

FRIDAY

February 15, 2002

WEATHER

Tonight:



CLOUDY
TONIGHT 25°-30° TOMORROW 58°-62°

UBS drive coming up in Big Spring

United Blood Services will be at the West Texas VA Health Care System Thursday to collect donations of blood from the community.

The drive will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the recreational hall located in the second floor of the hospital, 300 Veterans Boulevard.

To schedule an appointment, contact Iva Jo Hanslik, community relations coordinator, at 264-4824.

UBS asks potential donors to carry proof of identification containing their name and one of the following: Date of birth, social security number, UBS assigned donor number or photo identification.

Donors must be 17 years of age, weigh more than 110 pounds, be in good health and know the names of any medication taken in the past 30 days.

WEEKEND TICKET

TODAY

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

SATURDAY

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

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

Fish fry, American Legion Post 506, 3203 West Hwy. 80, 12 p.m. to 3 p.m. Plates are \$6. Delivery will be available from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Carry out is also available. Everyone is welcome.

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

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

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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.

Senior candidates needed for Silver Haired Legislature

By **ROGER CLINE**
Staff Writer

Are you a senior citizen looking to make a difference? Why not run for the Texas Silver Haired Legislature?

The group, an advisory body which keeps the State Legislature in touch with

senior affairs, will be holding elections May 28, and it's time for candidates to file.

Potential candidates must complete application forms, including a candidate petition requiring 25 signatures. They must also pay a \$5 filing fee.

The information must be

returned to the Permian Basin Area Agency on Aging in Midland by Feb. 25.

The group, which has been in existence since 1986, meets once a year in Austin to discuss and debate senior citizens' issues and to establish priorities for the Texas Legislature to consider dur-

ing its 2002 session.

"They represent the older population," said Juanita Hill of the Area Agency on Aging. "It's kind of like their voice."

Hill said the state legislature listens to what their Silver Haired counterparts have to say.

"They have helped very

much with the different programs like AARP (American Association of Retired Persons) and the prescription programs and things like that," she said. "So they do listen to them."

For more information call Patty at the Permian Basin Area Agency on Aging at 1-800-491-4636.



HERALD Photo/Andrea Medlin
Gollad student Heath Rodriguez is congratulated by Joe Conclenne of ALON USA and Mayor Russ McEwen for receiving a Dell computer donated by ALON. Rodriguez and 11 other Gollad students were each awarded a computer system based on predetermined criteria.

BSISD trustee incumbents will seek another term; filing period opens Monday

By **LYNDEL MOODY**
Staff Writer

Two Big Spring Independent School District trustees announced Thursday they will seek another term in office.

"I have represented District 3 for 10 years and I would like to represent the district for another three years," said trustee Larry McLellan. "I think that there are some jobs that I need to finish. One of those, very importantly, is the junior high situation. I want to make sure someone is on the board that has been here with some longevity, is aware of the situation and has some history to go along with that situation."

McLellan said other top priorities are to rebuild the district's fund balance and to see the district earned recognized status from the Texas Education Agency.

Representing District 1 for the past eight years, Irene Bustamante serves as the board president.

"I feel like I am an advocate for children and I want to continue to work as an advocate for children," Bustamante said. "We have a lot of things going in place and I feel like I would like to be apart to make sure some of these goals are accomplished."

The board of trustees called for the election Thursday during its regular meeting.

Districts 1 and 3 are the only seats on the board up



McLELLAN BUSTAMANTE

for election in May.

The filing period for candidates starts Monday and continues through 5 p.m. March 25. Candidates may file at the school district's business office, 708 11th Place, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. The office is closed during the noon hour for lunch.

The business office will be closed March 11 through March 15 for spring break. Candidates can pick up filing information during spring break at the maintenance/transportation office, 3600 11th Place.

Candidates must live in the district they plan to represent. Voters can only vote for the position representing their district.

Early voting begins on April 17 and runs through April 30 at the Howard County Clerk's Office in the Howard County Courthouse, 300 Main Street, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

On election day, Saturday, May 4, voting will be held at the high school cafeteria, 707 E. 11th Place from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Realignment option, bad weather make-up days mullied by trustees

By **LYNDEL MOODY**
Staff Writer

Big Spring Independent School District administrators offered a third option to the proposed school zone realignment changes at the board of trustees meeting Thursday.

According to superintendent Murray Murphy, the second option administrators had originally recommended put Kentwood Elementary over its student capacity.

The third option moves the border lines to place about 15 students in the Washington Elementary school zone.

Also a section that has about five students near the

Washington boarder was placed back into the Kentwood zone.

"This area had been in the Kentwood attendance zone for the last 20 years," Murphy said.

A final vote on the proposed closure of Anderson Kindergarten Center and school zone realignments has been set for 5:15 p.m. Thursday at the high school boardroom. The public will have one last chance to voice its opinion or ask questions before the vote.

Trustees also addressed a need by the district to make up a bad weather day after icy conditions promoted the closure of the schools.

According to Murphy, the site-base committee and several members of the public requested a change of one of two built-in bad weather day set for Good Friday, April 29, a religious holiday. Trustees voted to change

the day to Memorial Day, May 27. The other bad weather day is March 1.

In other business, Big Spring schools will officially begin the new year on Aug. 19 after trustees approved the 2002-2003 calendar with one minor change. That change also dealt with bad weather days.

The proposed 2002-2003 calendar set the bad weather days on Memorial Day, May 26, and the second Easter Holiday, April 21.

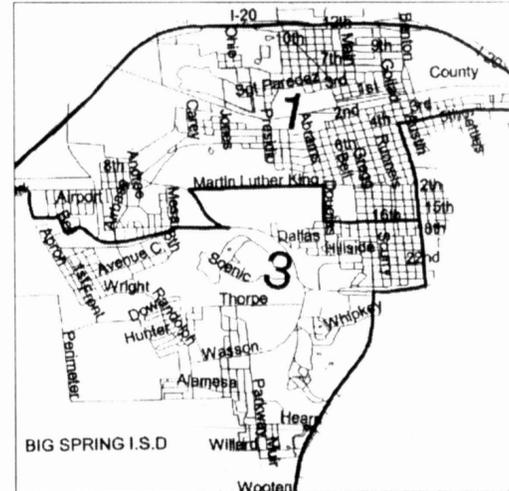
Citing concern from members in the community, trustee Mike Dawson requested the district change next year's bad weather days to April 21 and President's Day, Feb. 17. Trustees approved the change.

The board gave approval of a Telecommunications

See **BSISD**, Page 2A



MURPHY



Courtesy drawing
Board seats representing trustee Districts 1 and 3 of the Big Spring Independent School District are up for election May 4. Candidate filing begins Monday.

Cards and prayers leading BSHS senior to recovery

By **BILL MCLELLAN**
News Editor

It's not the year Ryan Vassar envisioned.

The 17-year-old Big Spring High School senior would like to be working out with the Steers' baseball team today.

Instead, he is at the University Medical Center burn unit in Lubbock, recovering from an accident which left him with severe burns over his face and arms.



VASSAR

It was just after midnight Saturday — early Sunday morning — when events unfolded that would change the honor student's life.

After taking home their dates, a group of seven or so high school friends gathered to talk and laugh. After a while, they decided to go to a location south of town to set off some fireworks.

It was cold, so the decision was made to build a fire. Gasoline was poured in a trash can. Ryan, who had stopped at a store and purchased a lighter for the fireworks, was called upon to light the fire. That act changed his life.

"It flamed up," said his granddad, Kenneth Boothe,

The gasoline ignited, instantly covering Ryan's upper body with flames.

His buddies reacted quickly, and rushed him to Scenic Mountain Medical Center, where he walked in unaided.

"We have nothing but good to say about the hospital. They did a superb job," said Kenneth.

Ryan was airlifted to Lubbock, where he was placed on a ventilator in intensive care.

Within hours after accident, prayer chains were started among friends and church members. Several churches held special prayer services for Ryan and his family — Mark and

Veronda Vassar and their other two children, daughters Heather and Kristine.

Family and friends feared the worst. Instead, the prognosis was better than anyone could have expected.

"His eyes are not hurt. His lungs are not hurt. It's amazing," said Kenneth. "His doctors say he can expect 100 percent recovery in his face with no scars in six to eight weeks. They will probably do some skin grafts on his arms, and he may have some scars there."

Ryan received second-degree burns over 22 percent of his body — mostly his face — and some third-degree burns on his arms.

"He's beginning to realize that his senior year has changed dramatically," Kenneth said, just days after the accident. "But his spirits are really high."

His spirits have been lifted by visits from friends, school teachers and administrators — like Big Spring High School Principal Mike Ritchey.

"There has been a lot of concern at school about Ryan. The reason they are concerned is Ryan is very active in all school activities. He is a student athlete. Not only has he been very successful in his academics, he has also been very suc-

See **RYAN**, Page 2A

FEB 15 2002

OBITUARIES

Jessie Clark

Graveside funeral service for Jesse Clark, 71, of Hamlin, formerly of Big Spring, will be 4 p.m. today, Feb. 15, 2002, at Mt. Olive Memorial Park with the Rev. Walter McCall, chaplain of Community Care Hospice, officiating.

Mr. Clark died Wednesday, Feb. 13, at an Abilene hospital.

He was born on April 6, 1930, in Big Spring. He worked in the oil fields in Texas and New Mexico and owned and operated Clark Plumbing. He served in the United States Army Air Force from 1946 to 1949. He was a member of VFW Post 6873 and American Legion Post 506.

Survivors include one son, Nicky Lee Clark of Hamlin; four grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

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

James R. Swann

Funeral service for James R. "Rec" Swann, 78, of Big Spring is pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home. Mr. Swann died Thursday, Feb. 14, 2002, in a Midland hospital.

BSISD

Continued from Page 1A

Infrastructure Fund special project proposal that would give about \$44,000 each to the Big Spring Junior High, Washington Elementary and Kentwood for computer technology.

According to Paula Cole, director of technology, the junior high and Kentwood plan to use the proposed funds for a wireless mobile computer lab while Washington will use the funds to automate the library and create a learning resource center with additional computers.

"TIFF Grants usually requires 10 percent of the money from the board," Cole said. "This grant does not."

Cole added that the plan includes more than \$18,000 in local monies to pay for maintenance, services and supplies.

Trustees accepted the retirement of Washington Principal Royce Cox, who has served the district for 33 years. Also retiring are Rue Ann Cox, counselor at Big Spring High School; Jackie Henry, director of the Personalized Achievement Center; Sue Maben, third grade Golaid Elementary teacher; and James Reasonover, industrial technology teacher at the high school.

Trustees accepted the resignation of Jessie Perez, first grade teacher at Marcy Elementary.

Trustees approved extending the contracts of the dis-

trict's administrators, directors and coordinators.

During the superintendent's report, Murphy told board members that a formal inquiry from Shiloh House of Praise to purchase a vacant lot on 1002 N.W. Fourth owned by the district was made.

A textbook hearing is set for 3:45 p.m. Thursday, at the high school board room and is open to the public, Murphy said.

Trustees approved:
• The high school choir's trip to New York.

• An additional allocation of \$3,272 for the Carl D. Perkins federal funding for the 2001-2002 school year. The addition brings the total allocation to \$62,344.

• Purchasing two 77-seat passenger buses with an estimated budget of \$106,550. The busses will be purchased from the 2002-2003 budget.

• District and campus improvement plans.

RYAN

Continued from Page 1A

Successful participating in the baseball program for four years," said Ritchey. "Ryan exhibits all the qualities of a model student. He makes Big Spring High School a better place because of his quality of standards in both academic and extracurricular participation."

Students and others are kept abreast of Ryan's treatments and recovery by the Internet at two Web sites: fbcbigspring.org/ryan and ryanavassar.com.

He can also receive e-mail at ryanv@door.net

The cards, notes and e-mails come daily.

"This is one of the obstacles in life that we have to face but do not understand why. It is comforting in times like these to know people are thinking and praying for you. Have faith and be strong. Everything will work out for the best. Get well and hope to see you soon," wrote BSHS baseball coaches Greg Winder, Jason Phillips and Mike Tipton.

"That's really what he needs," said Kenneth. "They don't allow flowers or things like that, but he can get cards and e-mail. Those words of encouragement mean a whole lot."

Despite time in the hospital, he'll graduate in May.

"His parents are coming to the school and getting his work each day. We have programs to where we can still service his needs as far as his academics are concerned," said Ritchey.

This isn't the year that Ryan envisioned. But he's making the best of the situation with guidance and prayers from family and friends.

"We never know our own strength until something like this accident tests us," wrote Judy Tereletsky, BSHS art instructor. "I feel that Ryan has what it takes to come through this trial. He is well liked by his classmates and I hope to see him back in the class soon."

Texas researchers announce successful cloning of a cat

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

Researchers in Texas say they have cloned a cat — an advance that moves cloning from the barnyard to the living room and is likely to spark interest among pet

owners.

The female domestic shorthair, called "cc" for "copycat," was born Dec. 22 and is now healthy and frisky, researcher Duane Kraemer of Texas A&M University in College Station said Thursday.

Headed up by Dr. Mark Westhusin of A&M's veterinary medicine school, the project is the first reported success in cloning dogs or cats, which has been long discussed for pet owners. Many people have already stored cells from their pets in anticipation of cloning in the future, said Kraemer.

"It looks like there will probably be quite a lot of interest," he said.

But a cloned pet won't necessarily be a carbon copy in appearance to the original. The calico kitten differs from its genetic donor in its color pattern, because such coloring is not strictly determined by the lineup of genes.

"This is a reproduction," Kraemer said, "not a resurrection."

Apart from difference in appearance, pet-cloning proponents also say pet owners should realize a new clone won't come equipped with a ready-made bond to the owner or carry other memories.

But Kraemer and Randall Prather, an animal cloner at the University of Missouri who wasn't involved in the Texas project, say cloning cats could pay off for more than pet owners.

It could help research that uses cats for learning about human diseases, they said. Kraemer noted that cats are used in neurological research, and that a colleague wanted cat clones to help in AIDS research.

Moreover, the work could help in preserving endangered cat species, they said.

