

TUESDAY

March 12, 2002

WEATHER

Tonight:



TONIGHT 45°-46° TOMORROW 80°-85°

Patients sought for dental clinic

Howard College dental hygiene students are seeking patients in need of teeth cleaning or X-rays for the dental hygiene clinic.

The cost for teeth cleaning is \$6 for children and \$10 for adults. A full set of X-rays costs \$15. Second year dental hygiene students perform all services.

The dental hygiene clinic is open Monday through Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. To schedule an appointment, call 264-5075.

WHAT'S UP...

TODAY

□ 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.

□ Line dancing, 1 p.m., Senior Citizens Center. Call 398-5522 or 267-1628.

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

THURSDAY

□ Gideons International, Big Spring Camp U42060 meets at Herman's Restaurant at 7 a.m.

□ Senior Citizens Center art classes, 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. for people 55 and over.

□ Coffee Club, 10 a.m. at Gale's Sweet Shoppe.

□ Kiwanis Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room.

□ Friends of the Library meets at noon at the Howard County Library.

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

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

Trash talkin'? City leaders seek help for clean-up effort

By BILL MCCLELLAN

News Editor

It's time to start thinking about trash. Serious trash.

The annual "Don't Mess With Texas" Trash-Off is scheduled for Saturday, April 6, and local organizers are beginning to line groups up to



SIMMONS

help. "This year, more than ever, the Trash-Off is about community pride," said Pat Simmons, event coordinator. "With us working together striving to be a community of hope and pride both spiritually and physically, this can be accomplished."

Simmons is looking for groups and individuals who are willing to "adopt a spot" in and around Big Spring to clean up during the 17th

annual statewide event. In the past, these have included church and civic groups, businesses and neighborhood residents who have agreed to take an area and pick up all the debris on that day.

Trash bags will be made available for participants and Dumpsters will be placed in strategic locations.

"Research shows us that today's trash is being tossed by males and females under

age 24. Also, that cigarette butts and tobacco trash made 19 percent of little, fast food trash equals about 20 percent and personal and household paper accounts for another 19 percent. I found this to be very interesting," said Simmons.

Some groups participate year round by being part of the Texas Department of Transportation's Adopt-a-Highway program.

"We need more local participation for this program,

whether it be adopt a highway or adopt a spot," said Simmons. "Our neighborhoods and community reflect our sense of hope and pride where we live. We don't want it to be trashed with litter."

Those who participate in the event, hosted by TxDOT and Keep Texas Beautiful, will be treated to a free meal at Scenic Mountain Medical Center that day.

See TRASH, Page 2

Voters' choice could make history

First Hispanic major-party gubernatorial nominee sought

HERALD Staff Report

Howard Countians join voters across Texas today in going to the polls to elect Democratic and Republican nominees for November's general election.

Polls opened at 7 this morning and will remain open until 7 tonight at various locations throughout Howard County.

Regardless of the outcome of today's election, it is likely to be a historic event. That's because Democrats are poised to elect the first-ever Hispanic major-party nominee for governor.

The key candidates are Tony Sanchez, a multimillionaire banker, and former state Attorney General Dan Morales, and they have clashed heatedly over affirmative action and their Mexican-American heritage. Two other gubernatorial candidates, Bill Lyon and John WorldPeace, also are in the Democratic race.



Election clerk Melba Camp, left, and precinct election judge Delna Harvell prepare some paperwork this morning at 11th and Birdwell Fire Station as voters struggle in to cast their ballots in the Democratic primary. Voting in the Republican and Democratic primaries continues until 7 this evening.

Recent polls conducted by newspapers among likely voters have shown Sanchez with the lead and Morales

in second with large percentages of voters undecided.

While Sanchez and Dan

Morales top a field of four candidates for the

See VOTE, Page 2

HOWARD COUNTY VOTING LOCATIONS

Citizens should check their orange voter registration card for the precinct number, then match it up with the list below to see where they need to go to vote today. Polls close at 7 p.m.

- Democratic Party**
- Precinct Nos. 101-103, 106-115, North Side Fire Station, 100 NE Eighth.
 - Precinct Nos. 104-105, Knott Fire Station, 7310 W. FM 846.
 - Precinct Nos. 202-205, Washington Place School, 1201 S. Birdwell Lane.
 - Precinct Nos. 207, 405, 407-409, Coahoma Community Center, 300 N. Ave., Coahoma.
 - Precinct Nos. 302-303, 305, Goliad Middle School, 2000 Goliad.
 - Precinct Nos. 208, 304, Elbow School, CR 818 and Nichols Road.

