

# BIG SPRING HERALD

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

TUESDAY

February 19, 2002

## WEATHER

Tonight:



TONIGHT TOMORROW  
35°-40° 65°-70°

## Sheriff group soliciting funds throughout area

A membership drive for the Sheriff's Association of Texas is under way. Individuals will be contacted by mail, not by telephone, said Howard County Sheriff Dale Walker. The association provides scholarship funds for families of the sheriff's departments throughout the state, as well as training for sheriffs and deputies. Those who don't get a membership appeal by mail, or those who need more information about the program can write to the Sheriff's Association of Texas at 1601 S. Interstate 35, Austin, 78741, or browse the Web site at [www.txsheriffs.org](http://www.txsheriffs.org).

## WHAT'S UP...

- TODAY**
- Big Spring Band Boosters meets at 6 p.m. in the high school band hall. All band parents are invited to attend.
  - Big Spring Shrine Club, meets at 6:30 p.m. for dinner with meeting to follow, First and Goliad.
  - Big Spring Art Association meets at 7 p.m. in the basement of Howard County Library, 500 Main.
  - Big Spring Chapter 67, Order of the Eastern Star will have a covered dish dinner at 6:30 p.m. with meeting to follow at 7:30 p.m. at the Masonic Lodge, 219 Main.
- WEDNESDAY**
- Optimist Club meets at 7 a.m. at the Howard College Cactus Room.
  - Senior Circle Sit and Be Fit Chair Aerobics meets at the SMMC cafeteria at 10 a.m.
  - Big Spring Downtown Lions Club meets at noon at the Howard College Cactus Room.
  - Duplicate Bridge Club meets every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at 1 p.m. at the Big Spring Country Club.

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## Merchants invited to Retail Round Table

By LYNDEL MOODY  
Staff Writer

Local small business are invited to exchange ideas on how to better encourage consumers to shop Big Spring first at Thursday's Retail Round Table Luncheon.

"This is for every business in Big Spring, chamber and non-chamber members," Debbye ValVerde, executive



VALVERDE

director of the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce said. "We get together and share ideas on how to try to keep shoppers shopping locally."

Sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce, the luncheon will be held at 11:45 a.m. at La Posada Restaurant, 206 NW Fourth. The lunch is dutch treat, ValVerde said.

This ongoing issue is important to all local businesses.

"Chamber and non-chamber members should work together to benefit the whole local business indus-

try as well as the community itself," ValVerde said.

ValVerde requests that anyone interested in attending the luncheon RSVP by 3 p.m. Wednesday so chamber employees can coordinate seating arrangements.

To RSVP, call the Chamber of Commerce at 263-7641.

Businesses will also learn about the upcoming Business After Hours schedule during the meeting.

Hosted by a local business, Business After Hours is a time for local business people to socialize and network.

## Blood drive set Thursday at VA Health Care System

HERALD Staff Report

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 rela-

tions 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 they have taken in the past 30 days.

## Combest happy to serve Big Spring

By LYNDEL MOODY  
Staff Writer

U.S. Rep. Larry Combest (R-Lubbock) made a stop in Big Spring Monday to visit with the community's leaders and educators.

The congressman will officially take over representing Howard County in 2003 after redistricting moved Howard County into the 19th District and away from the 17th District represented by Rep. Charles Stenholm (D-Abilene).

"I know it's difficult to make changes between members and representation that you've become familiar with, that you've come to enjoy and come to know," Combest said. "I would never say that we would do a better job representing Howard County than Charlie Stenholm did but we will try to do the very best we can to be as good as he did and serve you as well as we possibly can."

"I look forward to it and the opportunity to meet people, to get to know other people and hear your concerns," he continued.

Combest and State Sen. Robert Duncan (R-Lubbock) visited with local education board members and administrators during a luncheon held on the Howard College campus.

The luncheon gave both Big Spring Independent



U.S. Rep. Larry Combest (R-Lubbock), left, speaks with State Sen. Robert Duncan, right, and local resident Francis Wheat, Robert Duncan's representative in Big Spring, during their visit to Big Spring. Combest met with city and county leaders on Monday and today. The congressman will begin representing Howard County in 2003.

School District and Howard College administrators a chance to bend both the congressman's and state senator's ear about their

institutions and needs of state and federal funding.

"I think it is very important that the federal government has a role in educa-

tion," Combest said. "I think education is the best investment we can make."

See COMBEST, Page 2

## Maintenance technician files for city council post

By ROGER CLINE  
Staff Writer

The first candidate has filed to run for the Big Spring City Council in the May 4 election.

Jimmy Ruth, 49, a maintenance technician with Cox Communications in Big Spring, has filed to run for the District 3 council seat vacated by Chuck Cawthon.

The District 1 seat, currently held by Stephanie Horton, is also up for election. No candidates have yet filed for that seat, but Horton has said she plans to seek re-election. March 20 is the deadline to file.

Ruth grew up and graduated from high school and junior college in California, and has lived in Big Spring 14 years, he said.

"I work for Cox Communications, and I've been filming the city council for the last nine years," he said. "I've seen a lot of dealings and stuff that really interested me. When you're filming it, you just get to see what's on the outside presentation of it, and I would like to see the inside part of what makes stuff work like that. I'm real

interested in it."

Ruth said the city's road seal coating project has particular interest to him.

"Yes, we need the seal coatings in our streets, but the seal coating is just the beginning of the maintenance on the development of those streets, a lot of times when they do the seal

See COUNCIL, Page 2

## Fire departments kept busy battling two blazes

By ROGER CLINE  
Staff Writer

Fires tested both the Big Spring and the Howard County volunteer fire departments over the weekend.

The first blaze erupted Friday morning in the 1200 block of South Runnels, said Fire Marshal Carl Condray.

"There was a fire in the back room of a structure that's rented by several people," he said. "Nobody was home at the time that the fire broke out. It happened at 12:29 Friday morning."

Condray said the origin of the blaze is still under investigation, indicating that it is a suspicious fire.

"Right now there are some things that are just a little bit touchy on it," he said.

The blaze caused about \$20,000 damage to the home, he said.

"Smoke throughout, and some pretty extensive damage toward the back part of



CONDRAY SULLIVAN

the house," he said. "It's a rental. I'm not going to release who it belongs to right now, but I think it's a rebuildable thing."

Fire units, including 13 people, four engines and a deputy chief, cleared the scene by about 3 a.m. Friday, Condray said.

A faulty heater is to blame for the other fire at the home of Mary Tate and Eddy Crow in the 3200 block of Sherman Road, said Howard County Volunteer Fire Department Chief Tommy Sullivan.

See FIRES, Page 2

## Incumbents file for seats on college school boards

By LYNDEL MOODY  
Staff Writer

Incumbents with the Howard College and Big Spring Independent School District wasted little time in filing for another term on Monday, the first day to file for the May 4 elections.

Howard College trustees Marie Ethridge, Dr. Charles Warren and John Freeman, who all had already announced they would run for again for their at-large positions, made it official.

A long-time local businessman, Freeman has served on the college's board since 2000. He is the founder and chairman of both Freecom Inc. and HwyCom Inc. He is also past president and co-founder of Fiberflex Products and a former Howard College chairman of industrial education and college instructor.

Freeman serves on the Scenic Mountain Medical Center board, is the past president of the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce and a member of the chamber's Ambassador Club, was the 1998 U.S. Small Business Association Person and the 1982 Industrialist of the Year.

He and his wife, Carolyn Ann, have two sons.

Ethridge is seeking a full term after being appointed to fill the term of her husband, Rob, who died in 2001.

Ethridge comes to the school board after teaching for 30 years in the Coahoma school district.

She also worked in civil service at the Webb Air Force Base, as an executive secretary to the Department of Corrections and as a secretary/bookkeeper for Gulf

See FILINGS, Page 2



From left, Terri Machiavello; Judy Strickland (R-Lubbock), candidate for U.S. Rep. District 85; Joyce Herron (R-Lubbock), candidate for the State Board of Education; and Joshua Machiavello visit during a reception held for the two candidates Monday at the Dora Roberts Civic Center. Strickland, who currently serves on the State Board of Education, is running for the position currently held by State Rep. Pete Laney (D-Hale Center)

FEBRUARY 19, 2002

OBITUARIES

Ann Ross Keeney

Funeral service for Ann Ross Keeney, 73, of Big Spring will be 1 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 20, 2002, at Lawnhaven Memorial Gardens in San Angelo with the Rev. David Smith officiating.

Joyce J. Glover

Graveside service for Joyce J. Glover, 66, of Big Spring will be 2 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 21, 2002, at Andrews West Cemetery in Andrews.

Snowy Mae Teeters

Funeral service for Snowy Mae Teeters, 74, of Big Spring will be 4 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 20, 2002, at the First Baptist Church with her son, the Rev. Dennis Teeters officiating.



MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL. 24th & Johnson 267-8288. Georgia Fields, 92, died Monday. Services are pending.

NALLEY-PICKLE & WELCH Funeral Home. Trinity Memorial Park and Crematory. 906 Gregg St. (915) 267-6331.

Big Spring Herald. ISSN 0746-6811. USPS 0055-940. Daily except Saturday. BY THE MONTH HOME DELIVERY: Evenings and Sunday, \$8.65 monthly; \$93.42 yearly (includes 10% discount for yearly).

Funeral service for Mary Ann Jones, 64, of Snyder will be 10 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 21, 2002, at First Baptist Church in Snyder with the Rev. Mike Henson officiating.

Funeral service for Georgia Fields, 92, of Palestine, formerly of Big Spring, is pending with Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Rene Valdez Sr.

A prayer service for Rene Valdez Sr., 75, of Big Spring will be 7 p.m. Wednesday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral service will be 2 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 21, at Myers & Smith Funeral Home with the Rev. Viterbo Montano officiating.

Survivors include one daughter, Rose Moreno of Big Spring; two sons, Rene Valdez Jr. and Carmen M. Gonzales, both of Big Spring; three brothers, Raymond Valdez and Alvin Valdez, both of Big Spring and Ector Valdez of San Angelo; three sisters, Mary Rodriguez of Odessa, Gloria Perez of Houston, and Delia Niteo of San Antonio; 24 grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Pauline Porch Recommends The Ham It's Her Favorite! Al's Bar-B-Q. 267-8921. 1810 S. Gregg

Mary Ann Jones

Funeral service for Mary Ann Jones, 64, of Snyder will be 10 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 21, 2002, at First Baptist Church in Snyder with the Rev. Mike Henson officiating.

Survivors include her husband, Hood Jones of Snyder; two daughters, Karon Keller of Snyder and Cynthia Peet of Tulsa, Okla.; one sister, Olene Benham of Odessa; two brothers, Dulane Leonard of Big Spring and Bobby Leonard of Odessa; and three grandchildren.

Family suggests memorials to the American Cancer Society, c/o West Texas State Bank, P.O. Box 1396, Snyder 79550, the First Baptist Church in Snyder, 1701 27th Street, Snyder 79549, or East Fourth Street Baptist Church, 401 East Fourth Street, Big Spring 79720.

Arrangements are under the direction of Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home in Snyder.

Georgia Fields

Funeral service for Georgia Fields, 92, of Palestine, formerly of Big Spring, is pending with Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

FILINGS

State Utilities. Ethridge is a member of several teacher's associations, a past member of the Heritage Museum board, a member of the Howard County 4-H Adult Leaders Association and community service clubs. She has one daughter.

A practicing dentist in the Big Spring area since 1961, Dr. Charles Warren has served on the board since 1963. Warren belongs to a number of dental associations, the National Little League, is a YMCA Board of Endowment member, a former U.S. Army veteran and a member of several community service organizations.

Filing to run for the three Howard College at-large positions runs through March 20. Howard County residents interested in running may file at the president's office in the Administration Building.

A three-term veteran, McLellan, has served on the board for 10 years. Bustamante has eight years of experience and served two terms.

Candidates intending to run for the BSISD trustee elections can file at the district's central office, 708 E. 11th Place, through March 20.

A BIG SPRING AROUND THE TOWN

COMBEST

Combest added the government should assist education when it can, then get out of the way. Among the topics discussed were the impact of Title I funds, declining state funding, the growing student need for Pell grants and the possibility of extending Pell grants to students taking not-for-credit courses to earn certifications.

An 18-year U.S. representative, Combest chairs the House Agricultural Committee and worked with Stenholm on the Farm Bill. "One capacity that he has always served as well as anybody can serve is that of taking care of constituents," Sen. Duncan said of Combest.

