workload," said VA chief financial officer Mark Catlett. In order to keep the system open, those in the higher-income category are going to carry a larger share of the cost, he said.

Last November, the administration was ready to tell veterans groups of a decision to freeze new enrollments by the higher-income group. At the last minute, it instead announced that Congress and the White House would search for new ways to find additional funding.

The outcome was the proposed annual deductible. Under the plan, veterans or their insurance companies would pay 45 percent of charges each time they receive medical care until they reach the \$1,500 annual ceiling. After that, they would continue to pay minimal copayments for outpatient and inpatient care.

There would be no change in care for the VA's core groups, the poor and those with service-related disabilities.

Catlett estimated that the \$1,500 deductible would cause some 121,000 higher-income veterans to instead turn to other health care services, saving the VA system money.

## Bush says Geneva Convention applies to Taliban

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush's declaration that the Geneva Convention applies to Taliban prisoners doesn't change anything for the prisoners, but U.S. officials hope it could help protect any American soldiers captured later.

Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld said Bush took the step Thursday because it "could be considered a precedent for the future." In other words, declaring that the Geneva Convention applies now would give the United States a better argument against mistreatment of U.S. troops detained in the future.

Bush also sought to quell international criticism of the treatment of Afghan war detainees, particularly the 186 being held at Guantanamo Bay Naval Base in Cuba. Administration officials on Thursday repeated their assertions that the prisoners were getting humane treatment.

"They have always been treated consistent with the principles of the Geneva Convention, which means they will be treated well," White House spokesman Ari Fleischer said.

The Bush administration said the 1949 Geneva Convention on treatment of war detainees does not apply to members of the al-Qaida terrorist network, however. The convention — actually a series of treaties — applies to nations at war, not to terrorist groups, the Bush administration said.

Bush refused to consider classifying al-Qaida or Taliban fighters as prisoners of war, denying them a wide range of rights and privileges afforded to POWs under the Geneva Convention. For example, POWs must be returned to their home country once the war is over.

The president settled that key POW issue weeks ago, but that left the question of whether the conflict in Afghanistan and the detainees fall under the

Geneva pacts. Saying the conflict is covered by the Geneva Convention will help preserve protections for U.S. troops if they are captured in Afghanistan or elsewhere during the war on terrorism.

Although the United States never recognized the Taliban as Afghanistan's government, they do qualify as one under the Geneva Convention, the Bush administration said. Still, officials said, Taliban fighters do not deserve POW status because they did not follow the convention's other rules.

"The Taliban have not effectively distinguished themselves from civilian population of Afghanistan. Moreover, they have not conducted their operations in accordance with the laws and customs of war," Fleischer said.

Shortly after the White House announced Bush's decision, the Guantanamo Bay facility received 28 new prisoners from Afghanistan. They are kept in chain-link

cells that critics call cages. U.S. forces also hold 324 detainees in Afghanistan.

Even before Thursday's decision, the Guantanamo Bay detainees received three meals a day, medical care, clothing, shelter, showers and opportunity to worship, Fleischer said. The president's decision Thursday will not change those conditions, he said.

Bush does not want the detainees to get taxpayer-funded stipends and things such as musical instruments afforded to POWs, Fleischer said.


Michael Nooné, professor at Catholic University law school and an expert on the Geneva Convention, said Bush's decision will have no effect on U.S. operations, either in Afghanistan or at Guantanamo.

"What this does is it clarifies some of the things the U.S. has said before in a way that intends to respond to domestic and international criticism of the United States' failure to comply with the Geneva

Convention rules," Nooné said.

Noone said the convention offers little guidance about the treatment of prisoners, other than those considered POWs.

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CLUB  
NEWS

## 1941 Study

The 1941 Study Club met Feb. 4, for their monthly meeting.

The February meeting was held in the home of Wanda Wolf of Coahoma. Mrs. Wolf and Mrs. Kingston were the hostesses.

The program was called, "Doctoring, Then and Now." The guest speaker was Dr. Clark McDaniel. Dr. McDaniel shared how medicine has changed over the past 100 years.

In spite of the many changes Dr. McDaniel still makes house calls.

In today's times you must admit that this is very unique.

He shared how modern technology has exploded in America.

In the 1900's the average life span was 30 years of age.

Today the average life span is 100, largely due to our modern medicine.

He believes that God helps us solve a lot of our problems in America.

With each trial He allows us to find solutions through modern medicine, lots of times.

Following Dr. McDaniel's program we had a brief meeting followed by refreshments.

Our thanks to Dr. McDaniel for his informative presentation and to the hostesses for a wonderful evening.

## Big Spring Morning Optimist

"Does anyone here know what building used to be on the site where the District Court building stands now?" Commissioner Jerry Kilgore opened the Wednesday Morning Optimist Club meeting with this question.

"Big Spring High School. It was built around 1901, and later replaced with the building that stands there now," he said.

The present building served as the Post Office, then as the County Library.

It was used by the library for several years after the actual library moved to their present location, according to Kilgore.

"The Commissioner's Court went to Dora Roberts in 1995 and asked for funds to renovate the building. We were granted \$300,000 at that time, but for several reasons, had to postpone the project. Dora Roberts Foundation told us to hang on to the money until we were ready to use it. It sat there, accruing interest, with us adding to the fund when we could. In 1999, we had about \$700,000, and decided we had enough to go on with the project."

"This is a wonderful old building. People just don't

realize what a treasure we have," Kilgore added. "The Peter Hurd mural in the foyer was one of the things we wanted to preserve. There are a few people still in the county who watched him (Hurd) work with the wet plaster. Hurd was asked later to paint the portrait of Lyndon Johnson, but Johnson thought it was so ugly, it was declined."

"This is a much more secure location for the District Court. We realized our need for a more secure facility a few years back, when there was a high profile case tried in the old courtroom." Kilgore commented that the building is complete now. "If you haven't seen it yet, stop by and ask for a tour. You'll be impressed."

Optimist members are asked to bring their spouses as guests to the Feb. 13, Optimist Valentine's Breakfast.

## TOPS TX 21, Big Spring

TOPS TX 21 members welcomed one new member when they met on Monday at Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center, 306 W. Third at 6 p.m.

Wanda Lee offered the opening prayer and leader, Hughetta Roberts led the TOPS pledge.

Following the fellowship song, Gladys Russell read the minutes of the previous meeting and Shirley Jenkins gave the treasurers report.

Genay Bertran gave a reading intitled "Water" and then called the roll. Twelve people weighed in including nine TOPS, two KOPS and the one new member. Lynne Criswell was best loser for KOPS and Virginia Langston was best loser for TOPS.

They each received the weekly award and a certificate.

During an awards ceremony, Mrs. Roberts was certified as best loser of the month for January.

She received a charm and a certificate. If she maintains that weight loss for one month she will also receive the money in the January gainer fines.

Lynne Criswell was given a charm and a certificate from TOPS Headquarters for being chapter queen for 2001.

Carol Smith was also honored as first place winner in division II for the year 2001 and she also received a charm and a certificate from TOPS Headquarters.

Anyone interested in joining TOPS which is a non-profit, weight loss, support group may call 1-800-932-8677.

Locally you may call 263-0391 or 263-1758 for more information.

You are also invited to attend a meeting on any Monday evening at 6 p.m. at 306 West Third.