Precinct Nos. 401-404, 406, 410, 11th and Birdwell Fire Station, corner of 11th Place and Birdwell Lane.

- Republican Party**
- Precinct Nos. 101-115, 202-205, Washington Place School, 1201 S. Birdwell Lane.
 - Precinct Nos. 207-409, Coahoma Community Center, 300 N. Ave., Coahoma.
 - Precinct Nos. 208, Forsan School, Forsan.
 - Precinct Nos. 302-305, Marcy Elementary, 2101 Wasson Road.
 - Precinct Nos. 401-408, 410, Dorothy Garrett Coliseum, corner of Kentucky Way and Birdwell Lane.

Ball field fees, tennis pro shop among items on city agenda tonight

By ROGER CLINE

Staff Writer

The Big Spring City Council meets tonight at 5:30 in the Council Chambers, 307 E. Fourth Street.

The meeting's agenda includes continued discussion of amended fees for use of the city's baseball and softball facilities, a proposal for a new tennis pro shop near the tennis courts in Comanche Trail Park and further consideration of sewer service for the 2500 block of Seminole Road, which currently uses residential septic systems.

The new baseball and softball fee schedules raised some heated discussion at the council's last meeting. While some ball players spoke out in support of the new fees, which will be used to improve and maintain facilities, others voiced fears that the proposed \$25

per player annual fee will drive players away from the Big Spring area.

The proposed changes, which were approved on first reading last meeting, include a \$150 annual fee per team for use of the city's ballfield recreation areas in addition to the \$25 per player annual fee for use of the Roy Anderson Baseball and Softball Complex.

Mayor Russ McEwen said at the last meeting that the fees would probably be used to hire a part-time professional maintenance person for the ballparks.

The Seminole sewer issue has been on the agenda twice before and was tabled each time for more study.

The council seemed split on the issue, with Councilman Chuck Cawthon in favor and Mayor Russ McEwen opposed to spending more

See CITY, Page 2

County OKs pact, radar equipment for local DPS

By ROGER CLINE

Staff Writer

The Howard County Commissioners Court Monday approved measures which will help out the local highway patrol.

The court approved a contract to lease hangar space at the McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark for the Texas



CROOKER

Department of Public Safety to conduct truck safety inspections, said Commissioner Bill Crooker.

"Back several years ago we had made arrangements to lease this particular building for the Texas Department of Public Safety to use for their Truck Roundup," Crooker said. "They send in troopers from the general West Texas area, and they work for about three days, maybe four, bringing trucks in off the Interstate and U.S. 87 for safety inspections."

Crooker said the hangar is ideal for the purpose.

"They can raise the doors on both ends and they can drive those big trucks in and inspect them and drive them on out the other side," he said. "If the truck is detained or if it has to have repairs made immediately before it can go back out on the interstate, there's room there for them to park. It's absolutely ideal."

The truck roundups are good for Howard County in several ways, Crooker said.

"One, of course, it's for the improvement of truck safety, traffic safety, in the

See COUNTY, Page 2



Elaine and 2-year-old Olivia Sepeda share part of their breakfast with the ducks and geese at Comanche Trail Park Lake this morning. Not many area youths who are out of school for spring break took advantage of the breezy, warm weather to spend some time at the park.

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OBITUARIES

Roy Wendal Parks

Roy Wendal Parks was born Feb. 26, 1920, in Big Spring. He died peacefully on March 10, 2002.



Mr. Parks is survived by his loving wife of 56 years, Doraine Parks of Kingsland; daughters, Laura McEwen and husband, Russ of Big Spring, Lana Parks of Arlington; his grandchildren, Torbin McEwen of Austin, Kisa Stevens and husband, Josh of Lamesa, Drew McEwen and wife, Melisa Ware-McEwen of Austin; and one great-grandson, River Stevens of Lamesa. He is also survived by a sister-in-law, Oberia Parks; nephew's, Roger White and Jim Parks; and a niece, Shirley Mims.