FIRES

The fire happened early Monday morning. "We got the call at 12:47 a.m.," Sullivan said. "The cause of it was a faulty heater, an electric heater built into the wall. It set the materials on fire inside the wall and it climbed up the inside of the wall."

The fire was in a wood frame stucco house, Sullivan said. "It was a total loss," he added. Sullivan said Tate and Crow had to escape the fire through a window.

"The occupants had to go out the window in the bedroom because the fire had already blocked their exit through the front door and the back door," he said. Although Crow was unhurt and Tate received only minor cuts in the incident, the couple lost three dogs in the blaze, Sullivan said.

COUNCIL

coating, they don't do a really good job of cleaning up the gravel around the areas of the seal coating," he said. "They leave seams in there, the streets are too wide for the machines, or whatever." The cost of the seal coating is also a concern, he

TEXAS LOTTERY

PICK 3: 4,2,2  
CASH 5: 2,6,21,25,26

"They spend a lot of money on the seal coating project, and our streets just do not maintain that integrity the quality of what money we spend to get these streets seal coated," he said. "So we're continually having to spend more money and more money and more money."

A desire for more involvement is behind his bid for office, he added. "(The seal coating) is just one thing," he said. "I can't change the world, but I just want to get more involved in my city government. That's the main thing."

POLICE

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

- JIMMY RODRIGUEZ, 44, of 501 N.E. Ninth St. was arrested on a charge of possession of a controlled substance less than one gram.
- ANGELITA GONZALES, 34, of 1002 N. Main was arrested on a charge of displaying a fictitious motor vehicle inspection sticker.
- JOE OLIVIO JR., 29, of 1401 Mesquite was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.
- MAJOR ACCIDENT was reported in the 500 block of East FM 700.
- MINOR ACCIDENTS were reported in the 1000 block of South Gregg, the 2300 block of South Johnson and the 1700 block of South Gregg.
- DISTURBANCE or FIGHT was reported in the 1600 block of South Nolan.
- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported: In the 2600 block of Langley: A storm door reportedly received \$25 damage.
- In the 4200 block of Muir. The owner of a gold 1997 Chevy Tahoe was subjected to "substantial inconvenience" by the incident, according to the police report.

BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported in the 200 block of East Sixth Street. Someone reportedly broke open the door of the home causing about \$100 damage to a wooden door frame before stealing a .38-caliber Llama firearm worth \$200, a Daisy BB gun worth \$30 and a leather holster for the Llama worth \$30.

ASSAULT CLASS C was reported in the 300 block of North Scurry.

THEFT OF \$400 worth of tools was reported in the 600 block of Bethel.

FIRE/EMS

The following is a summary of EMS and Fire Department activity: 9:24 a.m. — 3200 block of Parkway, medical call, one patient transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center. 12:55 p.m. — 500 block of Westover, medical call, one patient transported to SMMC. 1:30 p.m. — 100 block of Algerita, medical call, one patient transported to SMMC. 1:53 p.m. — 500 block of E. FM 700, traffic accident, one patient transported to SMMC. 2:34 p.m. — 1600 block of Martin Luther King Boulevard, medical call, one patient transported to West Texas Dialysis. 8:29 p.m. — 500 block of Birdwell, medical call, one patient transported to SMMC. 8:42 p.m. — 1700 block of Lancaster, medical call, one patient transported to SMMC. 12:47 a.m. — 3200 block of Sherman, structure fire, extinguished. 5:20 p.m. — 1700 block of Morrison, public service.

RECORDS

Monday's high 72  
Monday's low 44  
Record high 89 in 1986  
Record low 19 in 1936  
Average high 60  
Average low 31  
Precip. Monday 0.00  
Month to date 1.42  
Year to date 1.42  
Sunrise Wednesday 7:24a.m.  
Sunset Wednesday 8:36 p.m.

CORRECTION

In Monday's edition of the Big Spring Herald, a picture of the Petroleum Building was misidentified as the Permian Building.

LONESTAR. In Concert Monday, March 4, 2002 - 7:00 p.m. with Special Guest Cory Morrow. Junell Center/Stephens Arena San Angelo, Texas. ASU Students - \$20.00 & \$15.00 General Public - \$25.00 & \$20.00. Tickets available at the University Center Information Desk. FMI (915) 942-2062 Angelo State University

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Ex-En

HOUSTON (AP) — A relationship between rate ethicists w upon. Kenneth La Corp.'s former and chief execu the board of a V tax reform g another Enron l ber and the aud of shredding per any documents. Angela Wilke woman for the Council for Formation, said Herbert Winoku the Enron boar committee, resigned from the group, wh Arthur Andersen tor David B. longer sits on Wilkes would whether he resig Corporate et courage tight re among executiv directors and th

Number

NOBLE Ga. the ground arou Crematory yie corpses, residen states faced the planning funera ones they had lo were resting in Forensics te Monday had re bodies left to rot northwest Georg ry, finding skele in vaults and had been drag shed. "I feel like I'm movie," said Shropshire, a three, whose o died Jan. 30 and dumped in the behind the crem Clutching a fra graph of he Shropshire said fortunate than others who are s to see if their lo be identified fro mingled skelet "We just lost two weeks ago

High co

WASHINGTON Four senior ci their apartment are asking th Court to say h government man drugs out of pub Justices wue arguments Tue case testing wh families may from public h jets for the dr member, part of ance drug polic ly subsidized ho A decision i before July. The outcome anyone who liv

Eight Pa

JERUSALEM Eight Palestinia ing a 14-year-o three other civi killed Tuesday ties and Israeli a string of deadl Palestinian Israeli warplan copters pounded targets in the and Gaza Strip. In one strike, copter gunships missiles at the Islamic milita Hamas in th Jebalya refug killing two Pales critically woun including a 10-y doctors said. In all, 25 F were wounded ing, including fi With nine Isr over six days, I Minister Ariel under growi take more deci Hardliners dem he crush Yass government an Palestinian terr Sharon decide sultations with officials late M short of a larg tary operation, sifying milita "There will be change, but th wider use of means," said Sh er Raanan Gissi

# Ex-Enron CEO, auditor served reform group

HOUSTON (AP) — It was a relationship some corporate ethicists would frown upon.

Kenneth Lay, Enron Corp.'s former chairman and chief executive, sat on the board of a Washington tax reform group with another Enron board member and the auditor accused of shredding pertinent company documents.

Angela Wilkes, spokeswoman for the American Council for Capital Formation, said Lay and Herbert Winokur, head of the Enron board's finance committee, recently resigned from their posts at the group, while former Arthur Andersen LLP auditor David B. Duncan no longer sits on the board. Wilkes would not say whether he resigned.

Corporate ethicists discourage tight relationships among executives, outside directors and the auditors

hired to police the corporations' books.

Charles Elson, director of the Center for Corporate Governance at the University of Delaware, said the presence of an auditor is the most ethically troublesome aspect of this relationship.

"There's always a sort of reluctance to have you socializing or politicizing with someone who's a third party to oversee your control process. It probably isn't the best idea," he said.

The fact that Lay, Winokur and Walker worked together is not a big deal, Elson said.

There is no evidence the Enron-related members had any contact with one another in their ACCF service, though Elson said seeing their names on the same roster doesn't look good in the hindsight of the Enron collapse.

Duncan's attorney, Robert

Giuffra, said his client hadn't personally attended a meeting of the tax reform group during the year in which he was a member.

Accounting professor Don Wells of the University of St. Thomas said Duncan's presence did not present a conflict of interest.

"I think you can't prohibit independent relationships between two parties when it's not a function of their business relationship," Wells said.

Thomas Lys, professor of accounting and information management at the J.L. Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University, added: "I'm not saying it's desirable, but very often you see audit firms taking positions both on accounting matters and other matters like taxes and regulations that represent the client's interest."

Duncan was Andersen's

chief auditor on the Enron account until he was fired last month. The Chicago-based accounting firm says Duncan organized the destruction of Enron-related documents on Oct. 23, shortly after the Securities and Exchange Commission began probing Enron.

His lawyers contend Duncan is being made a scapegoat and was following an in-house attorney's instructions, a charge the lawyer has denied. Like Lay, who was Enron's chairman and chief executive until he resigned Jan. 23, Duncan invoked his Fifth Amendment right against self-incrimination and declined to testify before a congressional investigative committee.

Winokur did testify, saying Enron executives hid details of partnerships and accounting vehicles that are blamed for the energy trading giant's bankruptcy. fil-

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Fighter jets escort plane to Seattle

SEATTLE (AP) — Two F-15 fighter jets intercepted and escorted a Hawaiian Airlines passenger jet to Seattle on Monday after a bomb threat was received against the plane, officials said.

No bomb was found. Seattle police received a call at 7:50 p.m. Monday saying there was a bomb on Hawaiian Airlines Flight 22, a duty officer for the Federal Aviation Administration said.

The U.S. Air Force sent fighter jets to escort the plane to Seattle, the officer said. A Hawaiian Airlines spokesman said the fighters met the passenger jet somewhere over the Pacific.

The plane touched down without incident at 9:24 p.m., the FAA said. Passengers were allowed to leave the plane.

Port of Seattle police boarded the plane Monday night with bomb-sniffing dogs.

### Police: Man killed self before blast

IRVING (AP) — A man whose body was found in the charred remains of a suburban Dallas home committed suicide just before explosions and fire destroyed the house, authorities said.

The man killed himself with a gunshot wound to the head just before the 5 a.m. blast Monday, according to the Dallas County Medical Examiner's Office. The man has still not been identified, Irving police Officer David Tull said.

However, The Dallas Morning News reported today that neighbors in the northwest Irving neighborhood near Irving Mall identified the man who had lived in the house as a 48-year-old who had become increasingly depressed after the deaths in the past two years of both of his parents.

Residents said the former mechanic quit his job last week, sold his tools and had been moving boxes from the house in the past week.

Fire investigators still have not determined what caused the blasts and fire, Irving Assistant Fire Chief Perry Ray told the newspaper. But neighbors said the man, who lived alone in the house, was an ammunition reloader and kept large amounts of gun powder on hand.

Only the charred frame and one corner of the house remained after the blast. No damage estimate was available.

# Number of corpses at Georgia crematory grows

NOBLE, Ga. (AP) — As the ground around Tri-State Crematory yielded more corpses, residents in three states faced the horror of planning funerals for loved ones they had long believed were resting in peace.

Forensics teams late Monday had recovered 139 bodies left to rot outside the northwest Georgia crematory, finding skeletons sealed in vaults and bodies that had been dragged into a shed.

"I feel like I'm in a horror movie," said Leatha Shropshire, a mother of three, whose own mother died Jan. 30 and was found dumped in the 16-acre area behind the crematory.

Clutching a framed photograph of her mother, Shropshire said she is more fortunate than hundreds of others who are still waiting to see if their loved ones can be identified from the intermingled skeletons.

"We just lost our mother two weeks ago and we are

having to do this all over again," Shropshire said. "The waiting was killing us. There is no way to describe what that kind of waiting is like."

Ray Brent Marsh, operator of the crematory in this rural town 20 miles south of Chattanooga, Tenn., was arrested for a second time and authorities filed 11 new theft-by-deception charges against him, bringing the total to 16.

"By the hour, this is getting bigger and bigger and bigger," said Kris Sperry, the state's chief medical examiner. "I don't have a theory because none of this makes sense. I don't think it ever will."

Investigators have said Marsh told them the bodies were not cremated because the incinerator was broken. Authorities said they were unsure how long the incinerator was broken, but evidence shows some dumped bodies have been there for 15 years or more.

Sperry said some corpses were found in body bags, while others were dressed in clothing or hospital gowns or wrapped in sheets. They ranged from newly delivered to severely decomposed, even mummified, he said, predicting that some would never be identified.

A federal disaster mortuary team began arriving late Monday to open a mass morgue to sort the bodies. More than 400 people were involved in the investigation.

Marsh, 28, refused a request for a jailhouse interview. Calls to his home and the crematory went unanswered Monday, and voice-mail boxes at both numbers were full.

As the body count rose, agents said they had begun examining the records of Marsh and his parents, Ray and Clara Marsh, who turned the business over to their son in 1996. The elder Marshes have not been charged, but authorities

said bodies were being dumped before the son took over.

"As far as the criminal investigation goes, we have to question everybody who was involved in the operation and that's being done," said Georgia Bureau of Investigation spokesman John Bankhead.