Sands Springs Lions  
The Sand Springs Lions

club met Feb. 4, with Phillip Reid, President, presiding.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Betty Franklin and the opening prayer was worded by Jarrell Barbee.

In the absent of the secretary at th last meeting, Shyrlee Reid read the minutes of the last meeting.

The minutes show 16 guests present for the Neighborhood Watch program with two Neighborhood Watch programs being started.

Madeline Boadle, treasurer, gave the treasurer's report showing all bills paid as of date.

Discussion was had in

regard to having a Chill Supper in the future.

Ben and Madeline Boadle will furnish the February meal and spouses are invited.

The Sand Springs Lions Club meets the first and third Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the Lions Community Center Building on Scout Hut Rd. in Sand Springs.

All interested parties are invited to attend.

Those in attendance were Phillip and Shyrlee Reid, Betty and Fred Franklin, Burnis Mason, Jarrell Barbee and Ben and Madeline Boadle.

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## Music minister, composer wife work in harmony

KILLEEN, Texas — Choir members at Killeen's First Baptist Church get a double dose of musical proficiency.

Besides the professional expertise of the church's music minister, the choir has the benefit of a well-known Christian composer singing among them.

MUSIC MINISTER Bruce Berry directs the 40-plus singers including his wife, Cindy, who knows some pieces better than anyone.

Cindy, 52, has composed and published more than 50 "Christian anthems. Her pieces are favorites at the Killeen church and are sung nationwide by many denominations.

Although some of her anthems are now best sellers, Cindy said she never dreamed of career in composing.

"It started as a hobby," she said. Bruce, 54, sometimes asked her to write something when his church music budget was running short.

After a music conference in 1983, Cindy said she felt God had called her to write her worship to Him.

It was Bruce who began sending her work to publishers.

"He saw that part of it," Cindy said. "He thought others should have this available."

When the Killeen choir sings a Cindy Berry piece, Cindy said she leaves the directing to her husband.

During a recent choir practice, Bruce gave silent orders with his hands as he signaled to two piano players. Choir members kept time with their feet as they focused on his motions.

When Bruce's directions differ from the tempo markings on her printed work, Cindy said she can sense some choir members stir.

"The choir looks at me, as if to ask, is that OK? But, he is the director and it is OK with me," she said.

Bruce said that was something Cindy had to learn as she first began hearing others interpret her songs. "She had to learn to let it go. That's often hard for young composers," he said.

"I let God use it," Cindy said of her music. Different congregations have different needs. "Some need to speed it up or slow it down," she said.

Cindy said she has come to a point where she can remove herself from her own music. She considers hearing her work performed both a blessing and an honor.

Her first published work, "At the Name of Jesus" is a standard in many churches. She also wrote "Restore My Joy" and has published seven piano books with hymn arrangements.

"Occasionally, I am moved

to tears when I hear a choir sing one of my anthems," Cindy said.

The musical couple met in Houston when they were in high school singing in the choir. They have been married now for 32 years and have three grown children.

Cindy said their children grew up singing in choirs, but none have pursued musical careers. "That's not where their talents lie," she said.

Bruce has taken his ministry from the city of Magnolia, near Houston to Dallas. Before coming to Killeen, he worked at a church in Lawton, Okla., near Fort Sill.

As a music minister, Bruce said he does more than direct the choir. "It's always the big joke, that I just work Wednesdays and Sundays," he said.

"I marry, bury and do counseling as well," he said. Bruce visits church members in the hospital one day each week and also makes home visits.

A church search committee invited him to the Killeen church five years ago, in part, because he understood the military community.

Choir member Stephanie Walburn was introduced to the couple when her husband was stationed at Fort Sill.

Before she discovered who Cindy was, Walburn said she had no idea a composer was among the choir members.

"She is so humble you just don't know who she really is," Walburn said.

"I love her music," Walburn said. "I can always spot a Cindy Berry piece."

Walburn said singing under Bruce's direction is a great experience. "Bruce has always been my favorite. He loves to be with people and he makes practice fun."

Besides the fun, Walburn said practice is a spiritual experience, too. "He really strives to use the time in choir to minister to us." Walburn said Bruce often has the choir stop to reflect on the words they have sung.

Gloria Walker has been a First Baptist Church member since 1959.

"We are truly blessed to

have both of them," she said of the Berrys.

Walker, 66, described Bruce as a planner who is extremely organized. "We are looking at Easter music long before Christmas," she said.

While the experience among the choir ranges from music teachers to those who can't read a note, Walker said Bruce treats everyone the same. "He is a teacher as well as a director. There is always a little lesson."

Walker said Cindy is very humble. "Most people don't realize all the recognition she gets among the music people."

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But Janet didn't always work in Big Spring, how did she begin her career with this international publicly traded company? It all began four years ago in Laramie, WY. Janet was hired as a Team Manager and went to StarTek's corporate headquarters in Denver, CO for management development. Upon completion, she returned to Laramie and began managing employees. She did so with a lot of solid communication, empathy, goal setting, and flexibility. In fact, she was so successful, that she was promoted to Assistant Operations Manager. Janet says, "One of the very best things about working at StarTek is the fact that we promote from within. You don't have to be a computer expert to succeed here. Instead you need to have a positive attitude, desire to learn, and good customer service skills."

Janet wants to make sure that all of Big Spring knows how happy StarTek is to be a part of the community. She also would like everyone to know what a great place StarTek is for full-time work. "Most of our benefits are based off of only 30 hours unlike most companies that require 40. In addition we have an Open Door policy where every employee's voice carries equal weight. StarTek also helps all employees pay for their childcare and holds monthly employee appreciation events. It really is a great place to be! I look forward to strengthening our partnership and am excited about my personal relocation."

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"Tyranny  
never achieves  
the purpose  
of peace"

In the aftermath Sept. 11th attacks World Trade Center New York and the Pentagon in Washington many spoke out in support of those who suffered such a tragedy and in deploring who had perpetrated

Speaking at a conference of Great Britain's Party on Oct. 2, 2 Prime Minister T expressed his appreciation for the fact that terrorist actions had succeeded in fragile global human core but rather had brought its greater union. Blair, "The power of the community is asserted"

Was it not the community itself that inspire sengers aboard U Airlines Flight 93? ingly lay down their lives so that the lives of less other unsuspected members of the community might spared a similar

Was it not the community itself that enabled New firefighters and officers to rush into towers of the World Trade Center the survivor first two explosive

The Beatitudes Matthew 5:1-12 recognize that power of believing community continue asserting a way that the world not welcome or a or recognize as v

Indeed, the power of community lies in the blessed contrast that is Christian declares as blessing poor, the sorrow lowly, the hungry and the persecuted though this contrast almost daily, on as well as a global culture values"

An assertive community must tire of challenges of that culture tioning its principle holding it to a high standard that is dictating mere human ambitions and ide

As believers, our passions, and ideals, and ideas transformed by inspired by God held to the high of Gospel values. Those values, forth in the Beatitudes may continue to surprise the world they form the vegetation or rule of community.

Democracies n achieve the practice under which desire to live.

Socialist government communistic policies machines and/or chiefs may fall short.