Wendal was born and raised in Big Spring. He attended Texas Tech University. In February 1942 he joined the Air Force. While stationed in Boise, Idaho he met the love of his life and best friend, Doraine, they married Sept. 12, 1945. After the service they returned to Big Spring where Wendal began a successful career in the insurance business. He joined Tate, Bristow and Parks which later became Parks Agency Inc. and still continues today as the oldest agency in Big Spring. Wendal retired from the insurance business in 1983. In 1985 Wendal and Doraine moved to Kingsland where they loved square dancing.

Wendal loved his church and community. He was a long time member of First Christian Church in Big Spring where he served as an Elder. Wendal also was an active member of Kingsland Community Church in Kingsland. His community service includes past president of Big Spring Independent School District, past president of the Kiwanis Club and Howard County Tuberculosis Association. The family will receive friends from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. today at Waldrop-Hatfield-Hawthorne Funeral Home in Kingsland.

Service for Mr. Parks will be 10 a.m. Wednesday, March 13, at Waldrop-Hatfield-Hawthorne Funeral Chapel in Kingsland with the Rev. Tommy Beck officiating. Graveside service

will follow at 4:30 p.m. at Trinity Memorial Park. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to Kingsland Community Church, P.O. Box 627, Kingsland 78639 or to the charity of your choice.

"There are times when the best part of love is letting go."

Arrangements are under the direction of Waldrop-Hatfield-Hawthorne Funeral Homes Inc., in Kingsland.

Paid obituary

Ida Mae King

Funeral service for Ida Mae (Mickey) King, 71, of Big Spring will be 1 p.m. Wednesday, March 13, 2002, at Myers & Smith Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Arnold Tonn, pastor of Spring Tabernacle, officiating. Burial will be at Trinity Memorial Park.

Mrs. King died Monday, March 11, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center following a long illness. She was born Feb. 25, 1931, in Bowser. She had been a resident of Big Spring since 1992 when she moved here from Abilene. She was a certified nurses aid.

Survivors include three daughters, Candace Hatfield and Sonya Scott, both of Big Spring, and Camella Crisp of Abilene; one brother, Clarence King of Comanche; one sister, Doris Parrish of Lubbock; six grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

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

Marita Wade

Marita Wade, 98, of Big Spring died at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, March 9, 2002, at Mountain View Lodge following a long illness. Graveside service will be 10:30 a.m. (MDT) Friday, March 15, 2002, at Restlawn Mausoleum Chapel, El Paso with the Rev. Doug Shelley, pastor of East Side Baptist Church in Big Spring, officiating. Burial will be at Restlawn Memorial Park in El Paso.

She was born May 27, 1904, in Roscoe. She was the daughter of Amejia and McCormick Allgood and Ernest Allgood. She married Ernest Wade in 1927 in Roscoe. She was preceded in death by her husband in 1965. She lived in the Pecos-Barstow area until 1950 when she moved to El Paso. In 1991 she moved from El Paso to Big Spring. She was a Baptist.

Survivors include one daughter, Shirley Franklin of Big Spring; one son, Tommy Wade of El Paso; one sister, Arlie Wright of Henrietta; two brothers, Bill Allgood and Bob Allgood, both of Barstow; 13 grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren; and seven great-great-grandchildren.

In addition to her parents and husband she was preceded in death by one son, Johnny and two grandchildren, Scott and Kim.

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

Paid obituary

F. Preston Adams

Funeral service for F. Preston Adams, 74, of Big Spring is pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home. Mr. Adams died Monday, March 11, 2002, at a Lubbock hospital.

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TRASH

Continued from Page 1

Groups and individuals who would like to participate are encouraged to contact Simmons at 263-4607 or Todd Darden, city public works director, at 264-2500 on or before March 27.

COUNTY

Continued from Page 1

West Texas area," he said. "Number two, and this is a reality, it brings some additional income into Howard County for the fines that are imposed. Number three, it also brings in in the neighborhood of 20 or 30 troopers from outside this general area, so it brings in a little for motels and restaurants. So it has a beneficial effect in that way. But primarily it's the truck safety factor."

Crooker said the court also approved the lease of four new radar units for the local highway patrol.

"Traditionally, we have purchased radar units for the highway patrolmen working in Howard County," he said. "These are replacement units. The units they have now, some of them are as much as 10 years old, and they're getting difficult to repair."