Clara Marsh, who taught high school for more than 30 years, appears not to have been involved in day-to-day operations at the crematory, Walker County Sheriff Steve Wilson said.

In almost all cases, Tri-State Crematory picked up the bodies from up to 30 funeral homes in Georgia, Tennessee and Alabama, delivering ashes later in return, said Walker County coroner Dewayne Wilson, who is not related to the sheriff.

The Georgia Emergency Management Agency has said the state would pay the cost of identifying the bodies.

# High court reviews challenge of public housing eviction law

WASHINGTON (AP) — Four senior citizens with their apartments on the line are asking the Supreme Court to say how far the government may go to get drugs out of public housing.

Justices were to hear arguments Tuesday in a case testing whether entire families may be evicted from public housing projects for the drug use of one member, part of a zero-tolerance drug policy for federally subsidized housing.

A decision is expected before July.

The outcome will affect anyone who lives in public

housing, but the attention in this case is on senior citizens who could be oblivious to younger family members' drug use.

Public housing directors contend they are doing what Congress intended, cleaning up housing projects by getting rid of drug users and those who enable them.

The four Oakland, Calif., senior citizens, including 63-year-old great-grandmother Pearl Rucker, sued over the one-strike-and-you're-out rule. They had received eviction notices because of the drug use of relatives or care-

givers. An appeals court blocked enforcement of the law.

At issue is whether housing directors are being more aggressive than Congress intended.

The law was passed in 1988 and endorsed by the Clinton administration in 1996 and by the Bush administration last year.

Families can be removed for the drug use of one member, whether the drug activity is in the home or somewhere else.

Under the Department of Housing and Urban Development' enforcement

program, tenants may not avoid eviction simply by claiming ignorance of the crime or an inability to stop it.

"You're not going to have two standards. It's got to be one standard that applies to all," said Gary T. Lafayette, the attorney for Oakland's housing authority.

Paul Renne, who will represent the Oakland residents in court, said if they lose the case, "It will be very difficult for a lot of innocent tenants."

"They don't have the ability to go out and find other housing," he said.

# Eight Palestinians killed in gunbattles and Israeli reprisals

JERUSALEM (AP) — Eight Palestinians, including a 14-year-old girl and three other civilians, were killed Tuesday in gun battles and Israeli reprisals for a string of deadly attacks by Palestinian militants. Israeli warplanes and helicopters pounded Palestinian targets in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

In one strike, Israeli helicopter gunships fired three missiles at the office of the Islamic militant group Hamas in the crowded Jebalya refugee camp, killing two Palestinians and critically wounding four, including a 10-year-old girl, doctors said.

In all, 25 Palestinians were wounded in the fighting, including five children.

With nine Israelis killed over six days, Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon is under growing pressure to take more decisive action. Hardliners demanded that he crush Yasser Arafat's government and recapture Palestinian territory.

Sharon decided after consultations with top security officials late Monday to stop short of a large-scale military operation, while intensifying military strikes. "There will be no strategic change, but there will be wider use of military means," said Sharon adviser Raanan Gissin.

A group of 1,200 retired Israeli security officials, meanwhile, proposed an immediate Israeli withdrawal from the Gaza Strip and the dismantling of 40 to 50 isolated Jewish settlements in the West Bank.

In a position paper published this week, the Council for Peace and Security said troops being used to defend the settlements should be deployed along a line close to the invisible frontier between

Israel and the West Bank. The group also called for the immediate resumption of negotiations with the Palestinians.

In nearly 17 months of fighting, Israel has launched air strikes against Palestinian Authority installations, raided Palestinian areas, killed suspected militants in targeted attacks and destroyed hundreds of acres of crops.

Newspaper commentators said the current situation

was unbearable.

"In the present situation, a decision must be made," wrote commentator Yoav Limor in the Maariv daily. The army should either conquer the Palestinian territories, withdraw unilaterally or pursue a peace agreement, Limor wrote.

Arafat said Tuesday that despite the Israeli reprisals, "we are still committed to the peace process." Israel accuses Arafat of playing a double game.

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FEBRUARY 19 2002

# EDITORIAL

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

FIRST AMENDMENT

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

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

## OTHER VIEWS

# Our veterans deserve better than they get

It is just not right. Military retirees with service-connected disabilities continue to have their Defense Department retired pay reduced by the amount of disability compensation that they receive from the Department of Veterans Affairs.

If these half-million veterans left the military after they incurred their service-connected disabilities, and retired from any other federal agency except a branch of the U.S. armed forces, they would receive both retired pay and disability compensation in full.

Service-connected military retirees make a sacrifice that no other service-connected federal retiree makes. It is a circumstance brought about by a century-old law. Congress came as close as ever to changing that law in the defense budget. A House-Senate conference committee, on Dec. 11, voted in principle to end pay cuts for service-disabled military retirees. But it failed to appropriate the funds to do so. In so doing, conferees passed the buck on this issue to the administration and undermined the will of the majority in Congress that co-sponsored "concurrent receipt" legislation. Legislation designed to correct this injustice. The conferees sent a message to our troops that they might as well leave the military, if they become injured, rather than be short-changed in their retirement years.

The original "concurrent receipt" legislation, introduced by Sen. Harry Reid of Nevada and Rep. Mike Bilirakis of Florida, fit the practical definition of bipartisan — with 75 Senate co-sponsors and 378 House co-sponsors — and it should have breezed through congress, not compromised by the conference committee.

The case is not closed. The American Legion will continue to fight for service-disabled military retirees by encouraging Congress to fund "concurrent receipt" provisions in the 2003 fiscal year's budget. On behalf of the 2.8-million member American Legion, I further invite concerned veterans to make their voices heard with their congressional delegations. It is high time, indeed long overdue, for veterans who earned both retired pay and disability compensation to receive their full and just benefits.

—RICHARD J. SANTOS,  
NATIONAL COMMANDER,  
AMERICAN LEGION

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The Herald welcomes letters to the editor. Please:

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- We do not acknowledge receipt of letters.
- Letters from our circulation area will be given preference.
- Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721. They can also be e-mailed to [johnmoseley@bigspringherald.com](mailto:johnmoseley@bigspringherald.com).

# Fat Tuesday and the Big Mamou

**B**IG MAMOU, La. — Now that the Mardi Gras confetti has settled for another year, let me tell you a festival story.

Forget everything you think you know about Mardi Gras, the New Orleans variety. Well, OK, you can continue to imagine a degree of raucous revelry, for this rural, Cajun version is no finishing-school scene, either.

Everything else you think you know, forget it.

The courir de Mardi Gras, or Mardi Gras run, is peculiar to Cajun country, and nowhere else in the world will you see anything just like it. In a nutshell, masked marauders on horseback or in wagons visit their neighbors' houses, begging for chickens, onions, rice, grease and the rest of a gumbo. While "visiting" houses and doublewides in a countryside flat as a tabletop, the Mardi Gras riders sing, dance, plays tricks, chase live chickens, climb onto

rooftops, do handstands on horseback and otherwise entertain their hosts.

They wear costumes, but nothing like the scanty, sexy ones in New Orleans or Rio. The courir rider's two-part costume resembles a clown suit with fringe; he also wears a pointed hat and a handmade mask often made out of screen. The masks are passed down father to son.

At the end of the day, the Mardi Gras — the group, the individuals and the day are all known as the Mardi Gras, making subject-verb agreement easy — parades back through the town it left at dawn, holding high half-dead chickens and other sundry gumbo ingredients. A giant gumbo eventually is made for the entire town, a dance is held, and by midnight everyone's full, drunk and ready as he'll ever be for Lent.

No beads or marching high-school bands. No floats. No movie-star grand marshals.

This is more of a community affair, with the participants outnumbering the onlookers. Or at least that's how it used to be.

Everything Cajun has become stylish, and so, too, the Cajun Mardi Gras. And once something becomes stylish, you can kiss cultur-

al purity goodbye ...

I got to Big Mamou — as opposed to Tee-Mamou (Little Mamou) — around noon on Fat Tuesday. Mamou is one of the prairie towns of Cajun Country, a burg best known for an extraordinarily lively honky-tonk called Fred's Lounge where a radio show is recorded every Saturday morning. As a result, by 9 a.m. most Saturdays, Fred's has a look and sound and drunken clientele that other honky-tonks don't achieve till midnight.

Otherwise, Mamou is a quiet little town of about 3,500, ringed by crawfish and rice ponds, seemingly content with its lot and allotment of auto-parts stores and tourism.

When I arrived, the Mardi Gras was still out in the countryside, scavenging supper. But a sizable crowd had started to gather to welcome the costumed riders home.

Every Harley rider in Louisiana was on hand, for one thing. The Mamou event must be well-known in Hog circles because every other person in the crowd had on leather chaps and other showy motorcycle gear.

I hadn't known exactly what to expect at a courir, but tattoos and leather

wouldn't have topped the list.

Also on hand were college-age revelers, kids with determinedly obscene costumes that would get you arrested in Alabama or Mississippi and must have taken a year to make. But here they were acceptable, proudly parading down the main street amongst mothers strolling babies and old people with canes.

One woman wore a dress made entirely of the little gold-and-purple bags that normally hold Crown Royal, an outfit that would have cost a fortune had the dress been any longer.

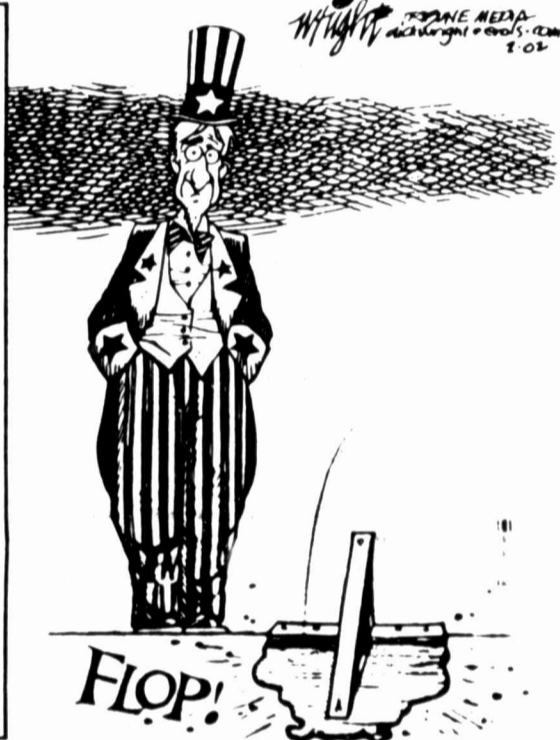
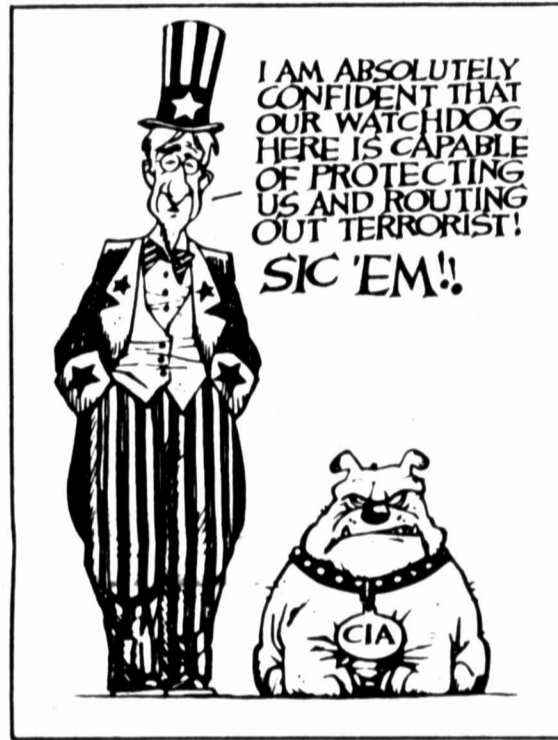
The Mardi Gras arrived about an hour and a half late, looking sunburned and exhausted. A few sat backward in their saddles. One or two stood up on the horses' backs for a few steps, a stab at gaiety that usually ended with the rider on the pavement. Two riders balanced beer cans on their heads, the most impressive trick I saw.

Mostly they looked tired, not even drunk, as wrung out as the chickens they waded in the air.

I suspected the best show had been much earlier, in the mid-morning during the first house calls, when riders and costumes were fresh and the Hog riders were still home in bed.