Tyranny will not achieve the purpose of peace; indeed, it ascribe to force, revenge and aggression thereby negate the principles upon Jesus founded His unity, viz., unlimited, non-reverberating peace gentle forbearance unmeasured love

As members of a community founded these principles empowered by God and grace of God world needs us to ourselves as witnesses of the possibility of peace in our hearts in our minds, in our mouths, peace in our hands, and peace in our memories.

The possibility of permanent peace must be in our efforts the power of unity, asserting the cause of Christ.

Editor's note: Plagens acknowledge contributions of Datchuck Sanchez column.

The Rev. James is pastor of Sacred and St. Thomas Catholic Church

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**"Tyranny will never achieve the purposes of peace"**

In the aftermath of the Sept. 11th attacks the World Trade Center in New York and the Pentagon in Washington, many spoke out, both in support of those who had suffered such a tragedy and in deploring those who had perpetrated it.

Speaking at a conference of Great Britain's Labor Party on Oct. 2, 2001, Prime Minister Tony Blair expressed his appreciation for the fact that such terrorist actions had not succeeded in fragmenting the global human community but rather had prompted its greater union. Said Blair, "The power of community is asserting itself."

Was it not the power of the community asserting itself that inspired the passengers aboard United Airlines Flight 93 to willingly lay down their lives so that the lives of countless other unsuspecting members of the human community might be spared a similar fate?

Was it not the power of community asserting itself that enabled New York's firefighters and police officers to rush into the twin towers of the WTC to rescue the survivors of the first two explosions.

The Beatitudes in Matthew 5:1-12 remind us that that power of the believing community must continue asserting itself in a way that the world may not welcome or appreciate or recognize as valuable.

Indeed, the power of our community lies in living the blessed contradiction that is Christianity, which declares as blessed the poor, the sorrowful, the lowly, the hungry, thirsty and the persecuted, even though this contradiction almost daily, on a personal as well as a global level, flies in the face of the popular culture and its values.

An assertive believing community must never tire of challenging the values of that culture, questioning its principles, or holding it to a higher standard that is dictated by mere human ambitions, passions and ideals.

As believers, ours are to be passions, ambitions, ideals, and ideas that are transformed by grace, inspired by God's will and held to the high standard of Gospel values.

Those values, as set forth in the Beatitudes, may continue to shock and surprise the world, but they form the very constitution or rule of life in our community.

Democracies may fail to achieve the peace and justice under which we desire to live.

Socialist governments, communistic political machines and/or monarchies may fall short of this goal.

Tyranny will never achieve the purposes of peace; indeed, those who ascribe to force, violence, revenge and aggression thereby negate the very principles upon which Jesus founded His community, viz., unlimited forgiveness, non-retaliation, persevering peacemaking, gentle forbearance and unmeasured love.

As members of the community founded upon these principles and empowered by the love and grace of God, the world needs us to assert ourselves as witnesses to the possibility of peace, peace in our hearts, peace in our minds, peace in our mouths, peace in our hands, and peace, even in our memories.

The possibility of a permanent peace must inspire us in our efforts; such is the power of our community, asserting itself in the cause of Christ.

Editor's note: Friar Plagens acknowledges the contributions of Patricia Datchuck Sanchez to this column.

The Rev. James Plagens is pastor of Sacred Heart and St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Churches.



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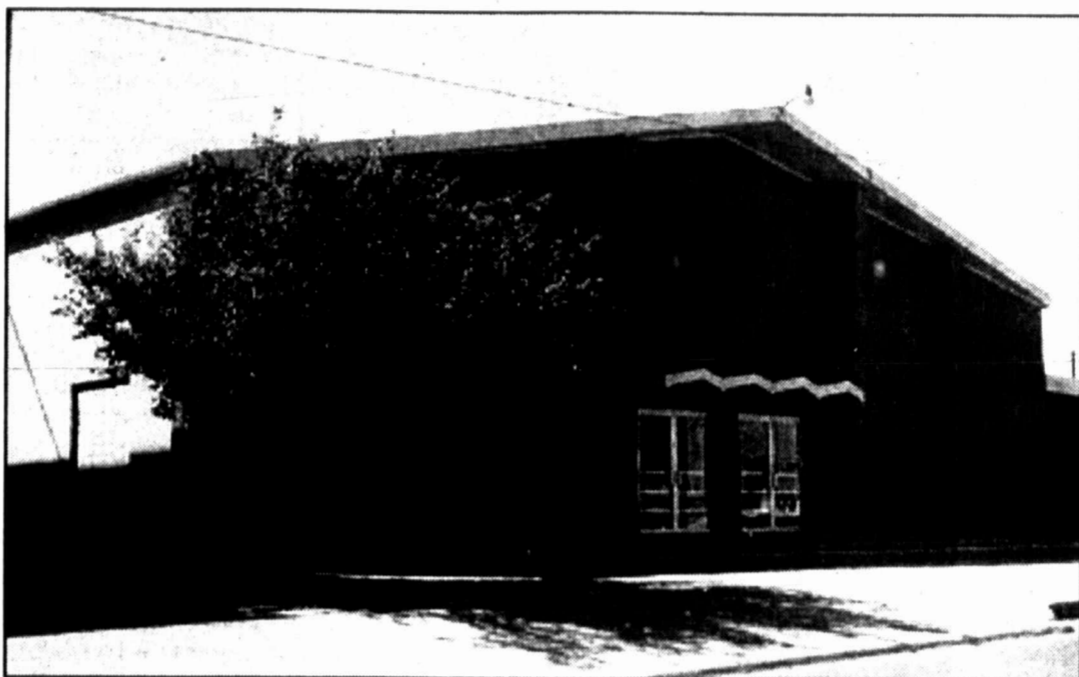
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FEBRUARY 2002

CHURCH NEWS

First Baptist

Our Adult Handbell Choir will be attending a handbell festival tomorrow in Midland featuring one of today's premier arranger and writer of handbell music, Cynthia Dubrinski.

We invite you to come and worship with us this Sunday at 10:50 a.m.

Our pastor, the Rev. Dennis Teeters, will preach the last sermon in the series on visions for the present day church titled "Completing a Vision," Sunday at 6 p.m.

Legacy Five's concert will be at 7 p.m. on Feb. 28.

This concert will be supported by the love offering taken that evening.

Doors will open at 6 p.m. Free childcare will be provided for children under four years of age.

Immaculate Heart of Mary

Events for the week of Feb. 10, include Mardi Gras at 7 p.m. Tuesday with a "Fat Tuesday" pot luck dinner.

Wednesday is Ash Wednesday and a prayer service will be held at 12:15 p.m. with ashes.

An evening service will be held the same day at 7 p.m. with mass and ashes.

Ash Wednesday is here. It is the first day of Lent.

We ask all who kept your palms from last year to bring them to the Mardi Gras Party and we will burn them to make ashes for Wednesday.

Feb. 12, is Fat Tuesday and the Alter Society is sponsoring a covered dish supper at 7 p.m.

Everyone is invited to bring a favorite casserole and/or dessert.

This is the conclusion of the Mardi Gras season and the tradition is to celebrate before the Lent begins.

First Assembly of God

"The Inspiration of the Bible" is pastor R.T. Havener's message this Sunday morning in the 10:40 a.m. service.

This message will be taken from 11 Timothy 3:16, and Peter 1:21.

In the evening service at 6 pastor Havener will speak on the subject, "Extending the Church."

The congregation of First Assembly of God invites you to join them for these

services.