But Wayne Pacelle, senior vice president for the Humane Society of the United States, called the new advance "unfortunate news." Scientists should be moving away from using animals in research, and the biggest problem endangered cat species face is habitat destruction, he said.

As for people who'd like a new version of a deceased cat, Pacelle said many communities have too many cats for too few homes, and cat cloning "goes in the opposite direction of where we need to be."

People whose cats have died should "go through a grieving process, and then go to a shelter and embrace another companion in your household," he said.

The kitty clone was the team's only success after transferring 87 cloned embryos into eight female cats. Overall, the success rate was comparable to that seen in other cloned species, the researchers said. Other mammals cloned before include sheep, cattle, goats, pigs and mice.

The researchers tried cloning with two types of

A BIG SPRING AROUND THE TOWN

cells from adult cats. The lone success came in one of the attempts using cumulus cells, which are found in the ovary, from "Rainbow," an adult member of the university's cat colony.

The researchers removed the nucleus from cat eggs and fused the eggs with cumulus cells. Three were grown into embryos and implanted in a female cat. Sixty-six days later, cc was delivered by Caesarean section.

The work was an offshoot of the Missyplicity Project, a \$3.7 million effort to clone a mixed-breed pet dog named Missy. Kraemer said it appears dogs will be harder to clone than cats.

Thursday's cloning success was announced in a report by Kraemer, Mark Westhusin and others on the website of the journal Nature. It will appear in the Feb. 21 issue of the journal.

BRIEFS

VFW POST 2013 WILL be having a chili supper March 2, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Post, 500 Driver Road.

There will be chili and all the fixings at \$5 per plate with dessert and drinks included. For more information call 267-5290.

AMERICAN LEGION POST 506, located at 3203 West Hwy 80, will have a fish fry Saturday, from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m. Plates are \$6. Delivery will be available from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Carry out is also available. Everyone is welcome.

THE MOBILE MEALS PROGRAM, which delivers to the elderly and homebound, needs volunteers to deliver meals.

If you can spare one hour per week to deliver eight or 10 meals, we need you.

About 85 to 90 meals are prepared, packaged and delivered within the city limits of Big Spring. If you can volunteer, please call 263-4016 before 3 p.m.

MARKETS

Noon quotes provided by Edward Jones & Co.

Table with market data including AT&T, Archer-Daniels, Atmos Energy, BP PLC ADR, ChevronTexaco, Citigroup, Compaq, Cornell, Dell, Du Pont, Exxon Mobil.

Happy 12th Birthday Nicholas Mendez. Includes photo of Nicholas Mendez and contact info for Al's Bar-B-Q.

TEXAS LOTTERY

Table with Texas Lottery results including Halliburton, IFCO Systems, IBM, Intel Corp, NUV, Patterson Ener, Pepsico Inc, Phillips Petro, SBC Comms, Sears Roebuck, TXU Corp, Texas Instrument, Total Fina, Unocal Corp, Wal-Mart, Wal-Mart/Mexico, AMCAP, Europacific, Prime Rate, Gold, Silver.

PICK 3: 6,7,8
CASH 5: 11,1,12,29,37

was reported in the 300 block of Northwest Eighth Street.

FIRE/EMS

The following is a summary of EMS and Fire Department activity

4:39 a.m. — 1600 block of Lancaster, medical call, one patient transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

7:19 a.m. — 500 block of W. 17th, medical call, one patient transported to SMMC.

9:04 a.m. — 5400 block of Longshore Rd., medical call, one patient transported to SMMC.

9:09 a.m. — 2000 block of Virginia, medical call, one patient transported to SMMC.

10:09 a.m. — 1700 block of Lancaster, medical call, one patient transported to SMMC.

1:28 p.m. — 1800 block of N. Hwy 87, medical call, one patient transported to VA Medical Center.

6:16 p.m. — 1500 block of Johnson, medical call, one patient transported to SMMC.

7:31 p.m. — 2000 block of Gregg, traffic accident, one patient transported to SMMC.

POLICE

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

• AMBER GUTIERREZ, 26, of 3608 Calvin was arrested to hold for the Howard County Sheriff's Office.

• PATRICIA GRISSOM, 29, of 305 Moss Lake Road was arrested to hold for the Howard County Sheriff's Office.

• JOE DIAZ JR., 34, of 1306 Stanford was arrested on charges of driving while intoxicated — third offense and driving with an invalid license.

• MINOR ACCIDENT was reported in the 400 block of South Rannels, the 500 block of North Gregg and the 2000 block of South Gregg.

• DISTURBANCE or FIGHT was reported in the 500 block of Northwest Seventh Street.

• FIREWORKS was reported in the 1000 block of Northwest Second Street.

• LOUD PARTY/NOISE was reported in the 500 block of Westover Road.

• UNAUTHORIZED USE OF A MOTOR VEHICLE was reported in the 100 block of East 16th Street. A brown 1985 Chevrolet Celebrity worth an estimated \$7,500 was reported stolen.

• Several incidents of THEFT were reported at Wal-Mart; all involved quantities of women's cosmetics including lip gloss and body glitter. A total of about \$48 worth of items was reported stolen.

• CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 700 block of East 11th Place. A white 1998 Ford F-150 reportedly received \$800 damage.

• ASSAULT CLASS C

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL. 24th & Johnson 267-8288

NALLEY-PICKLE & WELCH Funeral Home. Trinity Memorial Park and Crematory. 906 Gregg St. (915) 267-4331

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In Observance of President's Day, Monday, February 18th, these financial institutions will observe the following hours... OPEN: The Electric Utilities Credit Union, First Bank of West Texas, American State Bank, State Hospital Federal Credit Union, Cosden Federal Credit Union. CLOSED: Government Employees Federal Credit Union, Big Spring Banking Center, T & P Federal Credit Union, Wells Fargo, Citizens Federal Credit Union.

BIG SPRING HERALD Reflecting A Proud Community 915-263-7331 (Main switchboard) 915-263-7335 (Circulation calls only) (Fax) 915-264-7205. Ken Dolaney, John A. Moseloy, Edwin Vela, Carlos Gonzales, Tony Hernandez, Dianne Marquez. Office Hours are 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. The Herald is a member of The Associated Press, Texas Press Association, Audit Bureau Circulation and Southern Newspaper Publishers Association. Published afternoons Monday through Friday and Sunday mornings, except Christmas Day. All materials copyrighted. Postmaster: Send address changes to Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, Texas 79721. Periodicals postage paid at Big Spring, Texas, USPS 1431-48.

Enron

WASHINGTON Enron Corp. has released its tax returns for 1985, and those of its subsidiaries, to cooperate with a Senate Committee investigating whether the company improperly paid taxes.

In a letter to the committee, Enron's attorney, Robert Goldberg, said Enron will cooperate by waiting for a final tax privacy protection bill that Congress is expected to pass. He said the bill would be changed in the House of Representatives to allow the release of the energy trade secrets.

Senate

WASHINGTON The Senate rejected a bill to ensure Thursday that the House has restored the right to vote after they have been expelled from the Senate.

It was just one of many amendments being considered by the Senate, which is expected to pass a \$3.4 billion energy bill.

The issue of felons to vote brought up the most rhetoric in a day mostly with ball and penning.

Lawmakers plan to continue debate expected to finish after the President's Day holiday.

"They've paid a price to society. Should we have to have them vote? That's what's at stake," said Sen. Byron Dorgan.

Bush

WASHINGTON Citing national security concerns, the State Department is restricting the number of thousands of commercial and administrative officials who can enter the country.

Once the president signs the law today, Nevada protesters and others would have to show a major reason for their presence or they would be turned away.

Energy Secretary James Conaway said Thursday that the new rules would affect about 100 miles northwest of the border.

New Jersey

GARFIELD, N.J. In a bizarre week-long spree, a man shot his way through a car in New Jersey, killing 19 people.

Manhattan and another car, stranding city and state pedestrians against later, police said.

The incidents of 27 people were shot — seven in a recent hit-and-run Thursday in the suburbs hit Tuesday.

Woman who was shot in the man, in various media reports. Pop culture icon Garfield, N.J., was shot Thursday, hours after the shooting.

Men's a... Store H... Monday-S... 10 am to...

Enron agrees to release tax records

WASHINGTON (AP) — Enron Corp. has agreed to release its tax returns since 1985, and those of its affiliates and partnerships, as part of a Senate Finance Committee investigation into whether the bankrupt company improperly avoided paying taxes.

In a letter to senior Finance Committee members, attorney Fred Goldberg said Enron will cooperate by waiving federal tax privacy protections so that Congress can determine whether laws need to be changed in the aftermath of the energy trading giant's downfall.

Sen. Max Baucus, D-Mont., chairman of the Finance Committee, said Friday the panel has begun a "thorough and comprehensive probe" into the use of tax shelters or other devices that might have played a role in Enron's demise.

The question, Baucus said in a statement, is "whether Enron may have engaged in aggressive tax planning to improperly avoid paying federal income taxes or exploited loopholes in our tax system requiring attention."

Through use of tax deductions for stock options, enti-

ties in offshore tax havens and tax shelters, Enron appears to have avoided paying corporate income taxes in four of the past five years, netting a total refund of \$381 million, according to an analysis by the labor-funded Citizens for Tax Justice.

The Finance Committee will work closely with the Internal Revenue Service and with current and former Enron employees as part of the probe, Baucus said.

He and the committee's ranking Republican, Sen. Charles Grassley of Iowa, have also asked the biparti-

san Joint Committee on Taxation to conduct an analysis of Enron's returns and recommend any needed reforms.

The tax returns will not be available for complete public inspection, Baucus said, because of "the important principle of taxpayer confidentiality." Much of their contents will become public as part of the committee's work and reports, he added.

The investigation will also look into Enron's employee compensation arrangements, 401(k) plan and other methods of deferred compensation, Baucus said.

Retired AF sergeant indicted for offering to spy for Iraq

WASHINGTON (AP) — A retired Air Force sergeant with thousands of dollars in debts sought \$13 million from Iraqi President Saddam Hussein in exchange for sensitive U.S. military secrets, and also offered to spy for Libya and China, the government says.

Bitter over "the small pension I will receive for all of the years of service," Brian Patrick Regan allegedly wrote to Saddam that the payment demand was a "small price to pay," the government said Thursday as it lodged new criminal charges in the government's latest espionage case.

Regan, 39, could face the death penalty. A grand jury in Alexandria, Va., indicted him Thursday on three counts of attempted espionage and one of gathering national defense information. He was previously indicted in October on a single espionage charge, although it did not specify whom authorities suspected him of spying for.

Regan previously pleaded innocent to the charge in federal court, and he was scheduled to be arraigned Friday on the latest charges.

Deputy U.S. Attorney General Larry Thompson declined to say whether Regan turned over any secret or otherwise classified information to foreign

governments. Thompson also declined to say whether Regan actually delivered the letter he is accused of writing to Saddam.

But the indictment indicated that Regan in June flew to Berlin and possibly Munich before returning to Washington seven days later, and the trip was "not in connection with any official duties."

Prosecutors said Regan wrote personally to Saddam sometime between 1999 and 2001 and asked for \$13 million in Swiss currency to provide information about U.S. satellites and other military secrets. Prosecutors said he offered to send a sample of secrets for \$1 million, and offered additional information afterward for \$3 million and \$5 million payments.

"There are many people from movie stars to (athletes) in the U.S. who are receiving tens of millions of dollars a year for their trivial contributions," Regan allegedly wrote, falsely describing himself as a CIA officer near retirement.

"If I am going to risk my life and the future of my family, I am going to get paid a fair price."

Court records indicated that Regan carried debts of at least \$53,000 earlier this year, and he told a federal judge in November that he could not afford to hire a lawyer.

Senate rejects proposal to restore felons' voting rights

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate rejected a measure Thursday that would have restored felons' right to vote after they had completed their sentences.

It was just one of the many amendments senators were considering as part of a \$3.4 billion election overhaul bill.

The issue of allowing felons to vote brought some of the most emotional rhetoric in a day that dealt mostly with ballot machines and voting technology. Lawmakers planned to continue debate today but expected no final vote until after the weeklong President's Day recess.

"They've paid their debt to society. Shouldn't they be able to have the right to vote? That's what this is all about," said Sen. Harry

Reid, D-Nev., and the amendment's sponsor.

The measure's co-sponsor, Sen. Arlen Specter, R-Pa., said, "That person owes nothing more to society and that person, I think, deserves the right to vote."

But the two were unable to sway their colleagues, many of whom came to the floor to denounce the amendment, before voting it down 63-31.

"I don't think American policy is going to be better informed if we have a bunch of felons in the process," said Sen. Jeff Sessions, R-Ala.

Sen. Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., said that when a person is convicted "that person should lose his right to vote."

"Do we want to see convicted terrorists voting in

elections? Do we want to see jailhouse blocs banning together to oust sheriffs?" McConnell said.

Felons' voting rights vary by state. Nine states impose a lifetime voting ban on convicted felons. In 32 states, felons can vote after serving their sentence and completing parole.

Two states — Maine and Vermont — have no prohibition and allow prisoners to vote.

Massachusetts voters in 2000 voted to place prohibitions on felons' voting rights.

Six other states impose restrictions based on a felon's prior record or parole status.

The Reid-Specter proposal would have given felons the right to vote in federal elections. But many lawmakers

said that would create a confusing system, particularly for states that hold state and federal elections on the same day.

The elections bill, which would spend the money over five years, requires that states enact computerized statewide registration lists and accessibility provisions for the disabled.

The House has passed its own \$2.6 billion bill which sets minimum standards like the statewide registration system, but the House gives states the leeway to develop their own improvements.

House Republicans have rejected mandating any changes for states, as the Senate version does. The two sides will have to craft a compromise once the Senate passes its bill.

Bush will OK site to store nuclear waste piling up across the nation, officials say

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush, citing national security concerns and years of scientific studies, will approve Yucca Mountain in Nevada for long-term disposal of thousands of tons of highly radioactive commercial and government nuclear waste, administration officials say.

Once the president acts, possibly as early as today, Nevada has said it would file a protest and under a 1987 law Congress then would have to sustain the president's decision by a majority vote of both houses. The process could take four or five months.