RHETA GRIMSLEY JOHNSON



# Slobodan Milosevic being hung out to dry

**S**lobodan Milosevic, the former president of Yugoslavia, is now on trial before a kangaroo court in The Hague. He hasn't got a ghost of a chance of seeing even the shadow of justice.

He might well be guilty of crimes, but if he is, they were committed in his own country. The courts should try him in his own country. This so-called international tribunal set up by the United Nations has no legitimate authority. The United Nations charter does not give the Security Council the authority to judge individuals charged with crimes, and you can't legitimately delegate authority you don't have. Hence, it is a kangaroo court.

Milosevic is charged with genocide. What group of people who previously existed in Yugoslavia no longer exists? Nobody. Everybody who was there is still there, give or take a few thousand casualties of

war, or is living elsewhere. I saw a lot of Bosnians panhandling in Paris. There was no mass extermination of human beings, despite all the media hype, nor any attempt at mass extermination.

I could point out that Milosevic was only doing unsuccessfully what Abraham Lincoln succeeded in doing, to wit: using force to prevent states from seceding. I could also point out that Lincoln's war was much more destructive of human life and property than the Balkans war. As I recall, one of Lincoln's generals told his men, "Leave the Southerners with nothing but their eyes with which to weep." They followed their orders.

Now we don't — or at least most of us don't — consider Lincoln a war criminal. Why should Milosevic be considered a war criminal for trying to keep the Yugoslavian Federation from falling apart? And if he is a war criminal, why did the United States fly him to Dayton, Ohio, in 1995 and ask him to formulate a peace agreement — which, by the way, he successfully did? This, as far as I know, is the first time in history

that a man who negotiated an end to a war has been charged as a war criminal.

He is also charged with crimes against humanity. I'd like to know, as a member of humanity, which human being Milosevic harmed outside the war zone. We, after all, have killed more Iraqis than the people the Serbs killed in any of the groups they fought. The combined casualties caused by the Serbs are far fewer than the casualties we inflicted in Iraq with our bombs and our own weapon of mass destruction, an economic siege.

Genocide and crimes against humanity are Orwellian terms so vague that they are impossible to define rationally. They are an excuse used by the victors to wreak vengeance on the losers. You can be sure that no leader of a powerful nation with an intact army will ever be charged with genocide or crimes against humanity, no matter what he does. I don't recall anyone suggesting that Stalin and Mao should be tried as war criminals, though their victims numbered in the millions. No, these are "crimes" reserved exclusively for the weak and

defeated.

The only big mistake Milosevic made was that he didn't hire American public-relations firms, as his enemies did.

Our role throughout the Balkans war was shameful. The only allies of the West from that region during World Wars I and II were the Serbs. We betrayed them. We sided with the Croats and the Albanians, who loved the Nazis, and with the Islamic extremists in Bosnia.

There were some awful things done by all sides. The Balkans is a tough neighborhood and a living reminder that "diversity and multiculturalism" are not good things. We apparently are going to have to learn that the hard way, though, because the corporate desire for cheap labor and muddleheaded liberals prevent reform of our immigration laws.

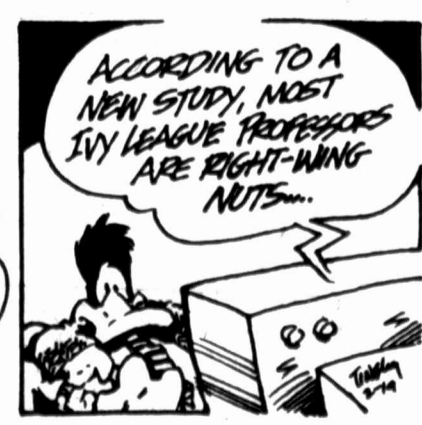
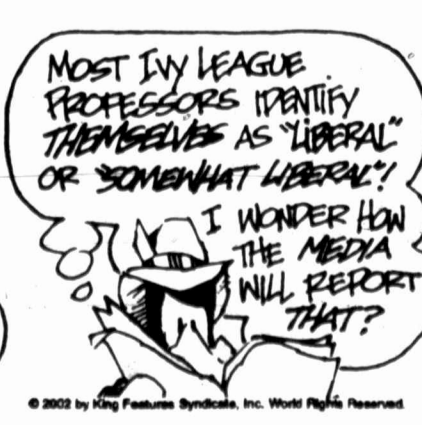
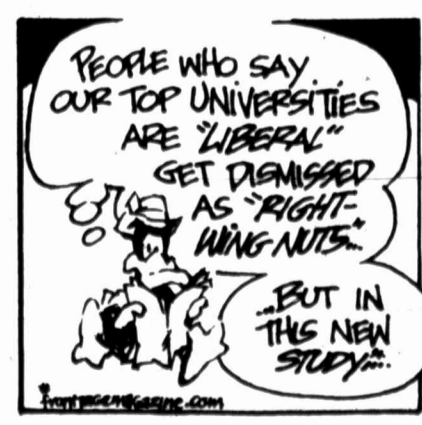
Just remember that what you will see in The Hague is one man being made a scapegoat by a kangaroo court for the sins of many, including us.

Charley Reese can be contacted at [briarl@earthlink.net](mailto:briarl@earthlink.net).



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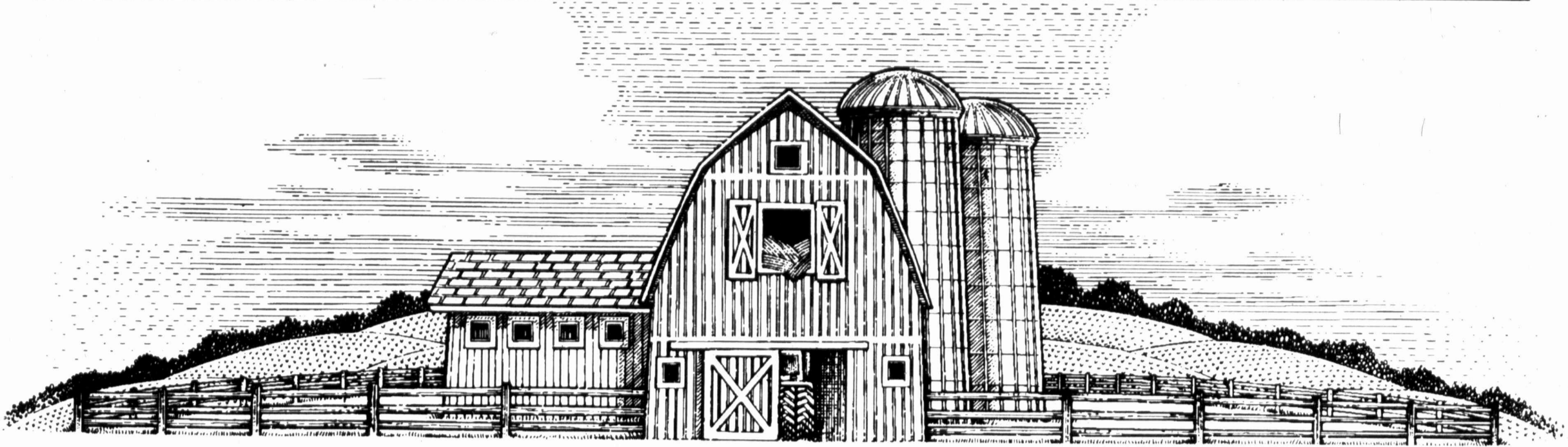
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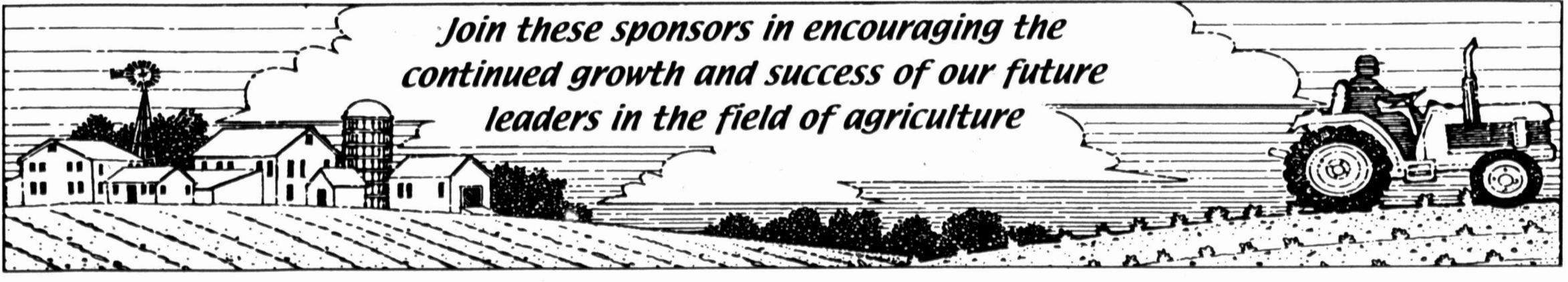
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### IN BRIEF

#### Howard teams post sweep over NMJC

Howard College's Hawks and Lady Hawks rolled to a Western Junior College Athletic Conference sweep of New Mexico Junior College team in Hobbs on Monday night.

The Lady Hawks took an 82-79 win over the Lady Thunderbirds, while the Hawks posted an 85-75 victory.

Shamieka Buckley paced the Lady Hawks with 28 points, while Latasha Matthew added 13, as the Howard women improved to 8-17 on the season.

The Hawks improved to 18-9 on the season and 6-5 in conference play with their win. Zach Moss led the way for Howard with 23 points, while Rodney Blackstock had 18, Jared Fears chipped in 14 and Maushae Byles scored 10.

#### Steers golf team finishes seventh

Big Spring's Steers posted a two-day total of 623 to finish seventh in a field of 20 teams Saturday at the Plainview Invitational golf tournament.

Jerrold Simmons posted a 71-70, 141 to lead Big Spring and earned individual medalist honors with a birdie on the first hole of a sudden-death playoff for the championship.

Other Big Spring scores included Ryan Rodriguez, 156; Nick Read, 162; Mario Rodriguez, 164; and Jace Williams, 178.

The Steers junior varsity played in Andrews, finishing second with a 347 total.

Individual medalist Will Conley's 77 paced the Steers JV, while Jason Murphree had an 83, Kyle Schmidt posted a 90, Landon Jenkins had a 97 and John Marino finished a 120.

#### Class 5A girls playoff scheduled at BSJHS

A Class 5A girls' regional quarterfinal playoff game has been scheduled for 6 tonight in the Big Spring Junior High School gymnasium.

The game will pit Lubbock Coronado's Lady Mustangs up against Abilene High School's Lady Eagles.

#### 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.

Anyone interested is encouraged to attend. For more information, call Sally Grant at 268-4728 or 393-5237.

### ON THE AIR

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6:30 p.m. — Minnesota Timberwolves at Dallas Mavericks, KBST-AM 1490.

**Television**  
**COLLEGE BASKETBALL**  
6 p.m. — Iowa at Wisconsin, ESPN.  
6:30 p.m. — Connecticut at Georgetown, ESPN2.  
8 p.m. — Tennessee at Kentucky, ESPN.  
8:30 p.m. — UMass at St. Joseph's, ESPN2.

**NBA**  
7 p.m. — Minnesota Timberwolves at Dallas Mavericks, TBS.  
**OLYMPICS**  
7 p.m. — Figure skating, women's short program; Bobsledding, women's final; Freestyle skiing, men's aerials final; Speedskating, men's 1,500, NBC.

## Kansas back at No. 1 after Duke's loss to Maryland

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kansas, the only team besides Duke to be ranked No. 1 in the AP college basketball poll this season, moved back into the top spot Monday.

The Jayhawks (23-2) took advantage of Duke's loss at Maryland on Sunday to reclaim the top ranking, receiving 48 first-place votes and 1,745 points from the national media panel.

Maryland (21-3) moved up one place to second following the 87-73 victory over Duke. The Blue Devils had been No. 1 for all but one week this season, including nine when they were a unanimous choice.

The Terrapins were No. 1 on 19 ballots and had 1,713 points, 61 more than Duke (23-2), which still received four No. 1 votes.

Kansas moved into the No. 1 spot following Duke's only other loss, Jan. 6 at Florida State, but the Jayhawks held it for just the one week as they lost at UCLA that weekend. They have won 10 straight since, all in the Big 12.

"Being No. 1 later in the season is much better than earlier and it should mean a little more because you have already accomplished something," Kansas coach Roy Williams said Monday. "If you're there the first week it's what people expected. After a couple of weeks it's about your nonconference wins. College basketball is so different than college football where the polls mean so much. Everybody has the goals you set as a team, that drive the team, but I can't remember a time I ever said one was to be No. 1 on Feb. 18."