First Presbyterian

David Marx, interim minister, will speak on a topic to be announced on Sunday.

Scripture will be taken from Matthew 17:1-9.

Opportunities for the week include a pancake supper to be held on Tuesday for the purpose of supporting the church Relay for Life team.

It will be held from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

On Wednesday the Soul Food Dinner will be held and this will be followed by the Ash Wednesday service.

Choir rehearsal will follow the Ash Wednesday service.

Everyone is always welcome at First Presbyterian Church located on Runnels between Seventh and Eighth.

Forsan Baptist

The Youth Choir from First Baptist Church in Stanton will be sharing in song this Sunday evening at Forsan Baptist Church.

This service will begin at 6 p.m.

Forsan Baptist Church is located at 201 West Main Street in Forsan.

Pastor Jeff Janca will continue his sermon series on forgiveness.

For more information call 457-2342.

St. Mary's Episcopal

Everyone is welcome to attend worship services at St. Mary's.

Holy Communion will be celebrated this Sunday at 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. St. Mary's also has Sunday school for all ages at 9:30 a.m.

For more information about St. Mary's Episcopal Church, call 267-8201 or look us up on our web site at www.stmarysbt.org.

St. Mary's is located at 1001 South Goliad.

The Brotherhood of St. Andrew will have their monthly meeting and breakfast on Saturday starting at 8 a.m. in the Chapel.

St. Mary's annual Mardi Gras Party and Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper is Tuesday.

The Festivities will begin at 6 p.m.

Plan to join us for this time of parish fellowship and good food.

Ash Wednesday is February 13.

Lent begins with the Eucharist and Imposition of Ashes at 7 a.m. in the Chapel, and at noon and 7 p.m. in the church.

The Emmaus Community will meet at St. Mary's Church on Thursday, at 6 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

First United Methodist

"A People Prepared for the Lord," using Luke 1:13-17, will be Dr. Dave Ring's message on Sunday, Boy Scout Sunday.

The congregation will pay special recognition to the Boy Scouts present.

Sunday morning worship services are at 8:30 a.m. and

10:50 a.m.

Sunday School classes meet from 9:45 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Classes are available for children and adults.

A special rehearsal for those interested in singing in the Easter cantata will be on Sunday at 2:30 p.m.

Noon Bible Study is at 11:45 a.m. on Wednesday and the Adult Handbell Choir will rehearse at 6:15 p.m. that evening, with Chancel Choir rehearsal at 7:30 p.m.

A special Ash Wednesday worship, including the traditional imposition of ashes, will be from 12:30 to 1 p.m. on February 13, in the sanctuary.

Everyone is invited to attend Noon Bible Study from 11:50 a.m. to 12:20 p.m. for lunch at \$2 person.

Sunday the Methodist Men will host a breakfast at 7 a.m. in Garrett Hall.

All men are invited to attend.

Choir rehearsals for a new children's choir will also begin Sunday 10 at 4 p.m. Children in kindergarten through fifth grade are invited to join.

A special Parents Fun Night will also be on Sunday from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. in Garrett Hall.

Child care will be provided for parents coming to enjoy food and games. Parents should bring a sack lunch for the child and a favorite game.

First United Methodist Church is located at 400 Scurry.

For more information on any of the programs at First United Methodist Church, call the church office at 267-6394.

Hillcrest Baptist

Hillcrest Baptist Church will begin hosting a Divorce Care group.

Divorce Care is a weekly seminar and support group for people who are separated or divorced.

The group will meet at Hillcrest, 2000 W. FM 700, in The Garden Room from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., Wednesdays beginning March 6. Childcare is available at no cost with advance arrangements.

Cost of the 13 weeks of group meetings is only \$10. You are welcome to begin attending on any week.

Call the church at 267-1639 for registration and information.

Baptist Temple

Faithful Touch, the gospel music ministry duo consisting of Mary Manry and Carol Vaughn, will present the service in song at 7 p.m. on Sunday evening, February 17th.

Carolyn Vaughn, SGMA 2001-2002 Soloist of the Year, and Mary Manry come to us from the Fort Worth area.

Both are members of SGMA (Southern Gospel Music Association), BYKOTA (Be Ye Kind One to Another), Fellowship of Christian Music Association, and CGMG (Country Gospel Music

Guild).

If you are looking for Bible study, come and join us on Sunday morning at 9:30 a.m.

We offer classes for all ages as well as special interest groups.

We have classes for college students and a class for single adults.

A New Members class began in January.

For more information on the church, or any of these events, call 267-8287.

First Christian

Dr. Jimmy Watson, pastor of First Christian Church (D.O.C.) will preach the sermon, "The Divine Shut Up!" during the morning worship service beginning at 10:50 a.m.

For Ash Wednesday and the following Wednesdays during Lent we will host a soup and muffins meal at noon in the fellowship hall.

We will spend a few minutes in prayer and devotion.

At 6 p.m., the youth and adults will have a Valentine's Party in the fellowship hall.

Everyone is invited.


First Christian is in need of a pianist/organist.

If you are interested in the position, please call the church office at 267-7851.

For more information about the church (Disciple of Christ) our web site at www.d.o.c.disciples.org.

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**S**

**IN BI**

**Lady Buffs e Bulldogettes**  
Stanton's Buffaloes took Thursday n Coahoma's Bi to guarantee th berth in the state basketball Stanton, Coa Colorado City ished district p 4 records, tied place in the lea ings.  
Colorado Ci coin flip that the Lady Wolv berth, while S Coahoma were play to see w took on the La for second plac  
That second is set for 6 ton Forsan High S nasium.

**Practice gar slated for to**  
Dorothy Coliseum will for two pract featuring tear into the Clas Class 5A girls playoffs on Fri Plainview's Bulldogs, th ranked Class the state and state champ take on Class 5 tion in Abile Eagles at 6 p.n  
That game 1 lowed by Can Eagles taking Address at 8 p Tickets are p for students i adults.

**Baseball bo plan work su**  
The Big Sp School Baseball will hold a starting at 2 p at Steer Park.  
Members wi ing wind scree signs and cl around the pa  
For more i call Jim Clem 1069.

**Playoff gam for tonight,**  
Steer Gym site for a Class playoff game Klondike's La and Dawso Dragons set fo  
Ticket price for adults, \$3 f  
A Class 5A playoff gam Lubbock Mor Abilene Coop 7 p.m. Monda Spring Jun School gymn Ticket price game will l adults, \$2 for s

**ON T**

**TONIGHT H.S. BASKETBA**  
6 p.m.  
• Stanton v City, District 3-2 off for second-p  
**7:30 p.m.**  
• Big Spring VB.  
• Forsan at C

**ON TH**

**Radio H.S. BASKETB**  
7:15 p.m. — Steers at Frn KBST-AM 1490

**Television COLLEGE BASH**  
Men 6 p.m. — Me UAB, ESPN.

**GOLF**  
3 p.m. — PG Invitational, sec USA..

**OLYMPICS**  
7 p.m. — Op mony, ski jump vidual, NBC.



### IN BRIEF

#### Lady Buffs eliminate Bulldogettes, 49-40

Stanton's Lady Buffaloes took a 49-40 win Thursday night over Coahoma's Bulldogettes to guarantee themselves a berth in the Class 2A state basketball playoffs.