Energy Secretary Spencer Abraham late Thursday formally recommended the site 90 miles northwest of Las Vegas as the place to bury radioactive waste that has been piling

up at the nation's commercial nuclear reactors and at U.S. defense facilities, beginning as early as 2010. As much as 77,000 tons of waste could be entombed there.

In a letter to the president, Abraham said a review of 20 years of scientific studies has convinced him that the waste can be kept in volcanic rock 950 feet beneath the Nevada desert without risk to public health or the environment.

"I could not and would not recommend the Yucca Mountain site without having first determined that (it will) ...protect the health and safety of the public," Abraham said.

Rejecting critics' claims that the science has not clearly shown the wastes can be

contained for thousands of years at the Nevada site, Abraham said his conclusions were "based on sound scientific principles."

White House officials, speaking Thursday on condition of anonymity, said Bush intended to accept Abraham's recommendation.

"The president will review it," White House spokeswoman Claire Buchan said, declining to give a timetable.

The Yucca Mountain site, which also will have to get approval from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission if a decision is made to proceed, is expected to handle thousands of tons of used reactor fuel rods now kept at 103 commercial power reactors in 31 states as well as highly radioactive defense

waste now being stored in eight states.

Some of the radioisotopes will remain deadly for more than 10,000 years.

Abraham notified Nevada a month ago that he would recommend the site to the president.

Sen. Harry Reid, D-Nev., called Abraham's recommendation "a hasty, poor and indefensible decision" at a time when "the science does not yet exist" to ensure the wastes can be contained for thousands of years.

Abraham said "compelling national interests" — made even more apparent by the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks — require development of a remote centralized disposal site.

New Jersey man suspected of striking 26 people in two hit-and-run sprees arrested

GARFIELD, N.J. (AP) — In a bizarre weeklong crime spree, a man shot a woman in New Jersey, plowed his car into 19 pedestrians in Manhattan and then stole another car, returned to the city and slammed into pedestrians again two days later, police said.

The incidents left a total of 27 people wounded, police say — seven in the most recent hit-and-run rampage Thursday in addition to those hit Tuesday and the woman who was shot.

The man, identified in various media reports as Ronald Popadich of Garfield, N.J., was arrested Thursday, hours after he

allegedly ran into the same area of midtown Manhattan for the second time. He is charged with attempted murder in the Sunday shooting of a neighbor, Lisa Gotkin, 40.

Popadich, 39, was taken into custody at the home he shared with his 77-year-old mother.

The latest rampage began Thursday morning, when Secaucus police received a report that a man had stolen a car at gunpoint from a woman in a parking lot. The suspect displayed a handgun but did not injure the woman, police said.

The car later turned up in midtown Manhattan within

sight of Penn Station and Madison Square Garden. It went over a curb, struck three people and then turned around and hit four more pedestrians, New York Police Department Detective Thomas Lawrence said.

The driver stopped the car and fled into a subway station, police said.

"As I came out from my office, about 10 feet in front of me I saw four or five people on the ground," said Victor Parlati, 51, a telecommunications salesman. "None looked ready to die, but they looked seriously hurt."

Four of the victims, ranging in age from 49 to 78,

were hospitalized in critical but stable condition.

The incident was almost identical to Tuesday's mayhem, which began when a driver slammed into three pedestrians in a crosswalk near Penn Station.

When an officer approached, the driver sped off, striking more pedestrians and a bicyclist before abandoning the car father downtown and fleeing. The pedestrians, including a 10-year-old girl, suffered minor injuries.

Popadich had a court date scheduled today in the shooting of his neighbor, Gotkin. Popadich faces attempted murder and weapons possession charges.

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

John A. Moseley
Managing EditorKen Dulaney
PublisherBill 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:

• **DOROTHY KENNEMUR, SAM BARROW, BILL GONZALEZ, DONNA GROENKE, GLORIA HOPKINS, TOM LUCAS, REEVES MOREN, MIKE NELSON AND JEAN TIDWELL**, all VITA volunteers at Spring City Senior Center.

• **JIM CURTISS**, new manager for McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark.

• **MARIA HAMILTON**, who served up lunch for Big Spring High School faculty to thank them for educating her son, James.

• **PEGGY WALKER**, new Big Spring finance director and city secretary.

• **AIRMAN 1ST CLASS JOSE CARNERO**, pen pal with a Kentwood first grade class, who visited them last week while on leave.

• **FURR'S**, for honoring 51 area couples who had spent 50 Valentine's Days together.

• **DIANE WOOD**, American Cancer Society volunteer of the year.

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 would like to take this opportunity to express my heart felt thanks to the outstanding physicians and nursing staff of the Big Spring VA Hospital and Clinic. Never have I experienced such compassion, love and expertise in the care of my father, Wayne Crawford. Their work is not just a job, it is their love and their passion. Care was not only provided for my father, but for me as well. To the chief of staff, the chaplains and the patient representatives, you were my strength and I thank you. God bless you all. Big Spring, we are so fortunate to have such a wonderful facility in our town.

MARY SCHAEFER
BIG SPRING

TO THE EDITOR:
I want to share a story

O.D. MAJORS
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.

Redistribution from the poor to the rich

Enron, the biggest financial failure in U.S. history, is bigger than Enron. It's also bigger than Global Crossing and all the earnings restatements headed our way, too.

"Systemic," "structural" and "epidemic" are the key words here. Take, for example, the glad tidings that Enron paid no taxes whatever during four of the past five years by cleverly transferring its assets to 881 subsidiaries in tax-shelter countries. (Also take the item that Enron would have gotten a \$254 million tax rebate under the Republican "economic stimulus" package — please. The bill is now mercifully defunct.)

Enron's tax practices are so common that the Center for Public Integrity estimates they cost the country \$195 billion a year, which means the rest of us have to make up that missing tax money. That comes to \$1,600 per taxpayer. See? Your very own stake in the Enron fiasco.

Arthur Levitt, former chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission and now a hero because he saw this coming — nobody

paid attention to him the '90s, of course — testified, "What has failed is nothing less than the system for overseeing our capital markets." Unfortunately, the new SEC chair, Harvey Pitt, is a Bushie who thinks the way to cure the accounting scandals is to have tighter voluntary regulations for accounting firms. Bush tried that voluntary regulation when he was governor. Did it work? Not hardly, as they say in West Texas.

So now everyone is hot for ree-form, or at least pretending to be (Rep. Bill Tauzin of Louisiana is especially amusing in the role.) They want to reform accounting, reform the campaign financing system, reform stock analysts. Take my word on this, George W. Bush will support a few cosmetic reforms, probably of 401K plans, and then run next time as a reformer. That's how he became "the father" of the Texas patients bill of rights.

Our more ambitious reformers would like to do something about the tax structure, maybe even rethink the role of corporations in America. But they're not thinking big enough, either. One of major political parties is congenitally opposed to government regulation of any kind, and other one is almost as bad, simply because of the way campaigns are financed in this country. Our free-market fundamentalists insist that

all this self-correcting; in fact, according to the secretary of the treasury, Enron is proof positive that the whole system is working beautifully.

Former State Sen. Jack Gordon of Florida, one of the wisest people who ever served in state government, used to listen patiently to anti-regulatory diatribes and then gently suggest: "Well, if all regulation is bad, let's start with traffic. Let's take down all the stop lights and stop signs, and abolish the speed limit, and see what happens." A couple of crashes will make everyone more careful and then it will work fine, right?

Those who favor the free-market solution to everything keep warning if we put on too many regulations we will kill the goose that is laying the golden egg. The problem is, this goose is not laying a golden egg — it's laying an incredibly dangerous bomb. In the current issue of the magazine *Tikkun*, Jeff Gates, former counsel to the U.S. Senate Finance Committee, rehearses the dreary results both nationally and internationally.

The financial wealth of the top 1 percent of U.S. households now exceeds the combined household financial wealth of the bottom 95 percent.

The wealth of the Forbes 400 richest Americans grew an average \$1.44 billion each from 1997-2000, for an average daily

increase of wealth of \$1,920,000 per person. That's 6,602 times the U.S. minimum wage.

The top fifth of U.S. households have 49.2 percent of the national income, while the bottom fifth gets by on 3.6 percent.

The numbers on this immense concentration of wealth get worse every year — the system keeps redistributing money from the poor to the rich. The predictable result, says Gates, is excess physical capacity alongside unmet physical needs. We are now in an overcapacity recession, historically the most difficult to undo.

Nor does the phenomenon stop at our shores: Globalization is doing exactly the same thing internationally. Eighty countries have per capita income lower than a decade ago. In 1960, the income gap between the fifth of the world's people living in the richest countries and the fifth living in the poorest countries was 30 to one. By 1990, the gap had widened to 60 to 1. By 1998, it was 74 to 1.

There is much more of this in the article, but unlike the WTO protesters, Gates is not in favor of killing the transnational corporation goose. His critique is as harsh as anything we hear from the anti-globalization, but his solutions are based on free enterprise democracy. Well worth the trouble it might take you to find *Tikkun*.

ADDRESSES

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- **CHARLES STENHOLM**
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Austin, 78701
Phone: 806-839-2478



Culture and the fall of "Millionaire"

WASHINGTON — "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire" has been cancelled for

Monday nights, a victim of mixed demographics. This says something about demographics in America because the show was a top money-maker for its network just a few months ago.

Tastes generally change for the better over time. Yet, American culture is not one-dimensional, although we would be hard pressed to convince the television programming purveyors of this.

As often as not, they believe that America is dumbing down and that Americans tend to like the same things. The result is a series of copycat programming, much of which

appeals to the baser instincts, whether they concern sex, violence, bad food or just plain silliness.

It is the type of American culture that is often derided in foreign countries. That derision, however, usually hits the wrong targets, because sensuality is not obscenity, a portrayal of reality is not the same as gratuitous violence, some fast food is quite nutritional, and silliness has its place.

What does this have to do with the fall of "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire"? That program is a microcosm example of the problem of mass-marketing for "Everyman." Instead of identifying one audience, it attempted to go after multiple audiences, with the result that it turned off all of them.

The program, as most people know, is a question-and-answer game hosted by the popular Regis Philbin. But it is no "Jeopardy." On "Millionaire," the \$100, \$200, \$500 and \$1,000 questions are so infantile that they insult players and

viewers alike, unless, of course, a participant actually misses one of them. In such an instance, the player is simply humiliated, as was the woman who did not know where to find "north" on a compass.

Which audiences are these questions going after? Young children? If so, they are soon lost, as the difficulty increases with the price. Increasingly, then, the program moves into a more cerebral phase, a phase that appears geared to the "Jeopardy" audience. But the audience mix does not end there. With regularity, "Millionaire" opted for celebrity shows in which known and not-so-known actors and athletes played for charity. Here the dumbing down really picked up because the participants were allowed help from a group of other celebrities up to the \$32,000-question level. Further, as with most celebrity games, all of the questions are easier than they are for the regular shows.

This is what we mean about mixed demographics.

"Millionaire" went after children, the college-educated public, and past viewers of "Hollywood Squares," with the result that they lost all of them.

There are many aspects of American culture. There are opera lovers and rock music lovers, and sometimes lovers of both. There are people who aspire to intellectual endeavors and those who do not. But whatever the aspiration, two things are certain: The marketplace is fragmented, not homogenous, and the American public is better educated than it has ever been.

So the dumbing down of programming tends to result in failure, although there is a shrinking niche for the outrageous and the silly, a last tribute to H.L. Mencken's slander of American culture: "Nobody ever went broke underestimating the taste of the American public."

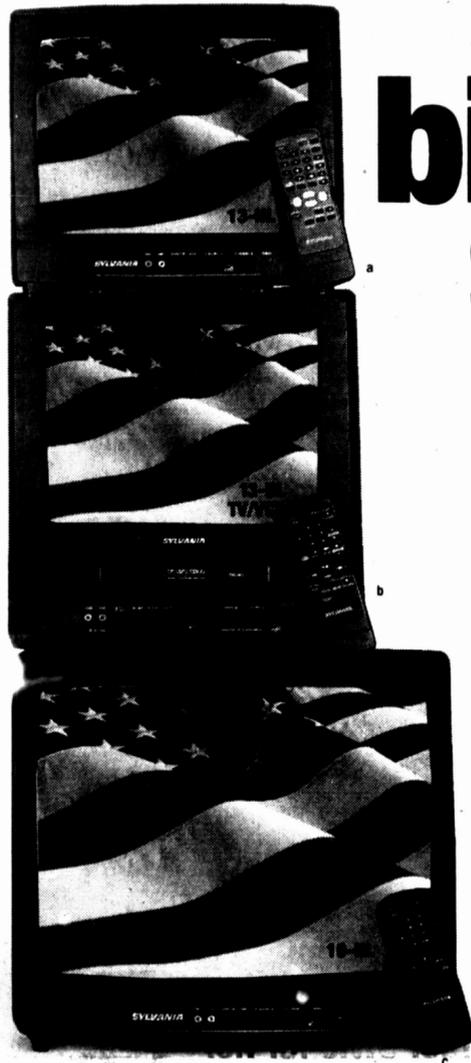
The problem with "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire" is that it shot low, high and in the middle — and missed.