Maryland's No. 2 ranking is its third of the season. The Terrapins have held that position more than any other school without ever reaching No. 1 — 21 weeks. Louisville is second on that list with 15 weeks.

This is the first week of the season that Duke isn't ranked No. 1 or 2, and the Blue Devils haven't been below fourth since the middle of the 1999-2000 season.

Cincinnati moved up one place to fourth, while Alabama jumped two spots to fifth. Oklahoma, which lost at Oklahoma State last week, fell from fourth to sixth and was followed in the Top Ten by Gonzaga, Florida, Marquette and Stanford.

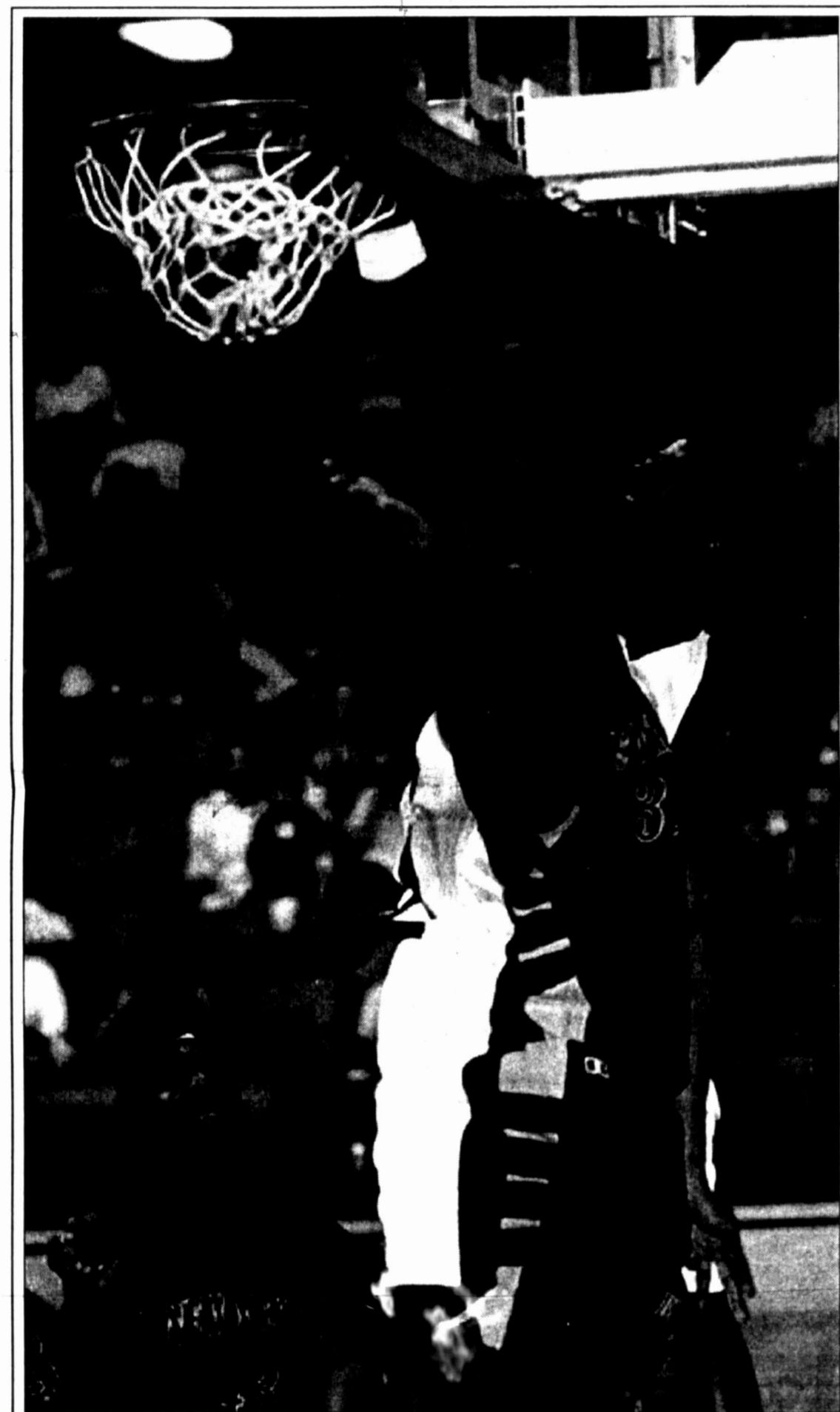
Pittsburgh moved up three places to lead the Second Ten and was followed by Kentucky, Oklahoma State, Arizona, Oregon, Illinois,

Miami, Georgia, Ohio State and Southern California and Wake Forest, which were tied for 20th.

The last of the ranked teams were Virginia, Indiana, Western Kentucky and UCLA.

Western Kentucky (23-3) returned to the rankings for the first time since December, which was when senior center Chris Marcus broke his ankle. The Hilltoppers more than held their own without Marcus, who led the nation in rebounding last season, but his return for the last four games — all wins — has them back in the Top 25.

The only team to fall out of the rankings was North Carolina State (19-7), which moved in at No. 24 for the first time this season last week, but lost 108-71 to Duke before beating Clemson 83-54.



Howard College's Zach Moss, pictured here slamming a dunk home over a New Mexico Junior College defender, scored 23 points in leading the Hawks to an 85-75 win over NMJC in Hobbs on Monday. With the win, the Hawks improved to 18-9 overall and 6-5 in Western Junior College Conference play.

## Ice dance champs salute U.S. on day of medals shutout

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — It sure was nice of French ice dancers Marina Anissina and Gwendal Peizerat to honor the United States during their gold-medal winning performance.

Without it, Americans wouldn't have gotten close to the medals stand Monday.

Anissina posed like the Statue of Liberty at the start of the routine and the pair ended by holding up their arms as if they had torches. Their music also included snippets of Martin Luther King Jr.'s famed freedom speech.

"This was the best performance we ever did," Peizerat said. Most importantly, they remained on their feet, something two of their top competitors failed to do. Russia's Irina Lobacheva and Ilia Averbukh also remained on their skates and, in a tight vote, finished second.

It might not be that close at the next Olympics. Under sweeping rules changes proposed Monday by the International Skating Union, the 6.0 scoring system would be scrapped and judges' scores would be randomly selected by computer — a bid to eliminate the effect of any vote fixing.

"It is time to find something new," said ISU president Ottavio Cinquanta. "This is a total revolution." World champion ice dancers Barbara Fusar Poli and Maurizio Margaglio of Italy finished third. Naomi Lang and Peter Tchernyshev, winners of the last four American championships, were 11th.

The United States is still second in the overall medal count with 18. Germany leads with 24.

Five medals will be decided Tuesday, starting with

men's ski aerials. Other finals include the men's and women's cross-country sprint, men's 1,500-meter speedskating and two-woman bobsled.

Also on the schedule are the women's figure skating short program and women's hockey semifinals — featuring the United States against Sweden, and Canada vs. Finland — and two consolation games.

**HOCKEY:** Team Canada's mediocre performance has turned the Grumpy One into the Grumpy One. Wayne Gretzky, executive director of the team trying to win the first gold medal since 1952 for the country that invented hockey, had quite a tirade following Canada's 3-3 tie with Czech Republic on Monday.

Instead of being upset by his team's mediocre results (1-1-1, third place in its group), Gretzky went after the team's critics, including "the Americans." While he was at it, he suggested that a hard hit in Monday's game might lead to retribution in an NHL game next week. The United States beat Belarus 8-1 for one of the top seeds in the quarterfinals and Sweden continued its surprising run with a 7-1 victory over Germany for the other top seed. They'll face the bottom seeds on Wednesday, with the Americans getting Germany and the Swedes facing Belarus.

Canada will play Finland and the Russians take on the Czechs.

**SKI JUMPING:** Martin Schmitt was hoping his new set of skis would make him soar.

"But there was a little dust and I didn't get to go as

## Expect results from probe when pigs do triple axels

The International Skating Union promised Monday to find out whether a French judge who's already recanted her confession was telling the truth in the first place.

It will require a super-secret investigation carried out by unidentified commission members. ISU president Ottavio Cinquanta didn't say when or even whether the findings would be released. But an educated guess is the truth will come out just about the time pigs are doing triple axels. It all makes perfect sense.

As much sense, at least, as anything else about this convoluted scandal. First we had medals awarded in the pairs figure skating competition according to rules that had been in place for more than 100 years. Then we had more medals handed out as the result of an investigation that lasted less than four days.

The second decision was based on French judge Marie-Reine Le Gougne's confession that she felt pressured by her federation to vote for a Russian pair over the Canadians, though she also insisted it didn't affect her actual vote.

Maybe that's why Cinquanta, when asked whether the medals might change hands again, replied: "The question is terrific. 'Why?' he added in his delightfully fractured English. "Do you think we have not got enough problem?"

That was about the only moment in Cinquanta's nearly hour-long news conference when everyone present laughed in agreement. There is no doubting this man and his sport are just a half-stride ahead of the Zamboni.

Cinquanta used the first 30 minutes to describe a series of proposed reforms that would make the judging of figure skating competitions more accountable, less subjective and impossible to manipulate. The solution — who'd have guessed? — involves adding more judges.

You would think he has enough trouble with the ones he already has, especially after Le Gougne surfaced Monday in a report by the

French sports daily L'Equipe reiterating that she never made a deal.

"I judged in my soul and conscience," she said. "I considered that the Russians were the best. I never made a deal with an official or a Russian judge."

The only new revelation in the interview was Le Gougne's contention that she was verbally attacked last week in the lobby of the same hotel where the ISU council met Monday. She also said she felt physically threatened because of the way she had voted.

Le Gougne's account sounds suspiciously familiar to her description of what took place at the ISU meeting during which she originally owned up to charges of misconduct. That caught Cinquanta by surprise.

"Madame LeGougne, of course, was not happy to be interviewed by me," he said. "I was not the champion of sweetness."

But after a quick smile, Cinquanta assured everybody the interview was "extremely professional ... under the best conditions ... what she said and signed, she also looked at and reviewed."

"If today Madame Le Gougne changed her mind, we have to continue with the investigation

because you can't change your mind every day."

That has been the problem all along. Decisions have been made by the ISU and the International Olympic Committee on nothing more definitive than NBC's incessant howling, hastily conducted public-opinion polls and a few fingers held up to the wind. If they thought throwing a medal behind them while running away from an angry mob would be enough, they know now it wasn't.

At one juncture late in the question-and-answer session, Cinquanta said without any prompting from reporters, "I just want you to know in front of you are sporting, tough and fair people."

We're not sure which one of those qualities was called into doubt by the next question, but it was about whether the statement Le Gougne signed would ever see the light of day.

"I don't think that it's necessary to make this document public," Cinquanta said.

As we said, it all makes perfect sense.

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



JIM LITKE

**BASKETBALL**  
National League  
ARIZONA DIAMONDBACKS  
with MVP P.J. Bevis, RI  
John Patterson, RHP Jo  
Pascarelli, INF Lyle Overbr  
FLORIDA MARLINS — J  
Tim Lincecum and OF Mark  
Curtis.

**BASKETBALL**  
National Basketball A  
ABA suspended for  
after one game and  
Philadelphia 76ers. F  
games and fined him \$5  
F. C. one. B. B. one game  
for their parts in an att  
gave. I. Ward. Charlotte  
\$1.500 for verbally abu  
parties.

**CHARLOTTE HORNET**  
M. B. from the injur  
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to from the injured I  
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**PORTLAND TRAIL BL**  
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**National Football Lea**  
KANSAS CITY CHIEFS  
10 Marcus Patton on a  
TAMPA BAY BUCC  
Golden coach and sign  
to.

### TOP 25 - MI

- The top 25 teams in men's college basketball are in parentheses and ranked by AP poll.
1. Kansas (18)
  2. Maryland (19)
  3. Duke (23)
  4. Cincinnati
  5. Alabama
  6. Louisiana
  7. Arizona
  8. Florida
  9. Gonzaga
  10. Stanford
  11. Pittsburgh
  12. Oklahoma
  13. Virginia Tech
  14. Oklahoma State
  15. Arizona
  16. Oregon
  17. Texas
  18. Miami
  19. Georgia
  20. Iowa State
  21. Southern Cal
  22. Wake Forest
  23. Virginia
  24. Indiana
  25. West Virginia

### TOP 25 - WC

The top 25 teams in women's college basketball are in parentheses and ranked by AP poll.