Stanton, Coahoma and Colorado City had all finished district play with 6-4 records, tied for second place in the league standings.

Colorado City won a coin flip that guaranteed the Lady Wolves a playoff berth, while Stanton and Coahoma were forced to play to see which team took on the Lady Wolves for second place.

That second-place game is set for 6 tonight in the Forsan High School gymnasium.

#### Practice games slated for tonight

Dorothy Garrett Coliseum will be the site for two practice games featuring teams headed into the Class 4A and Class 5A girls basketball playoffs on Friday.

Plainview's Lady Bulldogs, the No. 1-ranked Class 4A team in the state and defending state champions, will take on Class 5A competition in Abilene's Lady Eagles at 6 p.m.

That game will be followed by Canyon's Lady Eagles taking on El Paso Andress at 8 p.m.

Tickets are priced at \$2 for students and \$4 for adults.

#### Baseball boosters plan work session

The Big Spring High School Baseball Boosters will hold a work day starting at 2 p.m. Sunday at Steer Park.

Members will be hanging wind screens, outfield signs and cleaning up around the park.

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

#### Playoff games set for tonight, Monday

Steer Gym will be the site for a Class 1A district playoff game between Klondike's Lady Cougars and Dawson's Lady Dragons set for 7 tonight.

Ticket prices will be \$4 for adults, \$3 for students.

A Class 5A bi-district playoff game pitting Lubbock Monterey and Abilene Cooper is set for 7 p.m. Monday at the Big Spring Junior High School gymnasium.

Ticket prices for that game will be \$4 for adults, \$2 for students.

### ON TAP

#### TONIGHT H.S. BASKETBALL

6 p.m. — Stanton vs. Colorado City, District 3-2A girls' playoff for second-place seed.

7:30 p.m. — Big Spring at Frenship, VB.

Forsan at Coahoma, VB.

### ON THE AIR

#### Radio H.S. BASKETBALL

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

#### Television COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Men 6 p.m. — Memphis at UAB, ESPN.

#### GOLF

3 p.m. — PGA Tour, Buick Invitational, second round, USA.

#### OLYMPICS

7 p.m. — Opening ceremony, ski jumping, K90 individual, NBC.

## Lady Steers close with loss to No. 1-ranked Plainview

By VALERIE AVERY

Special to the Herald

PLAINVIEW — No. 1-ranked Plainview used its last District 4-4A game with Big Spring as a tune-up for what the Lady Bulldogs hope will be a to a second straight state championship by picking apart the Lady Steers, 84-26, Thursday in Plainview.

The final district match-up was moved to Thursday from its usual Tuesday date because of icy road conditions.

Big Spring started the game trailing 39-19 at halftime, but Plainview erupted for 45 points in the second half, holding the Lady Steers to seven.

The best Big Spring could muster was 12 points from sophomore Leina Braxton who was pestered all night by defensive specialist Tojinay Thompson.

Braxton hit one three-pointer and

one basket and went 7-for-9 from the free throw line.

"I thought we did a good job the first half," Big Spring head coach Jimmy Avery said. "But they came out the second half and just kept getting layup after layup. It was a very difficult way to end the season."

All-state junior Alesha Robertson had nine of her 14 points in the first quarter as Plainview outscored Big Spring 21-8. The Lady Steers got field goals from seniors Tejal Patel and Brittany Bryant. Braxton and Krystle Long were perfect from the charity stripe going 4-for-4.

Braxton made the conventional three-point play and went 5-for-7 from the line. Patel was 2-for-2 and junior Courtney Brock made a bucket for an 11-point production in the second quarter.

"Being within 20 at half with Plainview is quite an accomplish-

ment," Avery said. "This was their last home game and they were saying farewell to their seniors. They were ready to begin their quest for back-to-back state championships."

"They are an awesome team, and we just happened to catch them when they are beginning to make a serious threat in the playoffs."

Plainview will travel to Big Spring's Dorothy Garrett Coliseum tonight for a 6 p.m. practice game with Abilene High. No. 2-ranked Canyon will take on El Paso Andress at 8 p.m. in the Howard College facility in the second of the doubleheader.

The third quarter was a deadly one for Big Spring as Patel scored the Lady Steers' only points and Plainview rolled off 23 for a 62-21 advantage.

Braxton nailed a three-pointer and freshman Alex Watkins made a basket, closing out scoring for Big

Spring.

"I know we didn't have as many wins as we would have liked this year," Avery said. "We were in a very tough district with several teams ranked in the Top 20. Our girls battled adversity and worked as hard as anyone could ask of them."

"They deserved to win many more games. It just didn't work out that way."

**PLAINVIEW 84**  
**LADY STEERS 26**  
BIG SPRING — Tejal Patel 2 2 2 6; Brittany Bryant 1 0 0 2; Alex Watkins 1 0 0 2; Courtney Brock 1 0 0 2; Krystle Long 0 2 2 2; Jessica Woodward 0 0 0 0; Leina Braxton 2 7 9 12; imani Brown 0 0 0 0; Ashley Smith 0 0 0 0. Totals: 7 11 13 26.  
PLAINVIEW — Dana Reinhardt 0 1 2 1; Chelsea Hartman 0 0 0 0; Elyse Newland 2 2 4 7; Sarah Hauk 4 0 0 8; Marquita Williams 0 0 0 0; Tojinay Thompson 6 0 0 12; Amber Lees 3 2 3 8; Addie Lees 7 0 0 18; Alesha Robertson 6 1 3 14; Chelsi Welch 6 1 1 16; Tiffany Williams 0 0 0 0; Ledena Lafuente 0 0 0 0; Kelsey Davis 0 0 0 0. Totals: 34 7 33 84.  
Score by Quarters: 8 11 2 5-26  
BIG SPRING 21 15 23 22-84  
PLAINVIEW  
Three-point goals: Big Spring 1 (Braxton), Plainview 9 (Lees 4, Welch 3, Robertson, Newland). Total fouls: Big Spring 14, Plainview 15. Fouled out: None. Technical fouls: None. Records: Big Spring is 3-11, Plainview is 14-0.

## OC bombs thwart upset-minded Hawks

By VALERIE AVERY

Special to the Herald

Each time Howard College made a run at defending Western Junior College Athletic Conference and Region V Tournament champions Odessa College, the Wranglers responded — mostly off of back-breaking three-pointers by freshman Mark Duncan.

Duncan, a Graham product, nailed five of eight three-point attempts, and Janavor Weatherspoon was just as deadly, connecting on 4-of-7 en route to a team-high 24 points.

The two combined for nearly half of OC's points in an 85-69 win over the Hawks Thursday night.

Howard head coach Chris Jans asked his players for in-your-face intensity for 40 minutes and he got it.

But the Hawks couldn't buy a basket in the second half, shooting 35 percent and throwing up nine three-point attempts — none of which connected.

"We just have to get better offensively," Jans said.

Free throw shooting in the first half is what really distressed Jans as his players made 2-of-12 from the charity or 16.7 percent in the first 20 minutes.

Howard had a chance to be up at halftime if it connected on its free throws. Instead, the Hawks trailed 37-33.

"A big problem the first half is we went 2-for-12 from the free throw line," the first-year head coach said. "You can't do that on your home court. If we had made the free throws we could have been easily up at half-time."