Crooker said the county has not purchased new units for several years.

"We're going to rent the units this time," he said. "The rate is something like \$120 a month per unit on the three-year contract. We're doing this because they will replace them after a certain time of usage, and we don't have the worry of maintenance and upkeep."

The units will be rented from Stalker Inc. in Plano, Crooker said.

CITY

Continued from Page 1

than \$50,000 to correct the problem, possibly opening the door to requests from other citizens in similar straits.

An unused sewer line put in place by Big Spring developer Bobby McDonald would make up about 100 feet of the project, said Director of Public Works Todd Darden, but the savings from the existing line won't drop the project's cost below \$50,000.

In other business, the council will:

• Hear a presentation on a proposed tennis pro shop for Comanche Trail Park.

• Hear the final reading of an ordinance allowing the Society for Creative Anachronism of Big Spring to hold a camping event in Comanche Trail Park near the Dora Roberts Community Center March 22-24.

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A BIG SPRING AROUND THE TOWN

VOTE

Continued from Page 1

Democratic primary, Gov. Rick Perry is running unopposed in the Republican primary. He's seeking his first full four-year term after being elevated from lieutenant governor following George W. Bush's election to the presidency.

The Democratic race for the U.S. Senate nomination, meanwhile, is so close that it's expected to take a runoff to decide among former Dallas Mayor Ron Kirk, U.S. Rep. Ken Bentsen of Houston, and teacher Victor Morales.

Kirk is trying to clear the initial hurdle to become the first black U.S. senator from Texas. Victor Morales is looking to become the state's first Hispanic U.S. senator. Bentsen is the nephew of former U.S. Sen. Lloyd Bentsen.

The Democrats hope to get the nod to try and replace retiring GOP Sen. Phil Gramm. Attorney General John Cornyn has only token opposition for the GOP nomination for U.S. Senate. Republican Kay Bailey Hutchison is Texas' other senator.

The lack of a county-wide race is cited for a low early-vote turnout in Howard County. Only 1,095 total ballots were cast during the early period, which ended Friday. There are only three locally-contested races, none of which involve all of the county's 18,682 registered voters.

In the race for Precinct 2 county commissioner, Republican incumbent Jerry Kilgore is facing challenger Perry W. Gamble. The winner will face Democrat Jerry Crawford in November. Republicans Roy Don Beauchamp and Walter Brumley Jr. have squared off in the Precinct 4 commissioner race; the victor will face Democratic incumbent Gary Simer in November. And for Precinct 1, Place 2, justice of the peace, David Mohn and Kathryn Wiseman are running on the Republican ballot. There is no Democrat seeking that office.

The Associated Press contributed to this article.

BRIEFS

AMERICAN LEGION POST 506, 3203 W. Hwy 80, will have a fish fry Saturday from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Delivery will be available from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Each plate is \$7 and carry out is also available. Call 263-2084. Everyone is welcome.

TEXAS LOTTERY

PICK 3: 6,7,3
CASH 5: 6,15,19,21,26

THE BIG SPRING ART Association will have a miniature auction at their next regular meeting on March 19.

The auction will be held at 7 p.m. at the Howard County Library in the basement. The public is encouraged to attend. For more information call Bonita Lyght at 267-9773.

HOWARD COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY

is offering adoptions of all adult dogs 1-year-old or older at a special discount of \$9, which includes shots and vaccinations. These dogs are neutered. The normal fee is \$18. This special will run through Easter, March 31. For information, contact the humane society at 267-7832.

MARKETS

Noon quotes provided by Edward Jones & Co.

AT&T	15.76 -31
Archer Daniels	14.11 -26
Atmos Energy	22.95 -5
BP PLC ADR	51.66 -34
Chevron/Texaco	89.69 +59
Citigroup	48.55 -35
Compaq	10.88 -39
Cornell	9.96 -02
Dell	27.55 -1.16
Du Pont	46.84 -39
Exxon Mobil	43.68 +19
Halliburton	16.83 -2
IFCO Systems	.65 -03
IBM	108.09 +2.85
Intel Corp	32.7 -72
NUV	9.42 nc
Patterson Ener	26.52 +11
Pepsico Inc	49.52 +02
Phillips Petro	61.61 +15
SBC Comms	38.55 -05
Sears Roebuck	62.44 -17
TXU Corp	51.85 -18
Texas Instrument	32.97 -1.14
Total Fina	75.77 -08
Unocal Corp	37.93 +01
Wal-Mart	62.23 -3
Wal-Mart/Mexico	31.32 -32.09
AMCAP	16.25 -01
Europacific	27.41 +08
Prime Rate	4.75 %
Gold	292.25 -294.7
Silver	4.49 -4.55

POLICE

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

• BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE was reported in

the 2000 block of Johnson Street. Someone reportedly broke a side window of a white 1993 Nissan Maxima, causing \$250 damage.