1. Connecticut (14)
2. Stanford
3. Oklahoma
4. Tennessee
5. Duke
6. Vanderbilt
7. Louisiana Tech
8. Purdue
9. Baylor
10. South Carolina
11. Colorado
12. Kansas State
13. Iowa State
14. Minnesota
15. Texas
16. Florida
17. Texas Tech
18. Old Dominion
19. North Carolina
20. Colorado State
21. Brigham Young
22. Notre Dame
23. Georgia
24. Virginia Tech
25. Cincinnati

### NBA

#### EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division	W
New Jersey	34
Boston	30
Washington	27
Orlando	27
Philadelphia	26
Miami	21
New York	20
Central Division	W
Detroit	29
Memphis	29
Toronto	25
Charlotte	26
Indiana	26

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Roy Don

Walter F

Gary Sin

Justice of

Kathryn

David M

All above I

If you are run

call Christy He

SPORTS EXTRA

TRANSACTIONS

**BASEBALL**  
National League  
ARIZONA DIAMONDBACKS—Agreed to terms with RHP P.J. Bevis, RHP Mike Koptove, RHP John Patterson, RHP Jose Valverde, INF Danny Escobar, INF Lyle Overbay and OF Luis Tena.

Atlanta 19 33 .365 10 1/2  
Cleveland 18 34 .346 11 1/2  
Chicago 12 40 .231 17 1/2

WESTERN CONFERENCE

**Midwest Division**  
Dallas 37 16 .698  
Minnesota 35 17 .673 1 1/2  
San Antonio 33 18 .647 3  
Utah 30 24 .556 7 1/2  
Houston 18 34 .346 18 1/2  
Denver 16 34 .320 19 1/2  
Memphis 15 37 .289 21 1/2

**Pacific Division**  
Sacramento 39 13 .750  
L.A. Lakers 35 15 .700 3  
Portland -28 24 .539 11  
Seattle 27 25 .519 12  
L.A. Clippers 26 28 .481 14  
Phoenix 25 27 .481 14  
Golden State 15 34 .306 22 1/2

Monday's Games

Houston 102, Washington 89  
Utah 103, Cleveland 92  
Philadelphia 110, Denver 83  
Miami 102, Chicago 80  
Detroit 89, Toronto 76  
Charlotte 101, Milwaukee 92  
Portland 80, L.A. Clippers 79

Today's Games

Golden State at New Jersey, 6:30 p.m.  
Minnesota at Dallas, 7 p.m.  
Memphis at San Antonio, 7:30 p.m.  
Seattle at Phoenix, 8 p.m.  
Atlanta at Sacramento, 9 p.m.  
Boston at L.A. Lakers, 9:30 p.m.

Wednesday's Games

Golden State at Philadelphia, 6 p.m.  
L.A. Clippers at Miami, 6:30 p.m.  
Washington at Detroit, 6:30 p.m.  
Houston at Milwaukee, 7 p.m.  
Charlotte at Toronto, 7 p.m.  
New York at Chicago, 7:30 p.m.  
Utah at Denver, 8 p.m.  
Portland at Seattle, 9 p.m.

WEDNESDAY'S GAMES

Atlanta 19 33 .365 10 1/2  
Cleveland 18 34 .346 11 1/2  
Chicago 12 40 .231 17 1/2

WEDNESDAY'S GAMES

Houston 102, Washington 89  
Utah 103, Cleveland 92  
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Utah at Denver, 8 p.m.  
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Portland at Seattle, 9 p.m.

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Charlotte 101, Milwaukee 92  
Portland 80, L.A. Clippers 79

LIBERTY 72, Birmingham Southern 56

Life 71, Morris 53  
Lincoln Memorial 61, MUW 56  
Louisiana-Monroe 74, SE Louisiana 70  
MVSU 55, Prairie View 52  
Mercer 59, Troy St. 56  
Mobile 86, Southern, NO 61  
Montevallo 62, Valdosta St. 54  
Morehead St. 72, Austin Peay 63  
Murray St. 87, Savannah St. 34  
Norfolk St. 75, S. Carolina St. 63  
Northwestern St. 73, Nichols St. 64  
Paine 79, Miles 67  
S.C. Aiken 55, Kennesaw 51  
Spring Hill 49, Xavier, NO 43  
Tennessee Tech 75, Tennessee St. 46  
Tuskegee 77, Albany, Ga. 67  
West Alabama 70, Ala.-Huntsville 69  
William Carey 68, Tougaloo 62  
Wingate 85, Converse 81

MIDWEST

Carleton 71, St. Olaf 48  
Central St., Ohio 102, Kentucky St. 52  
Indiana St. 84, Evansville 60  
Ottawa, Kan. 75, Kansas Wesleyan 73, 207  
SE Missouri 79, E. Illinois 51  
St. Ambrose 92, Mount Mercy 66  
Valparaiso 59, UMG 47  
Viterbo 88, Maycrest International 38  
William Penn 57, Iowa Wesleyan 55  
Wis.-Oshkosh 71, Wis.-Whitewater 50  
Wis. Stevens Pt. 78, Wis.-River Falls 34  
Wis.-Stout 97, Wis.-LaCrosse 73

SOUTHWEST

Henderson St. 78, Ark.-Monticello 60  
S. Nazarene 75, Oklahoma Christian 65  
Stephen F. Austin 80, Lamar 46  
Texas Southern 57, Ark.-Pine Bluff 48  
Texas Arlington 78, Sam Houston St. 70  
Texas-San Antonio 56, SW Texas 46  
W. Illinois 67, Oral Roberts 60

FAR WEST

Cal Lutheran 59, Occidental 51  
LaVerne 64, Whittier 58

TOURNAMENT

Ohio Conference  
First Round  
John Carroll 78, Mount Union 71  
Muskingum 67, Marietta 61

OLYMPICS

Continued from Page 6

far as I wanted to," Schmitt said.

He hesitated before looking at his score. Once he peeked, he liked what he saw: Germany won the team jumping competition, albeit by the slimmest margin in Olympic history.

"We're happy with silver," said Finland's Janne Ahonen. "But how it happened is not so nice."

Slovenia, appearing in its third Olympics as an independent nation, won the bronze. The U.S. team finished 11th and hasn't won a ski jumping medal since 1924.

FREESTYLE SKIING:

Anyone who saw the last Olympics knows what a beautiful country Australia is, from luscious beaches to wide waterways. So what are the folks from Down Under doing winning gold medals here?

Freestyle aerialist Alisa Camplin won the nation's second Winter Games gold just two days after short track speedskater Steven Bradbury got the first.

"Skiing in Australia isn't what it's like in North America," she said. "It's a short, action-packed season, and we don't all get down the mountain as gracefully as they do over here. You see a lot of football teams out there. It's a little crazy."

Canada's Veronica Brenner took silver and teammate Deidra Dionne won bronze.

WOMEN'S BIATHLON:

Katrin Apel owes her German biathlon teammates many thanks for her gold medal.

Apel missed four shots on her second shooting stage, dropping her team to 12th place. She recovered to sixth by the end of her turn, then Uschi Disl put the Germans in front. Andrea Henkel extended the lead and Kati Wilhelm sealed the gold. Norway got silver, followed by Russia.

"I thought that the gold was gone because of me," Apel said. "But in the end it went well, and gold is gold."

Wilhelm became the first woman with three medals at these games. Disl won her eighth career medal, extending her record for the

women's sport. The Americans were last among 15 teams.

CURLING:

The U.S. women's curling team beat Norway on Monday and is headed to the semifinals along with Canada and Switzerland. The fourth team was to be determined Tuesday through a tiebreaker involving Sweden, Britain and Germany.

The semifinals begin Wednesday with the Americans facing the Swiss and the tiebreak winner getting Canada.

The preliminary round of the men's tournament wrapped up with victories by Canada, Norway and Switzerland and a loss by Sweden, the four teams that will be advancing.

TOP 25 - MEN

The top 25 teams in the Associated Press men's college basketball poll, with first place teams in parentheses and records through Feb. 18.

Record  
1. Kentucky (25) 23-2  
2. Stanford (19) 23-2  
3. Duke (14) 23-2  
4. Connecticut (14) 23-2  
5. Arizona 22-4  
6. North Carolina 22-4  
7. Georgetown 22-4  
8. Florida 22-4  
9. Virginia Tech 22-4  
10. Wake Forest 22-4  
11. Memphis 22-4  
12. Michigan State 22-4  
13. Kansas 22-4  
14. Iowa State 22-4  
15. Texas Tech 22-4  
16. Texas 22-4  
17. North Carolina State 22-4  
18. Oregon 22-4  
19. South Carolina 22-4  
20. West Virginia 22-4  
21. Boston College 22-4  
22. Virginia 22-4  
23. Wake Forest 22-4  
24. W. Kentucky 22-4  
25. UCLA 22-4

TOP 25 - WOMEN

The top 25 teams in the Associated Press women's college basketball poll, with first place teams in parentheses and records through Feb. 18.

Record  
1. Connecticut (14) 27-0  
2. Stanford 26-1  
3. Duke 22-2  
4. Tennessee 21-3  
5. Duke 21-3  
6. Vanderbilt 22-6  
7. Louisiana Tech 19-3  
8. Purdue 21-4  
9. Baylor 21-4  
10. South Carolina 21-4  
11. Colorado 19-7  
12. Kansas St. 22-5  
13. Iowa St. 19-6  
14. Minnesota 20-5  
15. Texas 16-8  
16. Florida 17-8  
17. Texas Tech 15-9  
18. Old Dominion 19-5  
19. North Carolina 21-6  
20. Colorado St. 20-3  
21. Boston College 19-5  
22. Notre Dame 17-7  
23. Georgia 16-8  
24. Virginia Tech 17-7  
25. Cincinnati 21-4

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division  
New Jersey 34 17 .667  
Boston 30 23 .566 5  
Washington 27 24 .529 7  
Orlando 27 25 .519 7 1/2  
Philadelphia 26 26 .500 8 1/2  
Miami 21 30 .412 13  
New York 20 31 .392 14

Central Division

Detroit 29 22 .569  
Milwaukee 29 22 .569  
Toronto 29 26 .527 2  
Charlotte 26 26 .500 3 1/2  
Indiana 26 27 .491 4

NCAA SCORES

Record

1. Kentucky (25) 23-2  
2. Stanford (19) 23-2  
3. Duke (14) 23-2  
4. Connecticut (14) 23-2  
5. Arizona 22-4  
6. North Carolina 22-4  
7. Georgetown 22-4  
8. Florida 22-4  
9. Virginia Tech 22-4  
10. Wake Forest 22-4  
11. Memphis 22-4  
12. Michigan State 22-4  
13. Kansas 22-4  
14. Iowa State 22-4  
15. Texas Tech 22-4  
16. Texas 22-4  
17. North Carolina State 22-4  
18. Oregon 22-4  
19. South Carolina 22-4  
20. West Virginia 22-4  
21. Boston College 22-4  
22. Virginia 22-4  
23. Wake Forest 22-4  
24. W. Kentucky 22-4  
25. UCLA 22-4

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Central Division

Detroit 29 22 .569  
Milwaukee 29 22 .569  
Toronto 29 26 .527 2  
Charlotte 26 26 .500 3 1/2  
Indiana 26 27 .491 4

OLYMPICS

Winter Games Medals Table

Through Monday, Feb. 18

(48 total medal events)

Nation G S B Tot  
Germany 8 10 6 24  
United States 4 7 7 18  
Norway 8 6 0 14  
Austria 1 3 9 13  
Russia 4 2 3 12  
Italy 3 2 3 8  
France 3 3 1 7  
Canada 2 1 4 7  
Finland 3 2 1 6  
Switzerland 3 1 2 6  
Netherlands 2 2 0 4  
China 1 0 2 3  
Bulgaria 0 1 2 3  
Sweden 1 1 2 4  
Australia 2 0 0 2  
Spain 2 0 0 2  
Croatia 1 1 0 2  
South Korea 1 1 0 2  
Estonia 1 0 1 2  
Japan 0 1 1 2  
Poland 0 1 1 2  
Czech Republic 0 0 1 1  
Slovenia 0 0 1 1

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County Commissioner Precinct 4
Roy Don Beauchamp.....R
Walter H. Brumley Jr.....R
Gary Simer.....(I).....D
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Kathryn Wiseman.....R
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• Job Stability  
• Competitive Wages  
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2501 S. Gregg  
Star Stop #8  
800E. I-20  
Star Stop #12  
400 S. Gregg  
Star Stop #14  
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Priced Right  
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59,000 miles  
Ready To Go!  
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91 Ford 4dr Taurus  
Nice car  
96 Chev. Corsica 4dr. Red, V-6  
91 Dodge Minivan  
White, 4 cyl  
86 Mercedes 300E  
95,000 miles. Nice  
92 Ford Escort  
Good Solid car  
95 Pont. Grand AM  
Std. 4 cyl. Maroon 4dr  
95 Chev. Cavalier 4dr.  
Purple, auto trans  
99 Dodge Intrepid V-6  
Purple. Very Nice Car  
87 GMC S-15 V-6  
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**Career Opportunity**  
Large National Firm having done business during the last four decades seeks an honest, mature person with an ambitious approach to life, for a Management position with a local, well established business. This person would be working hand-in-hand with the Director of Operations in the Big Spring area. No experience necessary for this immediate position, extensive training provided. Interested parties should contact Jesse at 1-800-775-8396, or submit resume Attn: Personnel - Big Spring Division, via mail to: P.O. Box 50416, St. Louis, MO 63105, via facsimile to 314-719-2119, or via e-mail to: [hr@n-p-s-inc.com](mailto:hr@n-p-s-inc.com).