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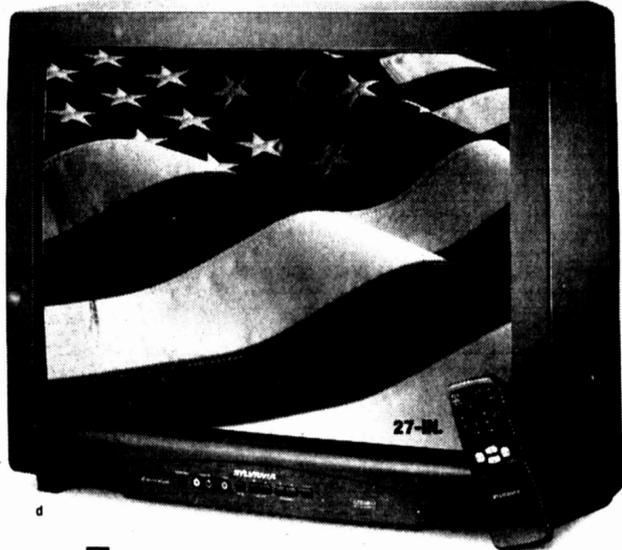
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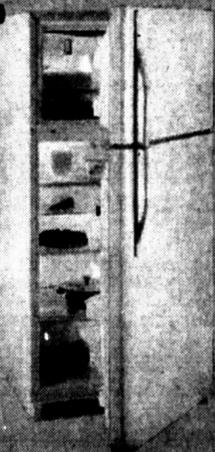
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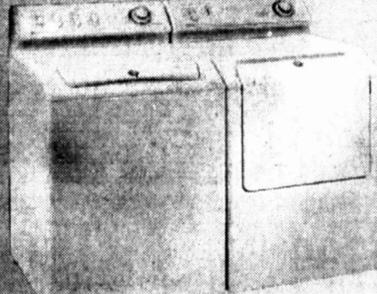
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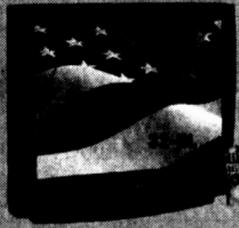
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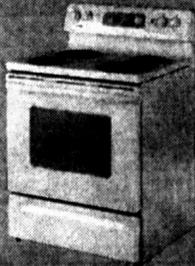


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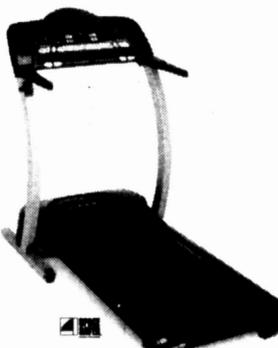
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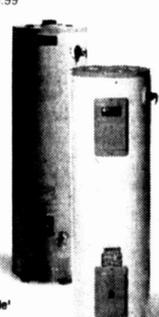
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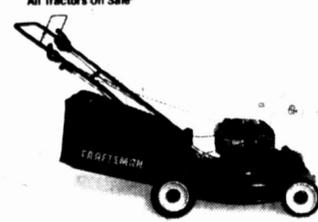
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Luke 22:24-30
Introduction - many of our con
involve who's the greatest at something? If I ask you who is the best football team what are you going to answer?

Or what about the greatest football ever play the game about the greatest weight boxing c Who was the best bent these United have ever had? Those convers become heated ionated in a hur What constitu ness? Most of u publicly deny a greatness for ou Yet, many in ou today aren't so. They are moring to claim gre themselves. On most unfortuna in the New Test involves this ki thinking.

An argument among the disci which one of th greatest. I. Disciples' D 25

Let's set the s this dispute. Je just concluded l last supper with ples.

Judas had ret the group in or out his dastard Jesus is hurti heavy-hearted. never needed th of his friends li it now.

In what has t lievable callous disciples, after among themsel one was going Jesus, lapse in ment about wh are going to be est.

Verse 25 says dispute arose a as to which of considered to b

Arguments a about their pe greatness are d any circumstar

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Church should be noon be to appe

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Actions often speak louder than words

Luke 22:24-30
 Introduction — How many of our conversations involve who's the greatest at something? If I ask you who is the best football team what are you going to answer?



DENNIS TEETERS

Or what about the greatest football player to ever play the game? What about the greatest heavy-weight boxing champion? Who was the best president these United States have ever had?

Those conversations can become heated and opinionated in a hurry.

What constitutes greatness? Most of us would publicly deny any personal greatness for ourselves. Yet, many in our world today aren't so modest.

They are more than willing to claim greatness for themselves. One of the most unfortunate episodes in the New Testament involves this kind of thinking.

An argument erupts among the disciples about which one of them is the greatest.

I. Disciples' Dispute — v. 25

Let's set the stage for this dispute. Jesus had just concluded having his last supper with the disciples.

Judas had retreated from the group in order to carry out his dastardly deed.

Jesus is hurting and heavy-hearted. He has never needed the support of his friends like he needs it now.

In what has to be unbelievable callousness, the disciples, after questioning among themselves which one was going to betray Jesus, lapse into an argument about which of them are going to be the greatest.

Verse 25 says, "Also a dispute arose among them as to which of them was considered to be greatest."

Arguments among people about their perceived greatness are distasteful in any circumstance.

Professional athletes of today seem especially

adept at it. But when it comes to religious folks claiming greatness for themselves that is the worst of all.

Let me give you an example of what I'm talking about from Max Anders' book, "The Good Life." Harvey Mackay tells about his friend Al who was a public relations expert that used to do some volunteer work for the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association even though he wasn't a Christian.

One day Al was fired from his firm. No other firm in town would touch him. After about three weeks, he got a call from Arthur with the Billy Graham Association.

Arthur asked him about doing some work for them. When Al finished, Arthur asked him to bring the bill over. Al wondered why and carefully went over the bill.

However, Arthur hardly glanced at the bill. He called his secretary in and told her to get Al a check immediately.

Within three years, Al's business had taken off. He had done several big jobs for Billy Graham.

Around Christmas time Arthur called again with an offer, but Al was too busy at the time to take the project on.

Al said, "We talked for a little while more, just chit chat stuff, but when I hung up the phone, I started to shake, and then I started to cry. All those jobs I'd done before, all the business he had given me when I was sitting there by myself. It wasn't because I was such a great PR guy. But it was because they knew I was hurting, and I needed the business. And when they called again, just checking in to see if I still needed help. Nobody I've ever done business with before has ever cared about me the way the Billy Graham organization did, and I'm Jewish."

That is the mark of true greatness. You see, greatness has never been decided by debate. Greatness is determined by action.

Dennis Teeters is pastor for First Baptist Church and will be writing a regular column for the Herald.

CHURCH NEWS

East Side Baptist

East Side Baptist will host a Gospel Singing Friday at 7 p.m. If you enjoy Southern and Country Gospel music, you will have a good time. Groups from several cities in our area have been invited.

Also we want to invite you to our regular Family Service at 10:15 a.m. Sunday. Nursery provided.

Baptist Temple

Faithful Touch, the gospel music ministry duo consisting of Mary Manry and Carolyn Vaughn, will present the service in song at 7 on Sunday evening.

Everyone is invited. If you are looking for a good Bible study, join us on Sunday morning at 9:30 a.m. We offer classes for all ages as well as special interest groups.

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

St. Mary's Episcopal

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

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

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

The Parish Mission Planning and Goals' Setting meeting will be this Saturday from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

Lunch will be provided. Please plan to join us to help us with our planning and discernment for the

ministry of St. Mary's.

The Vestry will meet on Monday at 5:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

The 2002 Lenten Program begins Feb. 20.

The theme this year is "Christian Mission and Ministry in our Diocese, our Parish, and our Lives."

We will begin, as is our custom, with a meatless potluck dinner in the Parish Hall at 6 p.m.

The program will begin at 6:30 p.m. and child care will be provided.

Our first speaker will be our Bishop, the Rt. Rev. Wallis Ohl, Bishop of Northwest Texas.

Stations of the Cross will be observed every Friday during Lent.

Please join us February 22, 12:05 p.m. in the Church.

First United Methodist

"When the Going Gets Tough," using Luke 9:51-62, will be Dr. Dave Ring's message Sunday the first Sunday in Lent.

Sunday morning worship services are 8:30 a.m. and 10:50 a.m.

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

Special rehearsals for anyone interested in singing in the cantata "God So Loved the World" are on Sunday at 2:30 p.m.

The choir will present this special program at both worship services on Palm Sunday, March 24.

The mid-high youth will attend a weekend retreat at Ceta Canyon beginning February 22.

The youth are still selling 'land shares' for \$10 per share to raise money for the mission trip to Mexico in

March.

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.

First Christian

Dr. Jimmy Watson, pastor of First Christian Church (D.O.C.) will preach the sermon, "Guilt: Part One of Lent and the Human Condition" during the morning worship service beginning at 10:50 a.m.

Sunday School begins at 9:45 a.m. Every Wednesday during Lent we are hosting a soup and muffins lunch in the fellowship hall along with a devotional and prayer.

Everyone is invited. For more information about the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), see our

web site at www.trydisciples.org.

Berea Baptist

The Williams family of Reedsport, Ore., will present a program on Wednesday at 7 p.m. The program includes skits, testimonies, puppets and balloon animals.

It is jointly sponsored by Berea Baptist and Central Baptist Church in Elbow.

The music will be bluegrass, hymns, contemporary and praise.

There is no charge for the program. For more information call 267-8438 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Kelli Ballard at 398-5551, or pastor Dee Threatt at 915-644-5392, or visit our Web site at www.worthy.net/9152678438.

The program will be interpreted for the deaf and is for people of all ages.

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FEB 15 2002

CLUB NEWS

Coahoma Lodge 992

Coahoma Lodge 992 will have a special called meeting Feb. 19, at 7 p.m. Brother Jerry Monroe will be raised to a Master Mason. All lodge brothers are encouraged to attend with greetings and support for Jerry.

We would also like to have all of Jerry's Masonic friends present. This is a special time for our lodge and this day does not come around enough. For all our brothers, who still remember what our fraternity stands for, your lodge's support is still greatly needed.

1955 Hyperion

The 1955 Hyperion Club met at 11:30 a.m. on Feb. 5, in the home of Ruby Mize. Holly Moore served as co-hostess.

Guest speaker, Donna Mayfield, artist and interior designer from Lubbock was unable to attend due to bad weather. She will be rescheduled for a future meeting.

Captain Elisha Mack

The Captain Elisha Mack Chapter, NSDAR, met Feb. 9, at the Big Spring Country Club. Regent Lola Kelley presided.

Regent Lola Kelley welcomed 13 members and four guests for the meeting.

Bill Scott, president of the Permian Basin Board of Realtors presented an excellent program on the restoration plans for the President George W. Bush childhood home at 1412 West Ohio in Midland. This house was home to two U.S. Presidents, and two state Governors (Texas and Florida) and a first lady.

Regent Lola Kelley reported on the remodeling and restorations recently completed in Constitution Hall in Washington, D.C.

Sue Ann Damron reports that February is "National Salute to Hospitalized Veterans" month. Our chapter and two Midland chapters have prepared Valentine sacks for all hospitalized veterans at the local VA Medical Center. The sacks include a card and candy.

Hostesses were Sara Tipton and Sue Ann Damron and decorations reflected a patriotic and Valentine's Day theme.

Glynnie Wall won the door prize and the next meeting will be March 9, at 11:45 a.m. at the Big Spring Country Club. The program "Ancestors of Captain Elisha Mack Chapter

Members" will be presented by Sue Ann Damron.

TOPS TX 21

TOPS 21 met on Feb. 11, at 6 p.m. in the Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center, 306 W. Third St. for their regular Monday night meeting.

Leader, Huggetta Roberts called the meeting to order, voiced the opening prayer and led the TOPS pledge. Minutes of the previous meeting were read by secretary, Gladys Russell.

The roll was called by weight-recorder, Genay Bertran. Eleven members weighed in, nine TOPS and two KOPS.

Virginia Langston was the TOPS best loser for the week and she received the weekly award and certificate. There was no KOPS best loser but both KOPS were maintaining their weight and remained well within their designed leeway.

There was no business conducted and the meeting was turned over to program chairman, Olnee Menges who presented the program entitled "Don't Diet Healthy Living and Reducing Stress is More Important".

Anyone interested in becoming a member to TOPS which is a non-profit, weight loss program can call 1-800-932-8677. Locally those interested may call 263-0391 or 263-758 for more information or come by Dora Roberts Rehab Center, 306 W. Third St. on any Monday night at 6 p.m.

Big Spring Howard County Retired Teachers Association

The Big Spring Howard County Retired Teachers Association will meet Monday, in the Cactus Room at Howard College. Lunch will be served at 11:30.

The program topic will be "Displays of Splendor," a presentation by a local artist.

All retired school person-

nel are invited to attend the meeting.

Big Spring Morning Optimist

Members invited their spouses to the Valentine's Optimist meeting Feb. 13. Carroll Kohl, minister at the V.A. Medical Center, brought a short history lesson on Valentine's Day.

"One legend contends that Valentine was a priest during the third century in Rome. When Emperor Claudius outlawed marriage for young men, Valentine continued to perform marriages for young lovers in secret," Kohl continued.

"According to one legend, Valentine fell in love with his jailor's daughter. Before his death he wrote her a letter which he signed "From your Valentine."

Valentine's Day is an ancient holiday, according to Kohl. "Pope Gelasius declared Feb. 14th St. Valentine's Day around 498 A.D. The oldest known Valentine still in existence today was a poem written by Charles, Duke of Orleans to his wife while he was imprisoned in the Tower of London. The greeting, which was written in 1415, is part of the manuscript collection of the British Library in London."

"In the 1840's, Esther A. Howland began to sell the first mass-produced Valentines in America. According to the Greeting Card Association, an estimated one billion Valentine cards are sent each year, making Valentine's Day the second largest card-sending holiday of the year. Approximately 85 percent are purchased by women." You guys better get with the program!

Kohl also explained that winged baby with the bow and arrow, "Cupid is the son of Venus, the Roman goddess of love."

Club President Roger Goertz presented Kohl with a certificate of appreciation.

Music Ministry course offered

Herald Staff Report

A study course is currently being offered for people who are involved in church music entitled "Leading a Music Ministry in a Small Church."

This course is designed to equip church music directors who have not had previous seminary training. It would also be of interest to those who work as volunteers in the music ministry of their church.

The class will meet on Tuesday evenings from 6:30 to 9, beginning Feb. 26, and concluding on May 21. The sessions will be taught at Ackerly Baptist Church.

Stan Hanes, music director at First Baptist Church in Big Spring, will be the instructor for this course. The cost is \$65, which includes all expenses (tuition and textbook).

Information is also available for those interested in other courses that will be offered in the future. This information can be obtained from the Big Spring-Lamesa Baptist Area Office, and it will also be available at Ackerly Baptist Church on the evening of Feb. 26.