Howard roared to a 6-0 lead as Artavius Davis made two buckets and dishd to Brandon Haughton before



Howard College's goes up for a shot over two Odessa defenders during the second half of the Hawks loss Thursday night.

the Wranglers dusted themselves off from the shell-shock and started firing away. OC gained a 9-6 advantage off of three-pointers by Weatherspoon and Barry Thompson — the Wranglers' and the WJAC's leading scorers.

Jans continued to platoon fleets of players keeping fresh legs on the floor and preventing a talented OC team from having good looks at the basket.

The Hawks were a combined 3-of-7 from behind the arc in the first eight minutes of the contest.

Sophomore Van Jamison

took a charge and made a leaning three-footer to bring Howard within 18-17.

Freshman Jared Fears kept Howard close nailing three three-pointers and feeding Zach Moss, who finished with a team-high 14

See **HAWKS**, Page 2B

## Lady Hawks falter late in 69-59 loss

By VALERIE AVERY

Special to the Herald

Howard and Odessa College changed leads five times in the first 11 minutes of the second half, but the Lady Wranglers pulled ahead 53-52 on a three-pointer by Alicia Coppola with nine minutes remaining to stay in front of the Lady Hawks and take a tough 69-59 contest Thursday at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

Howard falls to 7-15 and 1-6 in the Western Junior College Athletic Conference, while Odessa College improves to 10-15 and 2-5 with the win.

The Lady Wranglers followed Coppola's trey with a conventional three-point play by Lauren Abbott for a 56-52 advantage. Sherice Risby, who finished in double figures for Howard nailed one from the line to pull within two.

Odessa outscored Howard 6-0 over the next 2:00 until sophomore forward Latasha Mathiew hit one of her team-high 14 points. OC's go-to player, Crystal Blue, provided a putback that stretched the lead to 64-56 with less than two minutes to play.

Howard missed two back-to-back front ends of a one-and-one situation and were forced to foul down the stretch. Coahoma product Kortney Kemper, who nailed two treys, finished off the contest with a three-pointer.

"I'm very disappointed with the loss, but I thought

See **LADY HAWKS**, Page 2B

## Best-kept secret of most Winter Olympics' is out in Salt Lake

The identity of the final torchbearer is always the best-kept secret of the Olympic Games.

(Clue No. 1: Instead of one person, it could be several, or as many as 20, and they all once carried sticks.)

In the past, the flame has been plunged into the Olympic cauldron by royalty and children, Muhammad Ali and an anonymous archer. This year, though, it's complicated by the need for more than drama and the usual element of surprise.

The events of Sept. 11 have added poignancy and significance to virtually every element of the opening ceremonies. The flap over displaying the tattered American flag from the World Trade Center proved just how much.

Olympic officials are walking a finer line than ever before. They have to make these feel like games for the world, not just for a nation still struggling to heal the hole in its heart.

(Clue No. 2: "Do you believe in miracles?")

A logical choice, and maybe the most balanced one, would be Eric Heiden. Arguably the greatest Winter Olympian ever, the U.S. speedskater won five gold medals

in the 1980 Games, setting a world record at every distance from 500 meters to 10,000. The feat made him a national hero, just not in the nation where he was born.

"If I'm traveling in Europe, especially a place like Holland or Norway, people know the name Eric Heiden," he said Thursday. "It can be a little overwhelming because, in America, you can certainly get lost amongst all the big professional sports."

"But, in Europe where they understand skating and appreciate what Winter Olympic athletes have done, the name still stands out." Heiden went on to become the embodiment of what amateurism is all about. Still just 21 after the Lake Placid games, he went back to school for a medical degree, became an orthopedic surgeon and is tending to the U.S. speedskating team in Salt Lake City.

Olympic officials did contact him about being a torchbearer.

"They asked if I'd be one of the last guys carrying the torch, and I told them I wanted to be the last guy," Heiden said in an interview with Sporting News Radio. "They said they couldn't do that, and I said 'Well, then I have other things to do.'"

"So, I kind of turned them down."

Turned them down? "I thought, gosh, I'd hate to diminish what I did, and I thought it'd be cool to light the cauldron. And since I wasn't going to do it, I figured there was other stuff I

needed to do to take care of the skaters."

(Clue No. 3: They wore skates, too, and won gold, and their backbone was provided by a kid from Boston who threw himself like a wrench into the Big Red Machine and wound up wrapped in an American flag, scanning the stands for a father who'd sacrificed everything to make his son's dream come true.)

Once you know Heiden is not part of the picture, the mind races. Bonnie Blair, America's next greatest Winter Olympian? Brash downhiller Billy Johnson, a Utah native who called his shot at the 1984 Sarajevo Olympics and even now struggles to recover from a horrific crash last year in a comeback attempt? Figure skater Peggy Fleming?

Mitt Romney, president of the Salt Lake Organizing Committee, made the final call. He said the choice was first made in August. "There was some wavering, actually quite a bit of wavering, but when it was finalized the last time, three or four weeks ago, we stayed with the selection made back in August."

No matter who is chosen, it likely won't be a surprise to NBC, which paid \$545 million for the rights to televise these games. In fact, bet that NBC Sports boss Dick Ebersol had Romney's ear. Bob Costas, who will anchor the network's telecast, said, "Three people know, but they won't tell me. "Keep in mind that whoever

lights the flame is not necessarily the person with the greatest achievements, not even the greatest Olympic achievements, but somebody," he said, "whose achievements are symbolic in a way that meshes with the times."

So think back to 1980. Americans were being held hostage in Iran. The Soviet Union already enjoyed a monopoly over Olympic ice hockey and was fighting a real war to bring Afghanistan under its domain. Inflation was spiraling at home.

With breathtaking suddenness, a collection of 20 kids from college were forged into a unit by coach Herb Brooks, whose pregame speech often consisted of one line: "Gentlemen, you don't have enough talent to win on talent alone."

They didn't, but they won anyway. With 10 minutes to play, captain Mike Eruzione used a Soviet defender as a screen and fired a 30-foot wrist shot past goaltender Vladimir Myshkin. Somehow, U.S. goalie Jim Crater turned back one Soviet rush after another, stiffening the spine of a team that came to believe less in miracles than each other.

Try to find a better symbol of these times.

"I get into Salt Lake City sometime Friday morning," Craig said. "Other than that, no comment."

Jim Litke is the national sports columnist for The Associated Press. Write to him at jlitke@ap.org

FEB 08 2002

SPORTS EXTRA

TOP 25 - MEN

The top 25 teams in The Associated Press' men's college basketball poll, with first place votes in parentheses and records through Feb. 7.

1	Duke (71)	20.1
2	Kansas	19.2
3	Maryland	18.3
4	Oklahoma	17.3
5	Alabama	16.3
6	Cincinnati	15.3
7	Kentucky	15.5
8	Florida	16.4
9	Gonzaga	20.3
10	Virginia	14.5
11	Arizona	15.6
12	Miami	19.3
13	Oregon	19.2
14	Oklahoma St.	17.5
15	UCLA	15.6
16	Duquesne	17.3
17	Georgia	17.5
18	Marquette	19.3
19	Wake Forest	16.6
20	Stanford	13.6
21	Illinois	15.7
22	Missouri	16.6
23	Syracuse	17.6
24	Texas Tech	16.4
25	Southern Cal	16.5

TOP 25 - WOMEN

The top 25 teams in The Associated Press' women's college basketball poll, with first place votes in parentheses and records through Feb. 7.