**Medical Fresenius Medical Care**, a vertically integrated company that operates the nation's largest network of dialysis clinics, has the following open opportunities:  
**Licensed Social Worker-Big Spring** part-time position (14 hrs) involves case management/counseling, patient admissions & insurance assessment. Send resume Clinic Manager, 501 Birdwell, Big Spring, TX 79720/fax(915)267-1756  
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**Big Spring Herald has an opening for a District Manager.**  
Position requires strong communication and customer service skills. If you are looking for a challenging and rewarding opportunity.  
Please contact **Big Spring Herald at 710 Scurry** or resend resume to **Big Spring Herald Circulation Department P.O. Box 1431 Big Spring, TX 79720**

**Big Spring Herald**  
has an opening for a District Manager.  
Position requires strong communication and customer service skills. If you are looking for a challenging and rewarding opportunity.  
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In my home or yours. Non smoker. Evening hours and Good pay. Call 263-1023 or cell 466-2067.  
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The Texas Department of Human Services is accepting applications for a Nurse III in Midland, Big Spring, or Odessa. This regional nurse position determines medical eligibility for DHS services and performs assessments, reviews in the Pre-Admission Screening and Annual Review (PASARR) program, and provides technical and professional consultation services to service providers. Salary is \$2925.00 per month. Minimum qualifications require a license to practice as a registered nurse in Texas, plus two years full-time experience as a practicing registered nurse and one year full-time experience working directly with persons with mental retardation or developmental disabilities. The full-time experience working directly with persons with mental retardation or developmental disabilities may occur before, during or after the registered nurse experience, this position requires travel, primarily in-area, 30-40% of the time, with occasional out-of-area overnight travel.

Please pick up application and a copy of the job posting (SO-095-01-051) at the Texas Department of Human Services office located at 501 Birdwell Lane, Big Spring or a TDHS office in your area. To ensure consideration, applications must be in the Abilene Human Resource Services office no later than February 27, 2002. Mail your application to P.O. Box 6635, Abilene, TX 79608.

Questions regarding this position may be directed to our Human Resource Services office at (915) 690-2216. We are an equal Opportunity employer.

For a complete listing of our jobs, available visit our website at [www.dhs.state.tx.us/reg](http://www.dhs.state.tx.us/reg) ions/02/employment

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Houses duplex 1, 2, 3 bedrooms.  
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Locally Owned  
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ATTENTION: WORK FROM HOME \$500-\$6,000 PER MONTH INTERNET OR ORDER (800)651-7777 [www.becashhappy.com](http://www.becashhappy.com)

**IMMEDIATE OPENING**  
for clerk/cashier/Apply at 3315 E. I. 700. Neighbors Convenience Store

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We need Technicians and Sales People. We Offer:  
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(915)268-8387  
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is currently seeking RN's, LVN's and CNA's (All Shifts)  
Excellent Salary & Benefits.

Lead Maintenance Person needed with Certification  
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Apply to Barce Apts, 538 Westover, phone calls please!

Mountain View Lodge now hiring Chiropractors for all shifts. Excellent starting benefits, and work environment. Apply person at 2009 Virginia

**LOANS**  
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Loans \$100-\$430.00 M-F 9-6pm. 612 Gr 263-1353. Phone apply welcome. Se He Espanol

**NEED HELP WITH HOLIDAY BILLS? INCOME TAX! COME SEE US**  
No Credit - No Problem  
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Swimming Pool  
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Mountain View Lodge is now hiring Charge Nurses for all shifts. Excellent starting pay, benefits, and working environment. Apply in person at 2009 Virginia.

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LOVELY NEIGHBORHOOD COMPLEX Swimming Pool Carports, Most Utilities Paid, Senior Citizen Discounts, 1 & 2 Bedrooms & 1 or 2 Baths Unfurnished KENTWOOD APARTMENTS 1904 East 25th Street 267-5444 263-5000

MISCELLANEOUS

Teage Driver Education Register Feb. 21 & 22nd 5PM - 7PM Big Spring Mall Class starts Feb. 25th Call 268-1023 457-2340 or 270-4610 Lic #1200

Want to buy? A boar pig. If you have a boar pig for sale call 268-1888

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

HOUSES FOR SALE

3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths, 2 Living Areas, Central Heat, Utility Room. \$21,600.00, \$100.00 down, \$193.44 per month, 9% int. 1st payment 6-1-2002. Must have good credit. Call 915/677-0094

3/1 House for sale by Owner. To be moved. Call 915-267-9407 or 915-264-8350

FOR - MORE - INFO CALL (956) 383-2549

For Sale By Owner 2304 Grace Forsan ISD very clean 2/1 with new carpet, ceramic tile, carport, CH/A. 263-1792 or 264-6006

SELLER WILL PAY ALL CLOSING COST OR CAN OWNER FINANCE - Low Down. Easy Qualify. 3/1 new paint and flooring throughout. 1103 Sycamore. 915-352-7778

14 X 70 Mobile home \$3,000 OBO. As is. Call 915-349-2501

Call for free Brochures. 1-800-698-8003 10% dn, 36.0mo, 8pts, wac.cpm, 8.5%apr

2 & 3 Bedrooms Rent Based on Income Immediate Openings

NORTHCREST APARTMENTS 1002 North Main Big Spring, TX (915) 267-5191

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\$50.00 - First Month's Rent 1 & 2 bedroom apt home with CH/A, covered picnic area, b-b-q grills, playground, on-site laundry facilities, professional managements, 24 hour emergency maintenance, free water! Homes available \$335 per month. 263-2292 Heather Apartment's 2911 W. Hwy 80 Big Spring, Texas 79720.

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1204 Lamar 2 Bdrm, 1 bath \$300/mo \$150/dep 263-1792 or 264-6006

1312 Park 2/1 Central Heat and air \$350 a month \$150 deposit Call 270-8665 or 263-3375

2200 South MONTICELLO 2 Bdrm, 1 bath 1 car garage / with new carpet \$325/mo \$150/dep 263-1792 or 264-6006

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Wednesday, Feb. 20:

You often hedge, as confusion surrounds decisions. Take your time declaring your preferences. Your finances become a key focus. You see new ways of making money, possibly through an innate talent or interest. If you're not satisfied with your life, get to work on changing it. You have much more to offer, which becomes clearer this year. You might go through a mini-identity crisis while getting there. If single, your popularity will build this year. Mr. or Ms. Right will appear on the scene in 2003. Meanwhile, have a ball! If you are attached, work

together as a team. You might join together to build a business. Closeness increases with success. A new home or remodeling your present abode stars in your life this year. TAURUS anchors you.

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

UNFUR. HOUSES FOR RENT

2210 Lynn Dr. 3 bdr., 2 bath, garage, fenced yard, CH/A, 1 yr. lease required. No indoor pets. \$595 +dep. Available March 1st. 263-6514 Owner/Broker

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

3 BR, 2 bath, 1741 Purdue. Fireplace, patio, CH/A. \$600/mo. Call 264-9907

For Sale or Lease 3304 D. 3 bdr. 2 bath, 2nd floor. \$500/dep. D. y/mr 263-0844, nighttime 263-0667.

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

TOO LATES

For Sale: CKC Registered Miniature Black & Tan Male Dachshunds. \$150. (915) 397-2381

2623 Langley, 2BR, 1 bath, CH/A. \$300/mo. \$150/dep. Call 267-2221

ATTENTION THE BIG SPRING HERALD APPRECIATES YOUR BUSINESS

Here are some helpful tips and information that will help you when placing your ad. After your ad has been published the first day we suggest you check the ad for mistakes and if errors have been made we will gladly correct the ad and run it again for you at no additional charge. If your ad is advertently not printed your advance payment will cheerfully be refunded and the newspaper's liability will be for only the amount actually received for publication of the advertisement. We reserve the right to edit or reject any ad for publication that does not meet our standards of acceptance.

TOO LATES

NOW HIRING - ASE OR GM Certified Tech. Retirement and Ins. Mail resume to Pollard Chevrolet 1501 E. 4th Street, Big Spring, TX. 79720 or fax to 915-267-7421 ext. Kent Brown.

3 BR, 1 bath, 2530 Fairchild, Huge living room and yard. CH/A. \$450/mo. Call 264-9907

"A MUST SEE" - An adorable 2 bed 1 bath newly updated, new central heat and air, big back yard, carport and storage. In low \$30's Contact at 268-1128 or 264-8186

LONG JOHN SILVERS Day and Evening Shifts Available. Must be energetic. Apply in person, 2403 S. Gregg. No phone calls please...

DENNY'S 1710 E. 3rd Big Spring, TX 79720 Now hiring servers. Top pay, paid vacation, flexible hours. No phone calls. Apply in person.

PUBLIC NOTICE

RESIDENTIAL HOME OWNERS: HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION 1. All residential homesteaders who acquired their home in 2001, must file an exemption form with the Appraisal District to be granted the exemption for 2002... even if they purchased a home with a homestead exemption from the previous owner. 2. If neither spouse is receiving an over-65 exemption and either spouse turned 65 years of age during 2001, you can qualify for the over-65 exemption. BUT YOU MUST APPLY with the Appraisal District. A person over 65 years of age may transfer their homestead exemption when he moves to another homestead. 3. If neither spouse is receiving an exemption for FICA disability and either spouse became disabled before mid-June 2001, you can qualify for a disability homestead exemption BUT YOU MUST APPLY with the Appraisal District. 4. All residential homesteaders who received an exemption, homestead, over-65 or disabled exemption for 2001, the District will carry the exemption forward without application. You need only apply if you fall in one of the above 3 categories.