This course is a part of the seminary extension program of the Southern Baptist Convention. Seminary extension courses

are offered as a program of the Southern Baptist seminaries, working in concert.

Students will receive a certificate upon completion and the course will serve as credit toward a seminary diploma for students who are interested in continuing their seminary training.

Anyone interested in registering for the course can contact the Big Spring-Lamesa Baptist Area Office at 1-915-263-1673 or Troy Williamson, pastor of First Baptist Church in Welch, at 1-806-489-7698.

Registration will remain open through March 5 (the night of the second class meeting).

State moves to shut down Internet pharmacy

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — The owners of an Internet-based San Antonio retail prescription drug operation have been fined a record \$3.8 million by the Texas State Board of Pharmacy, and the board has moved to shut the pharmacy down.

The fine imposed by the state board Wednesday is the largest ever sought against a Texas pharmacy, Gay Dodson, executive director of the pharmacy board, told the San Antonio Express-News for its Thursday editions.

The federal Drug Enforcement Administration in November revoked the Pill Box Pharmacy's registration to sell controlled substances — legal drugs, but those with the highest abuse potential, said DEA spokesman Robert Paiz said in Houston.

Revoking the pharmacy's license would end its right to sell licensed prescription drugs.

Pill Box, which has two outlets in San Antonio, sold everything from Viagra to cough syrup on the Internet.

Pill Box did a "huge vol-

ume" of business, Dodson said.

"I don't know how a doctor could write that many prescriptions or a pharmacist could fill them," she said.

At its zenith, Pill Box was selling prescription drugs to customers in 41 states, Mexico, Canada and Australia. Pill Box used a network of physicians who approved prescriptions by interviewing customers on the telephone or by reviewing questionnaires submitted by customers.

One of the prescription writers, Dr. David Bryson of Kerrville, had his medical license suspended last year in connection with the Pill Box operation.

He appeared this week at a state Board of Medical Examiners hearing, attempting to get his license

reinstated.

Bryson told the administrative hearing judge Tuesday he wrote 20,000 prescriptions in the 22 months he worked with Pill Box owner William Stallknecht, earning more than \$284,000 in 1999 alone.

Stallknecht invoked his Fifth Amendment rights against self-incrimination, refusing to testify Tuesday in the Bryson hearing.

The pharmacy board's filing said this of Stallknecht and staff pharmacist Robert Phelps: "Based on the high volume of narcotic analgesics and other controlled substances prescribed by Dr. Bryson, (Stallknecht and Phelps) knew or should have known that the medications were not prescribed pursuant to valid physician-patient relationships."

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Deputies use lasers in training

ODESSA, Texas — The Ector County Sheriff's Office's new Laser Shot System looks more like a giant video game than a firearms training device.

But the large screen, projector, infrared reader, computer and artificial guns will help officers better prepare for life or death situations, said Sheriff Mark Donaldson.

Donaldson said he decided to buy the new \$14,000 Laser Shot System after seeing one at a Sheriff's Association Convention last summer.

"I'm more pleased with it," Donaldson said. "Peace officers don't ever want to use their weapon, but in instances like what happened a couple weeks ago, you just never know where a situation you go into might turn into a life or death situation."

Donaldson was referring to a Jan. 18 downtown shooting incident involving Odessa Police Department officer Gregory Travland. Travland was injured during a gun battle at a downtown Odessa business. The incident left an Odessa woman dead and her estranged husband critically injured.

Big Spring Herald Paid Listing Of Political Candidates For Howard County Offices

Primary Election

County Commissioner Precinct 2

Perry Gamble.....R

Jerry Kilgore.....(I).....R

County Commissioner Precinct 4

Roy Don Beauchamp.....R

Walter H. Brumley Jr.....R

Gary Simer.....(I).....D

Justice of the Peace Precinct 1, Place 2

Kathryn Wiseman.....R

David Mohn.....R

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S

IN B

Playoff game tonight at

Two girls' basketball players have been named to the College's Do Coliseum.

The first round of the Class 2A are the Colorado Wolves and Hawks.

The second round will feature Garden Bearkats vs. Roby's Lady's Division I showdown.

Ticket price \$4 for adult students.

CGA scheduler tourney Sunday

The CGA Association will hold its 20th annual tournament Sunday at the Trail Golf Club with a prize of \$10,000.

For more information call 264-2366

Coahoma to meet

The Coahoma Booster Club will host a meeting 7 p.m. Monday at the Coahoma School cafeteria.

All parents and supporters of the Bulldogette teams are encouraged to attend.

Industrial league set

The Big Spring Industrial League will hold its annual meeting Wednesday, Feb. 13, at the John Wesley Center.

Anyone interested in having a team in the league is encouraged to attend.

For more information call Sally C. at 264-4728 or 393-5111

ON

TODAY BASKETBALL

7 p.m. — Coahoma vs. Andrews High School District 3-2A playoff game.

8 p.m. — Garden Bearkats vs. Lions, Class 2A.

Dorothy Garrett

GOLF

Big Spring Plainview tournament.

Big Spring Snyder tournament.

SOFTBALL

Big Spring Fort Worth tournament.

TENNIS

Big Spring Invitational Tennis Center.

ON TV

Television COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Men's — 8 p.m. — Mississippi vs. ESPN.

BOXING

8 p.m. — J. weights Kass 1-1) vs. Michigan 6-1), ESPN2.

OLYMPICS

5 p.m. — Canada vs. U.S. vs. Finland.

7 p.m. — Figure dancing: men's and women's giant slalom finals; Men's vs. Finland; U.S. final; Skiing, bined, NBC.

11 p.m. — conclusion of Finland, NBC.

IN BRIEF

Playoff games set tonight at college

Two girls' high school basketball playoff games have been scheduled for tonight at Howard College's Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

The first game, scheduled for 6 p.m. will be a Class 2A area contest pitting Colorado City's Lady Wolves and Wall's Lady Hawks.

The second game will see Garden City's Lady Bearkats taking on Roby's Lady Lions at 8 p.m. in a Class 1A, Division I area playoff showdown.

Ticket prices are set at \$4 for adults and \$2 for students.

CGA schedules tourney Sunday

The Chicano Golf Association of Big Spring will hold its annual membership tournament Sunday at the Comanche Trail Golf course beginning with a shotgun start at 10 a.m.

For more information, call 264-2366.

Coahoma boosters to meet on Monday

The Coahoma Athletic Booster Club will meet at 7 p.m. Monday in the Coahoma Elementary School cafeteria.

All parents and supporters of Bulldog and Bulldogette athletic programs are encouraged to attend.

Industrial softball league sets meeting

The Big Spring Men's Industrial Softball League will hold a meeting at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 27, at John Wesley's Pick-pockets.

Anyone interested in having a team in the league is encouraged to attend.

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

ON TAP

TODAY BASKETBALL

- 7 p.m.
 - Coahoma vs. Plains at Andrews High School gym, District 3-2A boys' championship playoff.
- 8 p.m.
 - Garden City Lady Bearkats vs. Roby Lady Lions, Class 1A area playoff, Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

GOLF

- Big Spring Steers at Plainview tournament.
- Big Spring Lady Steers at Snyder tournament.

SOFTBALL

- Big Spring Lady Steers at Fort Worth tournament.

TENNIS

- Big Spring hosting Invitational at Figure 7 Tennis Center.

ON THE AIR

Television

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Men
8 p.m. — Southern Mississippi at Cincinnati, ESPN.

BOXING

8 p.m. — Junior middleweights Kassim Ouma (14-1-1) vs. Michael Lerma (24-6-1), ESPN2.

OLYMPICS

5 p.m. — Men's hockey, Canada vs. Sweden and U.S. vs. Finland, CNBC.

7 p.m. — Figure skating, ice dancing; Snowboarding, men's and women's parallel giant slalom semifinals and finals; Men's hockey, U.S. vs. Finland; Luge, doubles final; Skiing, Nordic combined, NBC.

11 p.m. — Men's hockey, conclusion of U.S. vs. Finland, NBC.

Rangers have a lot to look at during spring training

ARLINGTON (AP) — New general manager John Hart has given the Texas Rangers plenty of players to look at this spring.

Since replacing the fired Doug Melvin on Nov. 1, Hart has transformed the team that finished 43 games behind Seattle last season and in last place in the AL West for the second year in a row. Hart gave the Rangers 28 new players, including 16 pitchers.

There will be a record 64 players in camp by the time everyone arrives next week in Port Charlotte, Fla. On Thursday, at least 34 were expected to report — and those were

just the pitchers.

"The competition is going to be extremely healthy and is going to be good for our team. And when you have talent, you can translate that into victories" said All-Star shortstop Alex Rodriguez. "I'm excited about all of the pitchers that we have in camp."

Excited because the Rangers will have a lot of options to improve the worst pitching staff in baseball.

Texas had a major league-high 5.71 ERA last season and allowed more hits (1,670) and runs (968) than any other team. The Rangers lost 89 games even though they scored 5.5

runs per game. Rodriguez hit .318 with an AL-leading 52 homers and 133 runs scored.

Hart's primary mission was to acquire pitchers — and more pitchers.

He signed free agents Chan Ho Park, Ismael Valdes, Dave Burba, Todd Van Poppel and Jay Powell. John Rucker came over in a trade with Cleveland, and Hideki Irabu, Bill Pulsipher and Steve Woodard signed minor league contracts for a chance to make the team this spring.

The Rangers also have new pitching coach Oscar Acosta, who was

with the Chicago Cubs the past two seasons.

The Cubs had a 4.03 ERA in 2001 — down from 5.25 the previous season for the biggest improvement in the majors. They set a major league record with 1,344 strikeouts while holding opponents to a .249 batting average, second-lowest in the National League.

Park, Valdes and holdover Kenny Rogers are the only pitchers apparently guaranteed spots in the starting rotation. Among those in the mix for the final two spots are Doug

See **RANGERS**, Page 2B

Hawks top MC; back at .500 in WJCAC

By VALERIE AVERY

Special to the Herald

Freshman Maushae Byles attempted only two baskets in the first half Thursday night against rival Midland College, but canned both of them playing a huge part in Howard College's ability to pull away for a 77-60 win in the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

The win improves the Hawks to 17-9 and 5-5 in league play. Midland College drops to 14-11 and 7-3 as the last four games of the Western Junior College Athletic Conference wind down.

Byles, a freshman from Racine, Wis., kept a charging Chaparrals team at bay with back-to-back three-pointers in Howard's 14-point run right before half-time.

Howard rolled to a 16-5 advantage behind two three-pointers from Dominique Brown and one from Rodney Blackstock in the opening 10:00 of the contest. But Midland knotted the score at 18 as Omar Duran, a 5-9 sharp-shooting sophomore from El Paso hit three treys.

The Chaps never recovered after Byles hit his two back-breakers as Midland went the final 5:54 of the first half without scoring sending the Hawks to the locker room ahead 32-18.

Howard made nine steals and blocked three shots and limited Midland to 27 percent shooting from the field in the first half.

"The nine to 10 guys who went in the first half did not give them anything," Howard head coach Chris Jans said. "(Midland) made a couple of shots as the shot clock was winding down. We just didn't give them many good looks at the basket."

Sophomore Zach Moss, who produced one point in the first half, came roaring out after intermission taking a feed from center Brandon Haughton, taking a turnaround jumper, and then making a bucket off an assist from Blackstock.

By that time, Howard was up 38-22. Chaps' D' Hudson hit a free throw to bring the score to 38-25 but a Fears' free throw and Blackstock's set-up for one of Moss' dunks erupted the crowd and Midland never had a chance.

Fears hit the Pompano,



Howard College's Tyrone Payne slams down a dunk during the second half of the Hawks' 77-60 win over Midland College's Chaparrals Thursday night at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

Fla. native for another spectacular dunk stretching the lead to 47-26. Moss' put-back and one by Jamison gave Howard a 23-point lead with 10:24 to play.

Howard's biggest lead would come when Brown, a freshman guard from Greensboro, N.C., hit Moss on the inbounds pass under the basket. The play worked not once, but twice in the second half because of Moss' spectacular leaping ability.

The last seven minutes of the contest moved at a snail's pace as both teams attempted 39 free throws.

Howard shot 17-of-23 or 74 percent from the charity in the second half, while Midland made 14-of-25 or 56 percent.

Three Howard players were in double figures with Moss leading the way with 19 points. Seven of Fears' 14 points came from the free throw line, and Brown

scored 12 points — half from behind the arc.

The Hawks' defense never provided Midland with a chance to get hot, and the Chaps inability to score fed Howard's confidence in the second half.

Howard College limited leading scorers Jeremiah Coleman to five points and Hudson to 2. They had been averaging 18 and 12 points,

See **HAWKS**, Page 3B

Howard women fall 86-58 short of Lady Chaps

By VALERIE AVERY

Special to the Herald

Howard's Lady Hawks led 26-21 after sophomore Shamiaka Buckley stole the ball away from the No. 23-ranked Midland College Lady Chaparrals Thursday at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum and fed Latasha Mathiew for the easy basket.

Midland roared back and tied the game at 26 after Hazel Woods nailed a three-pointer. Buckley made two of her team-high 14 points to knot the score at 28, and Sherice Risby's basket made it 30-all with a little less than five minutes left in the first half.

The Lady Chaps would not enter halftime quietly, though, as they reeled off 14 unanswered points, scoring at will against the Lady Hawks, who turned the ball over 20 times in the first half.

Howard shot the ball well early in the contest, but the Lady Hawks' inside game began to falter as Howard's inside threat began to tire of the fast-paced contest.

The Lady Chaps finally wore down Howard to walk away with an 86-58 win Thursday night at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

Midland, already a lock for a postseason berth improves to 22-4 and 8-1. Howard falls to 7-17 and 1-8.

"(Midland) is a very good team," Howard head coach Joey Wells said. "They're good because they do a lot of things that it takes to be good. They have very unselfish players. They have a good inside-outside game."

"They maybe took five bad shots the whole game and had only 17 turnovers. They made good decisions."

"We took, maybe 12-15 bad shots and had 31 turnovers."