1	Connecticut (44)	24.0
2	Stanford	22.1
3	Tennessee	18.2
4	Oklahoma	18.2
5	Duke	19.3
6	Vanderbilt	20.5
7	Purdue	18.3
8	Louisiana Tech	18.3
9	South Carolina	18.3
10	Baylor	20.3
11	Kansas St.	17.4
12	Iowa St.	17.6
13	Colorado	17.6
14	Florida	15.7
15	Texas Tech	13.7
16	Boston College	17.4
17	Texas	14.6
18	Minnesota	17.4
19	Colorado St.	17.4
20	Old Dominion	15.5
21	Wisconsin	16.6
22	Georgia	15.6
23	Virginia Tech	15.5
24	North Carolina	16.6
25	Mississippi St.	16.6

TOP 25 - BASEBALL

The top 25 teams in the Collegiate Baseball poll with records through Feb. 7 listing by coach.

1	Stanford	2.1
2	Florida State	0.0
3	Tulane	0.0
4	Southern California	0.0
5	LSU	0.0
6	Clemson	0.0
7	Miami	2.1
8	South Carolina	0.0
9	Wichita State	0.0
10	Oklahoma State	0.0
11	Rice	0.0

12 Nebraska 0-0  
13 Mississippi 0-0  
14 Texas 0-0  
15 Wake Forest 0-0  
16 Cal State Fullerton 1-2  
17 Fresno State 0-0  
18 Baylor 0-0  
19 Notre Dame 0-0  
20 Arizona State 4-0  
21 Florida 2-0  
22 Georgia Tech 0-0  
23 Mississippi State 0-0  
24 Ohio State 0-0  
25 Rutgers 0-0

NBA

**EASTERN CONFERENCE**

**Atlantic Division**

W	L	Pct	GB
New Jersey	32	15	681
Boston	28	21	511
Washington	26	21	553
Orlando	25	24	510
Philadelphia	25	24	510
New York	19	28	404
Atlanta	18	29	383

**Central Division**

W	L	Pct	GB
Milwaukee	28	18	659
Toronto	29	21	580
Detroit	26	21	553
Indiana	25	25	500
Charlotte	23	25	479
Atlanta	16	33	326
Cleveland	15	33	312
Chicago	11	36	234

Ottawa 28 17 7 3 66 173138  
Montreal 24 21 8 3 59 145146  
Buffalo 22 25 6 1 51 143140

**Southeast Division**

W	L	TOT	Pts	GF	GA
Carolina	23	20	11	5	62 157 170
Washington	21	26	8	1	51 149 172
Tampa Bay	20	28	6	2	48 110 136
Florida	17	31	5	3	42 118 169
Atlanta	14	31	7	4	39 133 199

**WESTERN CONFERENCE**

**Central Division**

W	L	TOT	Pts	GF	GA
Detroit	38	10	6	2	84 176 119
Chicago	31	17	9	0	71 159 147
St. Louis	30	16	6	3	69 157 123
Nashville	21	25	9	0	51 138 145
Columbus	14	33	7	1	36 111 164

**Northwest Division**

W	L	TOT	Pts	GF	GA
Colorado	30	19	6	1	67 142 119
Edmonton	25	22	9	2	61 145 137
Vancouver	27	24	5	1	60 170 148
Calgary	22	22	8	2	54 126 141
Minnesota	17	25	9	5	48 128 161

**WESTERN CONFERENCE**

**Midwest Division**

W	L	Pct	GB
Dallas	35	14	714
Minnesota	33	16	674
San Antonio	31	17	646
Utah	25	24	510
Houston	16	33	326
Denver	14	31	311
Memphis	14	35	286

**Pacific Division**

W	L	Pct	GB
Sacramento	37	12	755
L.A. Lakers	33	13	717
Portland	25	23	521
Seattle	25	23	521
Phoenix	24	24	500
L.A. Clippers	25	26	490
Golden State	14	32	304

**Thursday's Games**

Los Angeles at Toronto 1  
Montreal 1, Pittsburgh 0  
Florida 3, Tampa Bay 1  
St. Louis 3, Edmonton 1  
Atlanta 3, New Jersey 3, tie  
Los Angeles 2, Carolina 1

**Today's Games**

Ottawa at Buffalo, 6 p.m.  
N.Y. Rangers at Atlanta, 6:30 p.m.  
Columbus at Detroit, 6:30 p.m.  
Colorado at Minnesota, 7 p.m.  
Washington at Nashville, 7 p.m.  
Denver at Dallas, 7:30 p.m.  
Los Angeles at Phoenix, 8 p.m.  
Vancouver at Calgary, 8 p.m.  
Caroline at Anaheim, 9:30 p.m.  
Chicago at San Jose, 9:30 p.m.

**Saturday's Games**

Florida at Boston, Noon  
New Jersey at Pittsburgh, Noon  
Montreal at Toronto, 2 p.m.  
Detroit at Ottawa, 6 p.m.  
Philadelphia at St. Louis, 6 p.m.  
Nashville at Tampa Bay, 6:30 p.m.  
Chicago at Colorado, 9 p.m.  
Calgary at Vancouver, 9 p.m.

NHL

**EASTERN CONFERENCE**

**Atlantic Division**

W	L	TOT	Pts	GF	GA
Philadelphia	32	15	6	2	72 111 127
N.Y. Islanders	28	18	6	3	65 164 153
N.Y. Rangers	25	24	4	3	57 156 170
New Jersey	23	21	8	3	57 135 133
Pittsburgh	22	24	6	3	53 129 153

**Northwest Division**

W	L	TOT	Pts	GF	GA
Boston	30	15	4	7	71 168 135
Toronto	29	18	5	4	67 163 140

NCAA SCORES

**MEN'S GAMES**

**EAST**

Pittsburgh 70, Seton Hall 65

**SOUTH**

Duke 80, Florida St. 49  
Miami 82, Nicholls St. 74  
Louisiana Tech 77, San Jose St. 53  
SE Louisiana 70, Sam Houston St. 69

**MIDWEST**

Illios 68, Michigan 60  
Loyola of Chicago 84, Wis.-Green Bay 74, 0T  
Valparaiso 100, Chicago St. 63  
Wright St. 87, Cleveland St. 72

**SOUTHWEST**

Arkansas St. 83, Middle Tennessee 51  
Hawaii 85, SMU 76  
New Orleans 82, North Texas 75  
Rice 75, UT-Pe 68  
Chicago 1 Austin 95, Texas A&M 87

**FAR WEST**

Arizona 91L, Washington 82  
Arizona St. 96, Washington St. 45

HAWKS

Continued from Page 1B

points. When Howard pulled within 32-29 after Moss' basket, Duncan nailed a three-pointer. Maushae Byles came up with a steal and hit Rodney Blackstock to move within 35-31.

Moss' basket opened the second half, and Davis went 2-for-2 from the charity stripe to get within 39-37. The Wranglers pushed the lead to 44-37 before Fears hit one just inside the line and Blackstock made the front end of the shooting foul. Haughton's putback gave the Hawks a two-point deficit at 44-42 at the 15-minute mark but the game was about to get out of reach.