Keith Toomire Chief Appraiser Howard County Appraisal District #3447 February 7, 19 & April 4, 2002

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to the provisions of the State Property Tax Code, Section 33.06 styled DEFERRED COLLECTIONS OF CERTAIN TAXES (a) An individual is entitled to delinquent tax and interest on a delinquent tax if he is 65 or older and he owns and occupies as a residence homesteaded the property on which the tax subject to the suit is delinquent. (b) To obtain a deferral, an individual must file with the Chief Appraiser in which the property is located an affidavit stating the facts required to be established by Subsection (a) of this section. The Chief Appraiser shall notify each taxing unit participating in the District of the filing. After an affidavit is filed under this subsection, a taxing unit may not file suit to collect delinquent taxes on the property until the individual no longer owns and occupies the property as a residence homesteaded. (c) To obtain an abatement, the individual must file in the court in which suit is pending an affidavit stating the facts required to be established by Subsection (a) of this section. If no controverting affidavit is filed by the taxing unit filing suit or, after a hearing the court finds the individual is entitled to the deferral, the court shall abate the suit until the individual no longer owns and occupies the property as a residence homesteaded. (d) A tax lien remains on the property and interest continue to accrue at a rate of 8% per year during the period collections of taxes is deferred. (e) NEW LAW ENACTED BY 97 LEGISLATURE SENATE BILL 841 SEC. 33.065, DEFERRING PAYING TAXES ON THAT PART OF THE APPRAISED VALUE OF THEIR HOMES THAT IS MORE THAN 5% ABOVE THE PRECEDING YEARS APPRAISED VALUE EXCLUDES THE VALUE OF ANY IMPROVEMENT ADDED. Application Forms are available at:

Howard County Appraisal District Courthouse Annex, 315 Main Street, P.O. Box 1151 Big Spring, TX 79721-1151 Authorized by 1999 Texas Law Section 33.06 #3449 February 7 & 19, 2002

HOROSCOPE

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) \*\*\*\*\* Unusual vitality marks your actions. Others delight in your choices that revolve around what they want and what you want. You're in a win-win situation no matter what. Focus, and you'll hit the bull's-eye. Tonight: Romp away.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) \*\*\*\*\* Read between the lines, listening to someone's words. You understand a boss very clearly. The good news lies in your instinctive reaction to this person. You know what you are doing. Be happy to let someone else take credit. Tonight: Work as late as you need to.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) \*\*\*\*\* Bring friends together, but still be conscious of getting certain errands and projects done. A partner means well but could flake out on you, though you might not be uptight about it. Learn to read between the lines with someone important in your life. Tonight: Celebrate. Any excuse works.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) \*\*\*\*\* Take charge, as only the Lion can. Others delight in your sense of control and support you in whatever decisions you make. Deal with a key associate directly, rather than letting him or her hear news via the grapevine. Maintain that personal quality. Tonight: Talks over dinner.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) \*\*\*\*\* Take in a different perspective. Others run the show in the next few weeks. Learn to adjust and work better with others. Confusion surrounds what seemed like a wonderful plan. Get feedback and make a needed judgment. Tonight: Answer your e-mail.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) \*\*\*\*\* Deal with others individually to most effectively move through an issue. Let someone see just how important he or she is to your life directions. Creativity and risks take you into a rip tide of problems. Step away before you get pulled under. Tonight: Togetherness works.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) \*\*\*\*\* Others seek you out. Plans get confused before the day gets old. Speak to someone before

problems occur. Tune in to your diplomatic ways. What you consider a flirtation, someone else reads as much more. Use care with this person's feelings. Tonight: Someone reaches out for you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) \*\*\*\*\* Head into the office. Make getting your work done your No. 1 priority. If you listen to a conversation with half an ear, you will be confused. Make it a point to do everything 100 percent right now. Do nothing halfway. Focus on domestic matters this month. Tonight: Squeeze in some exercise.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) \*\*\*\*\* Your imagination can be one of your greatest resources. Dig into possibilities. Realize that anything can happen at any time. Communication leads you down a new path with someone. Love can happen in a split second. Tonight: Play the night away.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) \*\*\*\*\* Your family remains your highest priority right now. In fact, you might opt to call in to work in order to stay close to home. Are you considering a home-based business? Realize your limits, especially financially, and avoid biting off more than you can chew. Tonight: Do something you love at home.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) \*\*\*\*\* Speak your mind, and others will, too. Though you could be confused by what someone said, you grab the opportunity to clarify. The sun moves into your sign today, adding to your magnetism and energy. Tonight: Return calls, then decide.

BORN TODAY: Actor John Travolta (1954), artist Yoko Ono (1933), celebrity Vanna White (1957)

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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Cheap presents from husband not appreciated

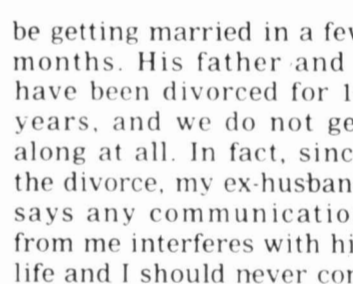
Dear Ann Landers: In the five years I have been married to "Joe," he has never been good about giving presents. For my birthday last year, he bought me a plastic piggy bank. (I have no idea what was going on in his head.) On our anniversary, he gave me a toaster he must have picked up at a garage sale. It was dented and wrapped in a plastic bag.

I decided to make things easier for Joe and made a list of all the things I would love for him to get me. I even cut out pictures from magazines and circled the colors I'd prefer. Nothing I helped. My birthday was last week, and Joe gave me a candle. I think he found it in someone's trash bin.

I don't want to hurt Joe's feelings, and I know he means well, but I never enjoy opening his presents and dread the next occasion. Also, he is wasting money when he buys stuff I don't want. Should I suffer in silence or tell him to get me a gift certificate? - Not Grateful in Richmond, Va.

Dear Richmond: A husband who brings home a candle from someone's trash bin and tries to pass it off as a gift does not "mean well." He's just plain cheap. Stop dropping hints, and tell Joe exactly what you want. If he still brings home garage-sale items, buy yourself whatever you want, and inform Joe that it is his gift to you.

Dear Ann Landers: My 19-year-old son, "Adam," will



ANN LANDERS

be getting married in a few months. His father and I have been divorced for 10 years, and we do not get along at all. In fact, since the divorce, my ex-husband says any communication from me interferes with his life and I should never contact him again.

Here's the problem: Adam has informed me that I will not be invited to his wedding because he wants his father there. His father, obviously, will not come if he knows I will be present. I have told Adam he should invite everybody and those who don't like it, too bad. He says it's HIS wedding, he wants his father by his side, and I should stay home. He says I should be happy for him.

How can I be happy when my own son is excluding me from his wedding? I have told Adam I will never forgive him for this. I am hurt beyond words. What do you say, Ann? - Unwanted Mother in Texas

Dear Mother: Letters like yours make me sad. Weddings should not be an "either or" event. Both parents should be invited. However, if Adam insists that he needs his father there that day, I hope you will find it in your heart to forgive him and not let this unkindness ruin your relationship.

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TexSCAN Week of February 17, 2002

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Public Notice regarding delinquent taxes and interest on a delinquent tax if he is 65 or older and he owns and occupies as a residence homesteaded the property on which the tax subject to the suit is delinquent. To obtain a deferral, an individual must file with the Chief Appraiser in which the property is located an affidavit stating the facts required to be established by Subsection (a) of this section. The Chief Appraiser shall notify each taxing unit participating in the District of the filing. After an affidavit is filed under this subsection, a taxing unit may not file suit to collect delinquent taxes on the property until the individual no longer owns and occupies the property as a residence homesteaded. To obtain an abatement, the individual must file in the court in which suit is pending an affidavit stating the facts required to be established by Subsection (a) of this section. If no controverting affidavit is filed by the taxing unit filing suit or, after a hearing the court finds the individual is entitled to the deferral, the court shall abate the suit until the individual no longer owns and occupies the property as a residence homesteaded. A tax lien remains on the property and interest continue to accrue at a rate of 8% per year during the period collections of taxes is deferred. NEW LAW ENACTED BY 97 LEGISLATURE SENATE BILL 841 SEC. 33.065, DEFERRING PAYING TAXES ON THAT PART OF THE APPRAISED VALUE OF THEIR HOMES THAT IS MORE THAN 5% ABOVE THE PRECEDING YEARS APPRAISED VALUE EXCLUDES THE VALUE OF ANY IMPROVEMENT ADDED. Application Forms are available at: Howard County Appraisal District Courthouse Annex, 315 Main Street, P.O. Box 1151 Big Spring, TX 79721-1151 Authorized by 1999 Texas Law Section 33.06 #3449 February 7 & 19, 2002

TUESDAY

FEB. 19

Table with 21 columns (stations: KMID, KPEJ, KERA, FAM, KOSA, WFAA, KWES, WTBS, UNI, DISN, NASH, TMC, SHOW, HBO, KMLM, A&E, DISC, TNT, TLC) and 7 rows (times: 6:30, 7:30, 8:30, 9:30, 10:30, 11:30, 12:30) listing various programs and movies.

DENNIS THE MENACE



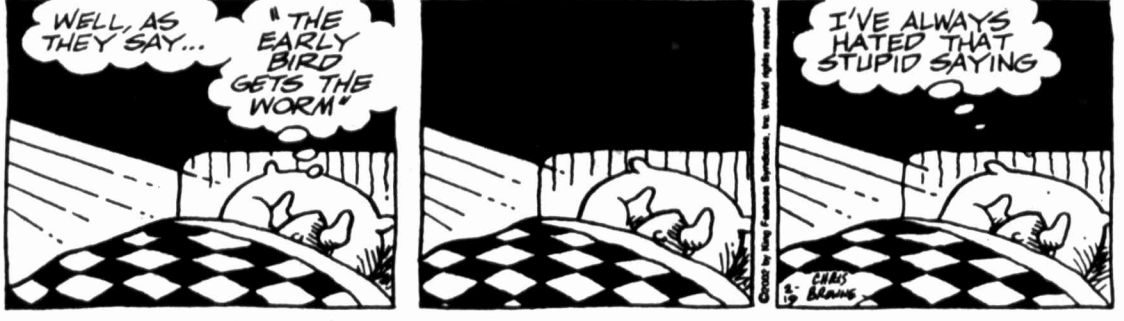
'YEP! THERE'S A SNOWMAN, JOEY, JUST WAITING FOR US TO PUT HIM TOGETHER.'

FAMILY CIRCUS



'Why did your mommy name you Mrs. Clarke?'

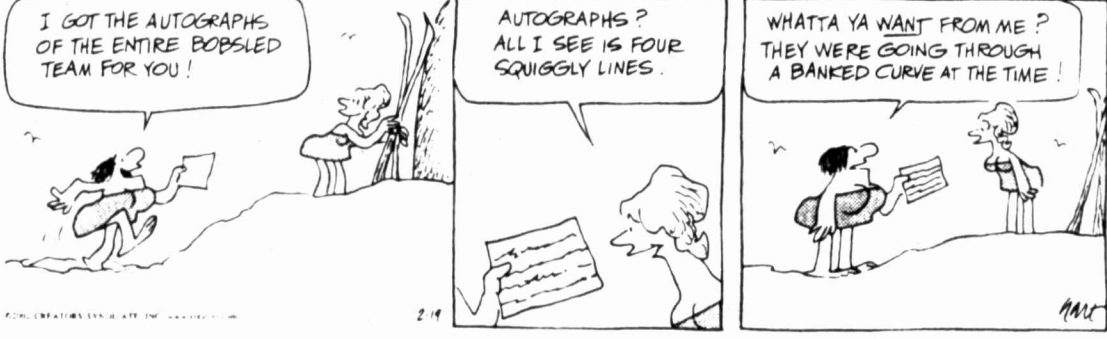
HAGAR



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 Tuesday, Feb. 19, the 50th day of 2002. There are 315 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On Feb. 19, 1942, President Franklin Roosevelt signed an executive order giving the military the authority to relocate and intern Japanese-Americans as well as Japanese nationals living in the United States. On this date: In 1473, the astronomer Copernicus was born in Torun, Poland. In 1803, Congress voted to accept Ohio's borders and constitution. (However, Congress did not get around to formally ratifying Ohio statehood until 1953.) In 1807, former Vice President Aaron Burr was arrested in Alabama. (He was subsequently tried for treason and acquitted.) In 1846, the Texas state

government was formally installed in Austin. In 1878, Thomas Edison received a patent for his phonograph. In 1881, Kansas became the first state to prohibit all alcoholic beverages. In 1942, about 150 Japanese warplanes attacked the Australian city of Darwin. In 1945, during World War II, some 30,000 U.S. Marines landed on Iwo Jima, where they began a month-long battle to seize control of the island from Japanese forces. In 1959, an agreement was signed by Britain, Turkey and Greece granting Cyprus its independence. In 1986, the U.S. Senate approved a treaty outlawing genocide, 37 years after the pact had first been submitted for ratification. Ten years ago: The Labor Department reported consumer prices rose by just 0.1 percent in January. Former Irish Republican Army member Joseph Doherty was deported to Northern Ireland following a 10-year battle for political asylum. Today's Birthdays: Movie director John Frankenheimer is 72. Singer Smokey Robinson is 62. Singer Bobby Rogers (Smokey Robinson & the Miracles) is 62. Actress Carlin Glynn is 62. Singer Lou Christie is 59. Actor Michael Nader is 57. Rock musician Tony Iommi (Black Sabbath) is 54. Actor Jeff Daniels is 47. Talk show host Lorianne Crook is 45. Britain's Prince Andrew is 42. Tennis Hall-of-Famer Hana Mandlikova is 40. Singer Seal is 39. Actress Justine Bateman is 36.

Answer to previous puzzle: A 10x10 grid with letters and numbers.

Newsday Crossword AT THE BUTCHER by Shirley Soloway Edited by Stanley Newman

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down words.