Howard shot 42 percent in the first half, but Midland was on the mark 58 percent of the time — most in the final five minutes before intermission. Sophomore Amisha Carter penetrated at will knocking down three consecutive baskets en route to a team-high 21 points.

See **LOSS**, Page 3B

Goebel wins bronze as skating controversy continues

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Like an inversion above the Utah valley, the contentious debate over judging in the pairs figure skating lingered over the Olympics for a fourth day — although it lifted a bit when U.S. skater Tim Goebel grabbed a well-deserved bronze.

The 21-year-old, in his first Olympics, captured his medal in a contest devoid of the animosity that accompanied the judging in the pairs skating. He stumbled just once during his routine, and landed his signature move — a quad jump — three times, a feat never before accomplished in the Olympics.

"I feel great," Goebel said. "I skated as well as I can skate, and I was just so happy to go out there and put it out under pressure."

Gold medalist Alexei Yagudin of Russia received four perfect 6.0s for artistry — and nobody complained at all. The silver went to his teammate, Evgeni Plushenko of Russia. And the crowd cheered all the winners, unlike the boos that rained down after the pairs decision.

The Thursday night competition was a respite from the flap over the

earlier skating medal. The latest rumblings: perhaps a gold medal for both the Russian winners and the Canadian runners-up in Monday night's much-maligned result.

The International Olympic Committee wouldn't rule out twin golds as a means to end the judging controversy that has marred the sport and dominated the Winter Games.

"The IOC will consider any request from the ISU," said president Jacques Rogge, referring to the International Skating Union.

The ISU head responded that it would be "very difficult" but "not impossible" to award the gold to Jamie Sale and David Pelletier, who narrowly lost to the Russians in a questionable vote.

"Nothing is impossible," Ottavio Cincquanti told NBC Sports.

Earlier Thursday, the ISU had ignored IOC pressure and refused to speed up its timetable for investigating the judging of the pairs figure skating.

The ISU executive board will conduct a meeting Monday as scheduled, with no decision until then,

said Cincquanti.

"It is a legal hearing on an appeal," Cincquanti said, adding the date would not be changed for a ruling on the gold medal awarded to Russian couple Elena Berezhnaya and Anton Sikharulidze despite their obvious technical error in Monday's competition.

The silver went to Canada's Sale and Pelletier. The Canadian Olympic Association subsequently appealed to the ISU to hold an independent investigation of the judging. And a French Olympic official said a judge from his delegation was "somewhat manipulated" before casting her vote.

International Olympic Committee director general Francois Carrard said Thursday that Olympic officials wouldn't demand the ISU move any faster.

The figure skating flap went on even as another group of skaters prepared for the men's free program Thursday night.

Germany remained atop the top of the medals chart with 15 (4 gold, 7 silver, 4 bronze). The Americans were second with 11 (3-5-3), ahead of

Norway (5-5-0) and Austria (1-2-7). The most medals the Americans have ever won in a Winter Olympics is 13.

SPEEDSKATING: For another Canadian skater, a gold medal came much easier Thursday — and she won't have to share it with anyone. Speedskater Catriona Le May Doan zipped to a controversy-free gold medal Thursday, winning her second straight Olympic 500-meter race. She easily defeated the rest of the field in becoming only the second woman ever to win two straight 500s.

She easily defeated a pair of Germans. Monique Garbrecht-Enfeldt of won the silver, and teammate Sabine Volker took the bronze. Le May Doan, on her victory lap, carried a Canadian flag and donned a cowboy hat.

CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING: Johann Muehlepp of Spain needed no judges to confirm the cross-country

See **OLYMPICS**, Page 2B

FEBRUARY 15 2002

SPORTS EXTRA

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL

DETROIT TIGERS—Agreed to terms with 1B Dmitri Young on a four-year contract.

NEW YORK YANKEES—Agreed to terms with OF Ruben Rivera on a one-year contract.

TEXAS RANGERS—Agreed to terms with RHP Colby Lewis, LHP Andy Pratt, OF Ryan Ludwick and OF Kevin Mench on one-year contracts.

National League ARIZONA DIAMONDBACKS—Named Chili Davis minor league hitting instructor in spring training.

MILWAUKEE BREWERS—Agreed to terms with RHP J.M. Gold on a one-year contract.

BASKETBALL

National Basketball Association NBA—Suspended Memphis Grizzlies G.F. Rodney Buford five games for violating the league's anti-drug rules.

LOS ANGELES CLIPPERS—Activated G Keyon Dooling from the injured list.

MEMPHIS GRIZZLIES—Activated C Lorenzen Wright from the injured list. Placed C Isaac Austin on the injured list.

NEW JERSEY NETS—Activated G Brandon Armstrong from the injured list. Placed F Donny Marshall on the injured list.

SAN ANTONIO SPURS—Activated F Danny Ferry from the injured list. Placed C Amal McCaskill on the injured list.

FOOTBALL

National Football League CAROLINA PANTHERS—Named Ryan Vermillion trainer.

HOUSTON TEXANS—Named Eric Sutilovich assistant special teams coach and administrative assistant.

NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS—Agreed to terms with P Ken Walter on a five-year contract.

NEW YORK GIANTS—Announced defensive quality control coach Dave Brazil will become senior defensive analyst. Named Rod Rust defensive quality control coach.

SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS—Promoted Brett Mark to secondary coach.

HOCKEY

National Hockey League CALGARY FLAMES—Assigned F Jason Butler and F Jamie Wright to Saint John's of the AHL.

DALLAS STARS—Assigned D John Erskine to Utah of the AHL.

FLORIDA PANTHERS—Reassigned D Brad Norton to Hershey of the AHL.

LOS ANGELES KINGS—Assigned LW Ryan Finn to Manchester of the AHL.

NEW JERSEY DEVILS—Assigned F Christian Berglund, D J. J. Corcoran, G Scott Clemmensen and F Brian Goggin to Albany of the AHL.

WASHINGTON CAPITALS—Assigned LW Ivan Cernek to Portland of the AHL.

TOP 25 - MEN

Table listing top 25 men's college basketball teams with columns for rank, team name, and record.

TOP 25 - WOMEN

Table listing top 25 women's college basketball teams with columns for rank, team name, and record.

HIGH SCHOOL POLL

The final high school basketball rankings as compiled by the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches. Records reflect games played through Thursday.

Table listing high school basketball rankings for boys and girls, including team names and records.

Table listing various sports teams and their records, including basketball, football, and hockey.

NBA

Table listing NBA Eastern Conference and Western Conference standings.

Thursday's Games

Table listing NBA games scheduled for Thursday, including matchups and times.

NCAA SCORES

Table listing NCAA basketball scores for men's and women's teams.

Lady Raiders upset by Oklahoma St.

STILLWATER, Okla. (AP) — The Oklahoma State women's basketball team proved once again that it can pull off an upset every now and then.

The Cowgirls, who beat then-No. 9 Kansas State on Jan. 19, upset 16th-ranked Texas Tech 58-55 on Thursday night behind the play of Tari Cummings.

The Cowgirls came in having lost four in a row and eight of 10, and also learned this week that 19-year coach Dick Halterman will not get his contract renewed after this season.

"We have nothing to lose, and the team that we are shouldn't be sitting in the position that we are in," said Cummings, whose three-point play with 8.2 seconds remaining proved

to be the difference. "It's time to step it up and knock these five games out and get them all, and go into the Big 12 tournament and get some breaks there and win."

Cummings scored 19 points, including the Cowgirls' final six, as Oklahoma State (12-13, 4-8 Big 12) ended an 11-game losing streak to the Lady Raiders.

Texas Tech (14-9, 6-7) blew a 10-point second-half lead with scoreless stretches of 5:00 and 3:08.

"I'm disappointed with some of the decisions we made in the second half, the way we handled the basketball and the plays we didn't make," coach Marsha Sharp said. "We got what we deserved tonight."

RANGERS

Continued from Page 1B Davis, Aaron Myette, Rob Bell, Irabu and Woodard.

Jeff Zimmerman, who converted 28 of 31 save opportunities last season, is the closer. But Rocker (85 saves the past three seasons) should also get a chance in that role.

Outside of pitching, manager Jerry Narron has to determine how to use Rusty Greer, Frank Catalanotto and Gabe Kapler after the additions of outfielders Carl Everett and Juan Gonzalez.

OLYMPICS

Continued from Page 1B try skiing medal that was his second in Salt Lake City.

Muehlegg, who became a Spanish citizen after a 1998 split with the German ski federation, was so far ahead after the first portion of the pursuit that even his competitor conceded the gold.

"We knew we couldn't catch Muehlegg, so the race was on for the silver," said Frode Estil of Norway, who tied with teammate Thomas Alsgaard to share that medal.

Muehlegg finished nearly 30 seconds ahead of the Norwegians. His first medal came in the 30K freestyle event.

WOMEN'S HOCKEY

The U.S. women, defending gold medalists, clinched a medal round berth with a 12-1 victory over China.

Cammi Granato posted her first Olympic hat trick as the Americans won their second straight game.

Joining the Americans in the medal round were Finland, Sweden and No. 1 seed Canada, the silver medalists in Nagano.

Eliminated in the preliminary round were China, Kazakhstan, Russia and Germany, with a combined

Cummings pumped her fist wildly in the lane after putting them up 56-55 on a rebound of a Thia Willis jumper. Cummings' free throw made it a two-point lead.

Tech hurried the ball up court, but Jia Perkins was called for traveling. Cummings then hit one of two free throws with 3.2 seconds left to play before Perkins missed on a running 3-pointer at the buzzer.

"I don't think our kids question whether we have plenty to play for," said Halterman, who has refused to talk about his job status. "You can look at this game any way you want to look at it."

"Anybody can say why we played that way tonight, but our kids have played hard all year because they know they can win."

CURLING

The U.S. women, after winning their first two games, have now lost three straight and may not reach the medal round.

A 9-4 loss to Denmark, followed later in the day by a 7-6 loss to Switzerland, could leave the Americans on the outside looking in.

Only the top four teams in the 10-team round-robin tournament make a medal play.

"We can't afford to lose anymore," U.S. skip Kari Erickson said. "The U.S. men are 2-3 after beating Switzerland Thursday."

NORDIC COMBINED

The men's 90-kilometer Nordic combined team jumping was postponed by high winds. It was tentatively rescheduled for Saturday, weather permitting.

Advertisement for Trinity Baptist Church, 810 11th Place, 267-6344. Text: "When you open your Bible, ask its Author to open your heart."

Advertisement for Sprint PCS. Text: "Nationwide Long Distance Included. Every Minute. Every Day. \$29.99/3000 per mo. min." Includes image of a phone.

Advertisement for Medical Care Plaza. Text: "MEDICAL CARE PLAZA WELCOMES BACK DR. MOHIUDDIN WASEEM. After a leave of absence, Dr. Waseem, has returned to Medical Care Plaza in Big Spring." Includes phone number (915) 264-6860.

Big Spring Herald Friday, Feb... HAWK... Continued from... pretty good id... have to play i... to compete in... ence," Jans sa... we played the... ed to... Even when... sessed a 51-2... the sophom... dove several... the hardwood... come up with... Howard force... turned the ball... and let go of... 17 times... The Hawks... the Chaps 39-... percent for th... pared to Midl... cent from the... Jans... Thursday's... win will spar... down the se... games remain... New Mexico J... Frank Phil... Plains and... Military Instit... "It could be... Jans said. "Th... way I wanted... They finally h... how we need... the game, I... need to stay... we play next... about not par... now, we can... destiny..." HOWARD 77... MIDLAND 80... Marquis Woods 3:11.9... 3:52.2; D. Hudson 0:6... 0:0; O. Robert 5:4... 0:0; O. Thomas 4:1... Coleman 2:8.1.5; Anthony Joseph 0:0... Kaladokubo 1:4.0.2... HOWARD — Jared... Moss 9:13.4.19; V... Rodney Blackstock 3:10... 1:2.0.0.2; Artavus D... Glaster 0:0.0.0; Tyron... Wright 0:0.0.0; Domi... Mauseby Byes 2:5.0.0... 5.0.1.4. Totals: 25:53... Halftime score: Howar... Three-point goals: Coleman 3.3; Williams... (Brown, Byes 2.3; Blac... Hudson; Kaladokubo 3... Haughton, Brown 5... Blackstock 3). Fouls... out: Hudson, Stewart... Assists: MC 2 (Hudson... Fears, Byes 2; Black... Kaladokubo); HC 5... Jamison). Steals: MC... (Fears 3, Moss, Jamis... 2). Records: MC is 1... LOSS... Continued from... Plainview... Bates, whose... Dorothy Gar... was the Clas... tournament... before the I... earned a s... onship —... Carter's bask... hitting her f... team-high th... Midland c... leading 4-0... answered, na... Shanequa... "Buckley a... Menter hit a... for a tie ball... After the... turned the... Sherice Rish... City, Kan., h... from the top... Coahoma... Kemper's ju... Mathew's ju... the free thro... score at 2... Sophomore... Stowers of... The conven... point play a... 24-21... Buckley's... to Mathiew g... last lead at 2... "I was ver... their hustle... Howard s... dling the ba... 31 turnovers... verted the m... points. Mi... bounded Ho... got 32 points... The Lady... three games... MIDLAND 86... LADY HAWKS 58... MIDLAND — Kami... Cornelius 1:1.0.0.3... 1:5; Mika Robertson 3... 1:4.4.6.19; Althea... Woods 2:8.1.4.5; Bro... Jacquarone Anselmi... 0:0.0; Sylvia Butler 0... 1:7.1.1.3. Totals: 31... HOWARD — Van... Shanequa Campbell... 2:9.1.1.5; Kortney K... Rishy 5:15.0.12; La... Chris Carmichael 0:1... 6:15.0.0.14. Totals: 2... Halftime score: Midl... Three-point goals... Overstreet 1-1; C... Sutherland 0-3; HC 6... Menter 1-5; K... Campbell 0-1; Kempe... 4-4 (Carter, B. Woods... Amacker 4); HC 29 (F... Mathew 4). Total fou... out: None. Technical... 13 (Bates 3, Woo... (Kemper, 2; Campbe... MC 17 (Bates, Over... 3; HC 4 (Kemp... 3; Buckley 2); Black... Carson, Butler); HC... Steals: MC 11 (Car... (Buckley 2); Records... 17.1.8.