OC went on a 10-0 run and pushed the score to 57-44 before Moss's bucket cut the lead to 11. But Duncan hit another one of his three-

pointers and before Howard knew it, it was 60-46.

The Wranglers outscored the Hawks 20-13 down the stretch.

"Those guys can make baskets," Jans said following the game. "If you look at them, they've got basketball bodies. It's a good program."

"I told our guys that we can't fault our effort. It's frustrating. The kids are trying hard and they had a heck of a practice yesterday. They started the game off on the right foot. They kept hustling after the ball."

With the loss, Howard College falls to 3-5 and 15-9 overall. Odessa improves to 18-4 and 7-1 leading the conference.

"It's not insurmountable," Jans said of making the postseason. "We've dug ourselves a deep hole, but I believe 100 percent that we can get better in the next

three days.

"We're behind the eight-ball, but I've told them all year that we can beat anyone on any floor. If we play right and do things we're good at, we'll be OK. I don't think these kids will quit. I think they'll keep fighting."

**ODESSA 85, HAWKS 69**

ODESSA COLLEGE — Javone Wilson 4-8 7-9 15; Matt Sutherland 1-3 0-0 2; Andra Robinson 0-0 0-0; Tim Simmons 2-6 8 11; Clarence Brown 0-3 0-0; Janovar Weatherspoon 7-15 6 8 24; Barry Thompson 4-11 3-6 12; Mark Duncan 5-8 0-0 15; Darrell Redmond 3-4 0-0 6. Totals: 20-58 22-31 85.

HOWARD COLLEGE — Jared Fears 4-10 0-0 11; Zach Moss 6-14 2-6 14; Van Jamison 4-6 0 3 8; Rodney Blackstock 1-10 4-7 6; Andre Fishenden 0-0 0-0 0; Artavus Davis 2-3 3-4 7; Tyrone Payne 2-3 0-0 4; Dominique Brown 0-4 3 4 3; Maushae Byles 3-11 0-2 6; Brandon Haughton 5-5 0-2 10. Totals: 27-66 12-28 69.

Halftime score: Odessa 39, Howard 34.

Three-point goals: OC 11 (Duncan 5, Weatherspoon 4, Simmons 2, Thompson 1, Sutherland 0, Brown 0, Fears 3, Blackstock 0, Byles 0, Byles 0, Payne 0, 1); Rebounds: OC 41 (Thompson 11, Wilson 6, Simmons, Duncan 4), HC 43 (Blackstock 7, Moss 6, Jamison 5); Assists: OC 11 (Simmons, Brown 3), HC 17 (Fears, Davis, Brown, Byles 3); Turnovers: OC 12 (Simmons 5, Thompson 3), HC 12 (Fears, Moss, Payne, Haughton 2); Blocked shots: HC 2 (Jamison, Blackstock); Steals: OC 5 (Simmons 3), HC 8 (Byles, Brown 3); Total fouls: OC 23, HC 25. Fouled out: Jamison. Technical fouls: Thompson, Davis. Records: OC is 18-4, 7-1; HC is 15-9, 3-5.

LADY HAWKS

Continued from Page 1B

we took a step in the right direction," Lady Hawks head coach Joey Wells said. "We played well" the first half, but the last 8:00 we had turnovers and missed layups. You can't do that.

"We often talk about the golden minutes, and you can't turn the ball over and miss offensive rebounds in those golden minutes. Players play for the last two minutes in the game. You have to find someone to step up those last two minutes. We haven't found anyone."

The Lady Hawks stayed close despite the absence of leading scorers Shamielka Buckley and Alexis Burton, who were suspended for breaking team rules.

"You can't start with that

as an excuse," Wells said. "We just don't have some on the same page. Hopefully, we'll get them all on my page."

Howard started the game up 5-4 after Stowers hit two from the stripe and Kemper fed Risby for a three-pointer, but OC went on a 10-0 run over the next two minutes.

The insertion of Mathew sparked the Lady Hawks as she hit one outside the paint and fed Stowers. The Houston native made a nice move to the basket and the Lady Hawks trailed 16-15.

Howard went on a 7-0 run punctuated by Chris Carmichael's putback with 7:21 left. OC knotted the score at 22, and both teams traded baskets until Kemper

moved to the bucket for a layup and Hearn followed with a putback.

The Lady Hawks travel to Clarendon Monday for a 5:50 p.m. tip.

**ODESSA 69, LADY HAWKS 59**

ODESSA COLLEGE — Shemika Cook 2-8 2-2 8; Crystal Blue 6-13 4-8 16; Alicia Coppola 7-16 5-8 22; Melissa Jones 1-6 0-0 2; Lauren Abbott 1-6 2-5 4; Carley Knight 1-2 0-0 3; Myesha Mitchell 2-3 0-0 4; Amy North 3-6 2-4 8; Brianna Blackwell 0-1 0-0 0; Anesha Stewart 1-3 0-0 2. Totals: 24-64 15-27 69.

HOWARD COLLEGE — Vangeia Menter 1-4 3-4 5; Sharekiqua Camblitt 0-5 1-2 1; Afton Stowers 2-6 3-4 8; Kortney Kemper 5-7 0-0 12; Shence Risby 5-13 0-0 1; Latasha Mathew 4-8 6-9 14; Chris Carmichael 2-2 0-0 4; Markeeta Hearn 2-6 0-3 4. Totals: 21-51 13-22 59.

Halftime score: Howard 35, Odessa 33.

Three-point goals: OC 6 (Coppola 3, Cook 2, Knight 1, Jones, Abbott 0, 3), Mitchell, Stewart 0-1; HC 4 (Kemper 2, Stowers 1, Risby 1, 6); Rebounds: OC 44 (Blue 7, Coppola, Stewart, Jones 6, Abbott 5), HC 40 (Mathew 9, Hearn 8, Campbell 3); Assists: OC 12 (Blue, Jones 3), HC 6 (Stowers 3, Kemper 2); Turnovers: OC 16 (Cook, Coppola, North 4), HC 23 (Mathew 7, Hearn 4, Campbell, Kemper 3); Steals: OC 8 (Stewart 2), HC 5 (Mathew 2); Total fouls: OC 19, HC 23. Fouled out: Kemper, Risby. Technical fouls: None. Records: OC is 10-15 and 2-5; HC is 7-15 and 1-6.

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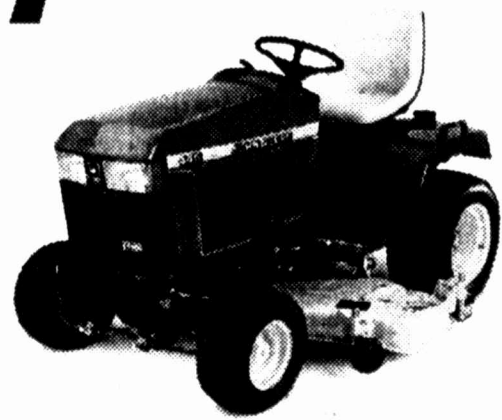
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 Clerical skills helpful. Mon-Fri 9-6. Bilingual a plus. Call for appointment, 267-9456.

**The Sands CISD** is seeking application for the position of Lunchroom Manager. Interested applications may secure an application and job description by contacting the superintendent at 915-353-4888 or secondary principal at 915-353-4744. The school address is P.O. Box 218, Ackery, Texas 79713. The position is open until filled.

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