HAWKS

Continued from Page 1B

respectively.
"I think we came with a pretty good idea of how we have to play if we're going to compete in this conference," Jans said. "I thought we played the way we needed to."

Even when Howard possessed a 51-28 advantage, the sophomore Jamison dove several yards across the hardwood trying to come up with the loose ball. Howard forced Midland to turn the ball over 25 times and let go of it themselves 17 times.

The Hawks outrebounded the Chaps 39-36 and shot 47 percent for the game, compared to Midland's 37 percent from the field.

Jans hopes that Thursday's all-important win will spark the Hawks down the stretch with games remaining against New Mexico Junior College, Frank Phillips, South Plains and New Mexico Military Institute.

"It could be a catalyst," Jans said. "They played the way I wanted them to play. They finally had an idea of how we need to play. After the game, I told them we need to stay focused on who we play next. We talked about not panicking. Right now, we control our own destiny."

HOWARD 77.
MIDLAND 60.
MIDLAND — Harry Williams 1-2 0-0 3; Marques Woods 3-11 9-10 16; Omar Duran 7-9 3-5 22; D' Hudson 0-6 2-4 2; Isaac Rollins 0-0 0-0 0; Robert Sevilla 4-9 0-4 8; Ramon Stewart 0-0 0-0 0; Thomas Allen 0-1 0-2 0; Jeremiah Coleman 2-8 1-3 5; Leon Petty 1-1 0-2 2; Anthony Joseph 0-0 0-0 0; Nguye "Bob" Kaladokubo 1-4 0-0 2. Totals: 19-51 14-27 60.
HOWARD — Jared Fears 3-8 7-8 14; Zach Moss 9-13 1-4 19; Van Jamison 1-3 2-2 4; Rodney Blackstock 3-10 2-3 9; Andre Fishenden 1-2 0-0 2; Artavius Davis 0-0 0-0 0; Gilbert Glander 0-0 0-0 0; Tyrone Payne 1-1 5-8 7; Andre Wright 0-0 0-0 0; Dominique Brown 3-6 4-5 12; Moushae Byles 2-5 0-0 6; Brandon Haughton 2-5 0-1 4. Totals: 25-53 21-31 77.
Halftime score: Howard 32, Midland 18.
Three-point goals: MC 8 (Duran 5-5, Coleman 1-3, Williams 1-1, Woods 1-5), HC 6 (Brown, Byles 2-3, Blackstock 1-5, Fears 1-3).
Rebounds: MC 36 (Coleman 8, Sevilla 7, Hudson, Kaladokubo 3), HC 39 (Payne, Moss, Haughton, Brown 5, Jamison 4, Fears, Blackstock 3). Fouls: MC 27, HC 20. Fouled out: Hudson, Stewart. Technical fouls: Glander, Asaleta. MC 2 (Blackstock), HC 10 (Blackstock 5, Fears, Byles 2). Blocked shots: MC 2 (Coleman, Kaladokubo), HC 5 (Moss, Blackstock 2, Jamison). Steals: MC 5 (Hudson 2), HC 12 (Fears 3, Moss, Jamison, Blackstock, Haughton 2). Records: MC is 14-11, 7-3, HC is 17-9, 5-5.

LOSS

Continued from Page 1B

Plainview native Kami Bates, whose last trip to Dorothy Garrett Coliseum was the Class 4A regional tournament — her last stop before the Lady Bulldogs earned a state championship — made one of Carter's baskets happen by hitting her for one of her team-high three assists.

Midland came out hot leading 4-0, but Mathew answered, nailing one trey. Shanequa Campbell "Buckley" and Vangela Menter hit a three-pointer for a tie ball game at 10.

After the Lady Chaps turned the ball over, Sherice Risby of Junction City, Kan., hit a jump shot from the top of the key.

Coahoma alum Kortney Kemper's bucket and Mathew's jump shot from the free throw line tied the score at 21 with 8:30. Sophomore guard Afton Stowers of Granger made the conventional three-point play and Howard led 24-21.

Buckley's steal and pass to Mathew gave Howard its last lead at 26-21.

"I was very happy with their hustle," Wells said.

Howard struggled handling the ball, committing 31 turnovers. Midland converted the miscues into 25 points. Midland outrebounded Howard 44-29. And got 32 points off its bench.

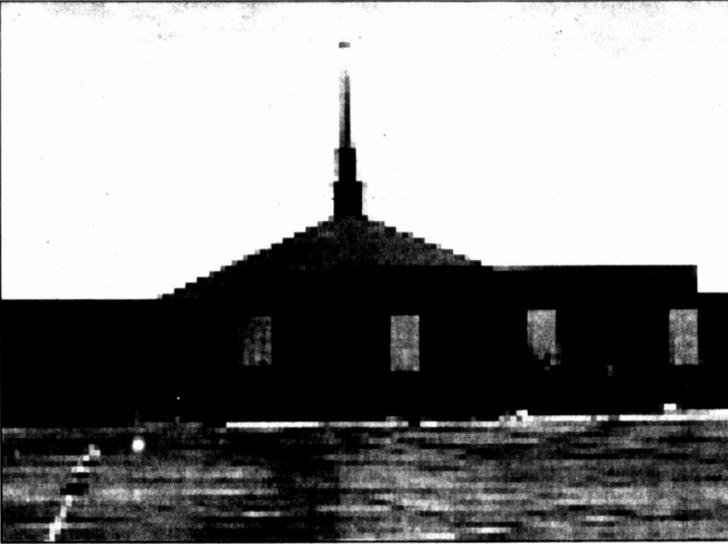
The Lady Hawks have three games remaining.

MIDLAND 86.
LADY HAWKS 56.
MIDLAND — Kami Bates 2-2 1-2 5; Miranda Cornelius 1-1 0-0 3; Joann Overstreet 5-8 4-6 15; Mika Robertson 3-4 1-3 7; Amisha Carter 7-14 4-6 19; Althea Byfield 0-1 0-0 0; Hazel Woods 2-8 1-4 5; Brooke Campbell 5-5 4-5 14; Jacquanda Amacher 5-8 2-4 14; Kim Carson 0-0 0-0 0; Sylvia Butler 0-3 3-4 3; Chanie Sutherland 1-1 1-3 3. Totals: 31-61 20-31 86.
HOWARD — Vangela Menter 3-8 1-2 8; Shanequa Campbell 1-3 1-2 3; Afton Stowers 2-9 1-1 5; Kortney Kemper 2-3 2-2 6; Sherice Risby 5-15 0-0 12; Latasha Mathew 4-9 1-2 10; Chris Carmichael 0-1 0-0 0; Shamieka Buckley 6-15 0-0 14. Totals: 23-63 6-9 58.
Halftime score: Midland 44, Howard 30.
Three-point goals: MC 4 (Cornelius 1-1, Overstreet 3-3, Carter 1-1, Woods 1-4, Sutherland 0-3), HC 6 (Buckley 2-3, Risby 2-10, Menter 1-5, Mathew 1-3, Stowers 0-5, Campbell 0-1, Kemper 0-1). Total rebounds: MC 44 (Carter, B. Woods, Campbell 6, Overstreet 5, Amacher 4), HC 29 (Risby 6, Menter, Campbell, Mathew 4). Total fouls: MC 12, HC 22. Fouled out: None. Technical fouls: None. Asaleta: MC 13 (Bates 3, Woods, Robertson 2), HC 5 (Kemper, 2, Campbell, Stowers 1). Tamez: MC 17 (Bates, Overstreet, Woods, Sutherland 3), HC 31 (Kemper 10, Menter, Stowers, Risby 3, Buckley 2). Blocked shots: MC 3 (Amacher, Carson, Butler), HC 3 (Campbell 2, Mathew 1). Steals: MC 11 (Carter 4, Campbell 2), HC 6 (Buckley 2). Records: MC is 22-4, 8-1, HC is 7-17, 1-8.

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701 Runnels 263-4211
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Probably, if you aren't checking the Public Notices columns of this newspaper regularly. Public Notices are required by state law to protect your rights and to help you function more effectively as a citizen. Access to information about what government agencies are doing is what makes the American the most powerful citizen in the world. The Public Notices give you access to information you need...about plans for major land use changes...about where roads will go...whose land will be condemned...how your tax dollars will be spent...about court actions that could be important to you, or just plain interesting. Whether you know them as Public Notices or as "the legals", it pays you to check the Public Notice columns in this newspaper each issue. What you don't know might cost you!

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GARAGE SALE
 1211 E. 17th Sat 9:00 a.m. Coffee tamales. Sev families. Lots of diff things.

PJ's Inside Sale. Main Fri & Sat couch & chair, dr table, large office & lots of misc.

Storage Bldg. 3 Feb. 16 - 8am. Huc Mem Blvd - N of Sr Ct Bldg. (look for sig Ty Beanie Bab Babino Sports B Reciner, Stove and lots more!

MISCELLANEOUS
 In the hull pecans, \$ lb, shelled \$5.00 lb 263-8785

ACREAGE FOR SALE
 Tracks of land for 5 miles South of Spring & 1 1/2 m West of Coahc Owner will Finance Texas Veterans. 263-8785.

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 Warehouse with overhead doors small office \$10 E \$300/mo. \$150/ Call 263-5000

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GARAGE SALES

1211 E 17th Saturday 9:00 a.m. Coffee and tamales. Several families. Lots of different things.

PJ's Inside Sale: 2210 Main Fri & Sat 10-5 couch & chair, dinette table, large office desk and lots of misc.

Storage Bldg. Sale: Feb. 16 - 8am. Hudgins Mem. Blvd. - N of Sr. Citizen Bldg. (look for signs) Ty Beanie Babies, Babino Sports Bears, Recliner, Stove and lots more!

MISCELLANEOUS

In the hull pecans, \$1.00 lb., shelled \$5.00 lb. Call 263-8785

ACREAGE FOR SALE

Tracts of land for sale 5 miles South of Big Spring & 1 1/2 miles West of Coahoma. Owner will finance or Texas Veterans. Call 263-8785

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Warehouse with 4 overhead doors and small office 510 E. 1st \$300/mo. \$150/dep. Call 263-5000

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Saturday, Feb. 16:

Your daily life becomes a source of unusual activity this year. Often, you might feel as if you're in a whirlwind, making fast decisions. You get a lot done, but sometimes at the expense of organization. Often, you decide to change plans or do something differently. Stop and look around. You will have so many opportunities that you won't want to miss one. If single, you will meet many people this year. Whom you might choose

now could be very different by the end of the year.

Someone quite spectacular heads your way. If attached, your mate often will resort to extreme tactics to get your attention. Stop and plan more quality time together. ARIES triggers you.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ***** You can no longer put off an expense. Bite the bullet rather than deferring. As a result, you'll feel

better once you make the decision. Make an effort toward someone at a distance. Why not meet each other halfway? Tonight: As you like it.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ***Hop on an opportunity, even if it means pushing someone along. Be careful how you express your frustration or dismay. You don't want a brouhaha about this issue. Take your time right now. Work with a difficult personality. Tonight: Vanish. Do your thing.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ***** Excess comes way too easily when you join certain friends. You'll have a ball wherever you are, no matter what you're doing or with whom. In some sense you cheer someone toward a long-term goal. Someone's hard words simply reflect this person's style. Tonight: Where your friends are.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) **** Listen to someone carefully. What seems difficult doesn't have to be. You might need to take charge and run with the ball. Evaluate what a boss or older relative wants. If you don't read between the lines, this person flares and lets you know! Tonight: Invite friends to join you.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ***** You want to be in so many places at once that you might fantasize about cloning yourself. A trip might be very appealing. Your wildness comes out with a loved one or someone you care about. Spontaneity works right now. Tonight: Dance away.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) **** One-on-one relating helps a relationship evolve in a new direction. Basics make a difference with a loved one or family member. Someone makes a fast move that could surprise you. Be ready to dig in your heels if you don't get what you want. Tonight: Have a title & title discussion.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ***** Reach out for someone at a distance. Relate to others clearly and openly. Speak your mind and express your desires. Others are fiery and state their opinions. Make plans to go out where you can socialize and work through stress. Tonight: Go along with the program.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) **** You might be more inspired to stay home and

get into a project rather than run around aimlessly. You also might opt to do both. In any case, go with the flow and you maximize the good feelings that surround you. Return a call from someone at a distance. Tonight: Remember, everyone has limits!

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ***** Express your innate childlike side. By expressing your heartfelt feelings, you allow someone to become a lot closer. Listen more and remain helpful to a child or loved one. Your ideas and efforts could make the difference between success and failure. Tonight: Play away.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) **** Carefully review a decision involving family and investments. Someone throws so many ideas in your face that you could become overwhelmed, and difficult. Listen to your instincts regarding a personal matter. You won't go wrong. Tonight: Rent a movie. Order in.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) **** Find a favorite pal who likes to hang out. You discover a whole other point of view once you survey your immediate friends. Though you could reverse paths, you manage to have a good time with whomever you're with. Your circle of friends grows. Tonight: You don't have to go far.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) **** Indulge someone making the best out of a personal problem. Before either of you know it, you're laughing away, enjoying yourselves. Wherever you are, laughter emanates. Share a favorite pastime with a loved one. Enjoy being with loved ones. Tonight: Pick up the tab.

BORN TODAY: Rap singer Ice-T (1968), actor LeVar Burton (1957), singer and congressman Sonny Bono (1935)

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

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INCREASE THE POWER OF YOUR MIND. READ!

PUBLIC NOTICE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL OIL AND GAS DOCKET IN RE COOPERATION AND PREVENTION NO. 8A-0230539 OF WASTE OF CRUDE PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS IN THE STATE OF TEXAS Austin, Texas February 6, 2002 NOTICE OF HEARING ON THE APPLICATION OF SCHLACHTER OPERATING CORPORATION TO CONSIDER UNIFICATION & SECONDARY RECOVERY AUTHORITY FOR THE CRAWFORD - STRAIN UNIT SHARON RIDGE (1700) FIELD MITCHELL COUNTY TEXAS NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to the public and to all interested persons that under the legal authority and jurisdiction of Title 3, Oil and Gas, Subtitles A, B, and C of the Texas Natural Resources Code, Chapters 26, 27 and 29 of the Texas Water Code, and TEX. GOVT CODE ANN art. 55 2001 et seq. (2002), the RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS will hold a hearing on MARCH 15, 2002, at 9:00 a.m. at the William B. Travis State Office Building, 1701 N. Congress Avenue, Austin, Texas. This hearing will be conducted in conformity with the TEX. GOVT CODE ANN art. 55 2001 et seq. (2002). For room assignment, on the date of the hearing please check the bulletin board in the 1st Floor lobby. Persons planning to attend this hearing are urged to contact the applicant (see service list) immediately prior to the hearing date to be sure that the hearing will proceed on the scheduled date. This hearing will be held to consider the application of Schlachter Operating Corporation for unification & secondary recovery authority for the Crawford - Strain Unit, Sharon Ridge (1700) Field, Mitchell County, Texas. Applicant states that over 70% of the royalty in the proposed unit signed up and 100% of all the working interest. If you have questions regarding this application, please contact the Applicant's representative, Joe D. Amezua, at (214) 692-1567. If you have any questions regarding the hearing procedure, please contact the Railroad Commission, Office of General Counsel, at (512) 463-6848. IF A CONTINUATION IS NECESSARY, this hearing will proceed at the William B. Travis State Office Building, Austin, Texas, and to the extent possible, on subsequent working days. The room number and exact time of the continuation will be announced on the record in this proceeding and recorded with Docket Services, Office of General Counsel, Railroad Commission of Texas, PURSUANT TO SAID HEARING, the Commission will enter such rules, regulations, and orders as in its judgment the evidence presented may justify. ANY REQUEST FOR POSTPONEMENT of this hearing must be received no later than five (5) working days prior to the scheduled date shown above. Copies of such request must be forwarded to all parties shown on the service list TO APPEAR IN SUPPORT OF OR IN OPPOSITION TO THIS PROCEEDING, a party other than the applicant must file with Docket Services, Office of General Counsel, at least five (5) working days in advance of the hearing date, a notice of intent to appear TO APPEAR IN SUPPORT OF OR IN OPPOSITION TO THIS PROCEEDING, a party other than the applicant must file with Docket Services, Office of General Counsel, at least five (5) working days in advance of the hearing date. IF ANY PARTY DESIRES A WRITTEN TRANSCRIPT OF the hearing, that party should notify the Court Reporter's office at (512) 463-6926, at least five (5) working days in advance of the hearing date. If a written transcript is requested, the Commission may assess the cost of the transcript to one or more parties. Unless any party requests a written transcript, the record will be made by audio tape recording. ANY INDIVIDUAL WITH A DISABILITY who needs auxiliary aids and services in order to have an equal opportunity to effectively communicate and participate in this hearing must request such aids or services at least two weeks prior to the scheduled hearing by notifying the Personnel office of the Railroad Commission of Texas by mail at P. O. Box 12967, Austin, Texas 78711-2967, or by telephone at (512) 463-7327 or TDD No. (512) 463-7284. ALL EXHIBITS FILED AS A PART OF THE RECORD IN THIS CAUSE MUST BE SUBMITTED IN DUPLICATE. DATA IN COMMISSION RECORDS MAY BE INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE, BUT THE REFERENCE MUST BE SPECIFIC. OTHER DOCKET HEARINGS, OTHER EXHIBITS, AND IF IT INCLUDES EXHIBITS FILED IN PRIOR PROCEEDINGS BEFORE THE COMMISSION, A COPY OF SUCH EXHIBIT PROPERLY IDENTIFIED SHALL BE SUBMITTED FOR THIS RECORD. THIS HEARING REQUIRES NOTICE BY PUBLICATION. #3454 February 8, 15, 22 & March 1, 2002

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	5 LINES		
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20 characters per line including punctuation and spaces

	1-3 Days	5 Days	7 Days
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NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

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START DATE _____

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CARD NUMBER: _____ LXP. DATE _____

Prejudice comes in many forms, including religious

Dear Ann Landers: I am not a religious man. In fact, I consider myself an atheist. I am also very ethical and have high moral standards. I donate to more than a dozen charities. I am kind to animals, children and the environment. I would never raise my hand to my wife or children, and I treat them as the precious people they are. I strive to make the world a better place and understand those different from myself. I am intelligent and kind, and stand up for what I believe. I never impose my beliefs on those around me.

So, why is it that as soon as people find out I don't believe in God, they tell me I am going to hell? One woman said, "You cannot possibly have good morals if you don't believe." This is nonsense. I know plenty of "God-fearing, church-going folk" who have rotten moral standards. They drink, smoke, do drugs, lie, steal and cheat on their spouses.

I am sick and tired of people making moral judgments about me based solely on the fact that I do not believe in religion. While I don't advertise my atheism, I don't wish to deny my ideology, as if it is something to be ashamed of. How can I get these well-meaning but ignorant people off my back? — Unbeliever in Maryland



ANN LANDERS

Dear Unbeliever: You can't, so stop trying. Deeply religious people feel they must "save" you, and nothing you do will convince them otherwise. You don't need to justify your beliefs to anyone. If an acquaintance says you are going to hell, reply, "Thank you," and walk away.

Dear Ann Landers: When my son was 5 years old, his father and I divorced. My ex-husband made it clear he wanted no contact with his son again — no birthday cards, no letters, no visits, nothing. He sent child support regularly, but never tried to get in touch. When the boy was 14, his father wrote him a short letter, which sent my son into emotional turmoil. No other contact was made.

My son is now 32 years old, happily married, with three beautiful children. He is successful in his career and a wonderful person. I think my ex-husband would be pleased and proud to know what a terrific man his son turned out to be. When I mentioned to my son that I wanted to write his father, he said, "Absolutely not."

I don't want to hurt my son, but I know he must miss having his father in his life. Should I contact my ex, against my son's wishes, and give him an update? Please tell me what to do. — Torn in Texas

Dear Texas: Your son is a grown man now and capable of making his own decisions. If his father tries to get in touch with you, by all means respond, but you should not initiate the contact. MYOB, Mom.

FEB 15 2002

FRIDAY

FEB. 15

	KMID (2)	KPEJ (3)	KERA (5)	FAM (6)	KOSA (7)	WFAA (8)	KWES (9)	WTBS (11)	UNI (13)	DISN (14)	NASH (15)	TMC (16)	SHOW (20)	HBO (22)	KMLM (24)	A&E (25)	DISC (26)	TNT (28)	TLC (41)		
6 PM	News Fortune	King of the Hill Raymond	Cyberchase Zobo and Co.	Funnest Home Videos	News Ent. Tonight	News Dallas	News Seinfeld (CC)	Friends (CC) Roseanne	Intrusa	Proud Family Lizzie	Mad TV (CC) Conspire	(10) Movie: Passion of	Filmaker Showcase	Movie: Black Sheep (CC)	Update With John Hagee	Law & Order (CC)	Vultures Carrion Gang	Law & Order (CC)	Manhunt International		
7 PM	Funnest Home Videos	Movie: American Pie	Now With Bill Moyers (CC)	Movie: The Princess Bride	48 Hours (CC)	Funnest Home Videos	Olympic Winter Games (CC)	Movie: Wild Wild West	Amigas y Rivales (SS)	Movie: Bug's Life (CC)	Star Trek Next Gener	Mind (CC)	Movie: Dracula 2000	Time Machine	Joseph Good Faye Hardin	Biography (CC)	Private Jets	Movie: The Pelican Brief	Protect and Serve		
8 PM	More Classic Bloopers	Cops (CC) Blind Date	Mystery? (CC) (DVS)	Whose Line? 700 Club (CC)	News (35) Late	News (CC) Nightline	News	Movie: Money Talks	Disenador La Hora Pico	(8:50) Movie: Bug's Life (CC)	Star Trek Next Gener	Movie: Notion 2	(CC) Black	Stargate SG-1 (45) Chris	..	Mansion (CC)	Atlantis: Resort	..	FBI: Critical Incident		
9 PM	In-Crowd and Social Cruelty	Jerry Springer (CC)	News-Lehrer	FBI: Critical Incident	
10 PM	News Nightline
11 PM	Politically Inc Cheers	Suddenly Mad Abt You	The Industry Red Green	Wonder Years Who's Boss?	Show (CC) Nissan Open	Ent. Tonight Politically Inc	(05) Olympic Winter	Movie: Mr. Destiny	Humor-Comed	So Weird (CC) In a Heartbeat	Conspire Small Shots	(CC) ..	Beverly Hills (35) Movie: 8	Greenlight Movie	Update With Church	Biography (CC)	Private Jets	..	FBI: Critical Incident		
12 AM	Cowboy Paid Program	Spin City (CC) Paid Program	Red Green Doctor Who	..	Late Late Show (CC)	(12:05) Oprah Winfrey (CC)	Games (CC) (35) Olympic	..	Maria la del Barrio	Zorro (CC) Mickey Mouse	Fame for 15	Movie: Lethal Weapon (CC)	Million Ways to Die	Charlie's Angels (CC)	Faith Pleases God	Inside the Playboy	Atlantis: Resort	..	FBI: Critical Incident		

DENNIS THE MENACE



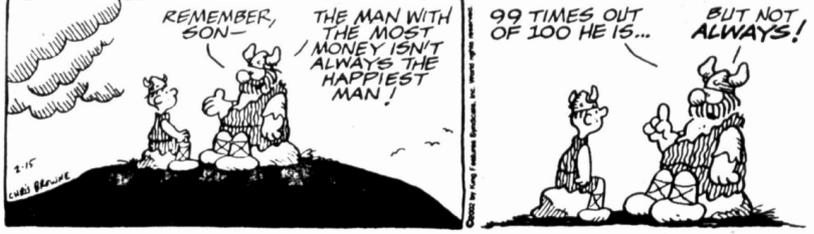
"That's what I like about Mrs. Wilson... she sure can take a hint."

FAMILY CIRCUS



"Isn't that cute? They call their sled Bob."

HAGAR



BLONDIE



B.C.



WIZARD OF ID



GEECH



HI AND LOIS



GASOLINE ALLEY



SNUFFY SMITH



BETLE BAILY



THIS DATE IN HISTORY

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

Today is Friday, Feb. 15, the 46th day of 2002. There are 319 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 15, 1898, the U.S. battleship Maine mysteriously blew up in Havana Harbor, killing more than 260 crew members and bringing the United States closer to war with Spain.

On this date:

In 1564, Italian astronomer Galileo Galilei was born in Pisa.

In 1764, the city of St. Louis was established.

In 1820, American suffragist Susan B. Anthony was born in Adams, Mass.

In 1879, President Hayes signed a bill allowing female attorneys to argue cases before the Supreme Court.

In 1933, President-elect Franklin D. Roosevelt escaped an assassination attempt in Miami that claimed the life of Chicago Mayor Anton J. Cermak.

In 1942, the British colony Singapore surrendered to the Japanese during World War II.

In 1961, 73 people, including an 18-member U.S. figure skating team en route to Czechoslovakia, were killed in the crash of a Sabena Airlines Boeing 707 in Belgium.

In 1965, Canada's new maple-leaf flag was unfurled in ceremonies in Ottawa.

In 1982, 84 men were killed when a huge oil-drilling rig, the Ocean Ranger, sank off the coast of Newfoundland during a fierce storm.

In 1989, the Soviet Union announced that the last of its troops had left Afghanistan, after more than nine years of military intervention.

Ten years ago: A Milwaukee jury found that Jeffrey Dahmer was sane when he killed and mutilated 15 men and boys.

Benjamin L. Hooks

announced plans to retire as executive director of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Pulitzer Prize-winning composer William Schuman died in New York at age 81.

Five years ago: North Korean defector Lee Han-young was shot and mortally wounded in South Korea, three days after another North Korean defected in Beijing. Fourteen-year-old Tara Lipinski upset Michelle Kwan at the U.S. Figure Skating Championships in Nashville, Tenn., becoming the youngest gold medalist at nationals.

Answer to previous puzzle

FACT	PLUS	NRA
EROS	BRASH	UFOS
LIME	LOVE	APPLES
TEETHE	ARRAS	
SUSIE	SPRUCE	
PEPPER	STRATA	
TAR	SEDER	GNUS
SLOW	DIVER	EDDA
POSH	TUNER	YEN
SHEILA	EDGERS	
ASSESS	ABATE	
KITTY	TARRIED	
HAVE	HEART	EIRE
STAR	MALTA	SPIN
TEN	AMES	TEES

Newsday Crossword SPREAD IT AROUND by Randolph Ross Edited by Stanley Newman

ACROSS

- Type of mollusk
- Desert
- 1989 CIA target
- Welcome
- Where hunting is prohibited
- Chart form
- Give testimony
- Gossip
- Bi times four
- Parting words
- Gen.
- Eisenhower
- Part of NBC
- It's often bruised
- Viennese analyst
- Patti LaBelle tune
- Reagan Secretary of State
- Islamic cleric
- Tied up, perhaps
- Act out
- Conditions
- Nights of anticipation
- '60s style
- Source of roe
- Medieval contest
- Feverish feeling
- Type of hydrocarbon
- Nickname for Onassis
- New Orleans jazz great

DOWN

- Attach easily
- Like dunce caps
- Short solo
- Calculus abbr.
- Conduct
- Gawk at
- New York Shakespeare Festival founder
- Scene of the action
- Fall upon
- Serve superbly
- Social outcast
- Not unanimous
- Late
- Settled snugly
- Turning part
- Passé
- Insurance co. represented by a duck
- Kuwaiti royal
- Head over heels
- Type of plane
- Eastwood, on *Rawhide*
- Annoy
- Cannes comrades
- Sid's TV costar
- Bumps
- Name in the news in 1962
- Flew
- Place
- Musical key
- Tenures
- Actor
- Buchholz
- At ___ for words
- Vogue rival
- Lose control
- Angel (Mae West film)
- Linguist
- Chomsky
- Itch
- Cellular protein

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