• BURGLARY OF A BUILDING and two cases of UNAUTHORIZED USE OF A VEHICLE were reported in the 400 block of West Fourth Street. Someone reportedly broke a window of the building causing \$350 damage and also destroyed a drill pipe worth \$500 and a fax machine worth \$350. Two automobiles, a black 2000 Lincoln LS worth \$21,500 and a silver 1997 Honda Paseo worth \$11,500, were reported stolen but later recovered.

• THEFT was reported at the 7-Eleven convenience store in the 1200 block of East 11th Place. Alcoholic beverages worth \$55.96 was reported stolen.

• MINOR ACCIDENT was reported in the 1900 block of South Nolan.

• MAJOR ACCIDENT was reported in the 1500 block of East FM 700.

• VEHICLE RECOVERED - On Wednesday, a white 1999 Pontiac Firebird was reported stolen from the Bob Brock used car lot in the 600 block of West Fourth Street. The vehicle was spotted in the Dallas area over the weekend. Monday, the police department in Montgomery, Ala., called the Big Spring Police Department to say that the car was in their custody. The Montgomery Police also caught a suspect in the car theft after a protracted foot chase Monday.

• SCAM ALERT - The Big Spring Police have issued a warning to people in Big Spring and Howard County about a scam involving two white male subjects driving a small black sport utility vehicle. These men have reportedly approached local residents and businesses telling tragic stories and asking for money to visit an injured relative or attend a funeral. According to the police, the stories told by the men have been checked and found to be false. Anyone approached with similar requests for money should contact the Big Spring Police Department at 264-2550.

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Tony Hernandez...Ext. 256
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Ida Mae (Mickey) King, 71, died Monday. Services are 1:00 PM Wednesday at Myers & Smith Chapel, burial will be in Trinity Memorial Park.
Marita Wade, 98, died Saturday. Graveside services are 10:30 AM Friday at Restlawn Memorial Park in El Paso.

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Ridge

WASHINGTON Domestic security Tom Ridge said Tuesday is at a "significant level of danger" — step in a five-stage terror alerts that the vague warning for the last six months.

The color-coded comes partly as a result of a public complaint filed by four broad terrorism issues by the govt since the Sept. 11 attacks raised alert out providing assistance. The new system provides guidance to the private and public agencies of response.

The lowest-status is green, followed by yellow, orange and the perceived danger.

O'Neill buying

WASHINGTON Treasury Secretary O'Neill is expected to face a looming dispute over the ceiling by many some funds the govt manages for retirees, congressionals said.

The move is legal used by Robert President Treasury secretary, an unprecedented default during a 15 fight with Congress, so, there could be a price with many lawmakers focused on Enron's demise of its retirement funds.

Anti-smoking

SACRAMENTO, a new study that between Hollywood actors, health advocates, the film industry and tobacco companies as a factor in ratings.

The study, published in a health journal, found that cigarette companies sued product placement in the 1980s and "under campaign to hook consumers by providing actors."

"What it confirms is that when stars light up, it has a powerful impact on the study," said Mckemson, a health consultant and tobacco content.

Andrea Yates Closing

HOUSTON (AP) — Three weeks of testimony from police, medical and family members were set to conclude final arguments in a Houston woman's insanity when she killed her five children in a bathtub in June.

Jurors in Andover, Mass., got the case by today. Before the defense jury saw a transcript in which Yates' psychiatrist that her children "were a choice" and dissonance five months "I shouldn't have"

BO Republican for
Bob C
For- Local
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and Te
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Ridge says nation alert at 'significant' level

WASHINGTON (AP) — Domestic security chief Tom Ridge said Tuesday the nation is at a "significant" level of danger — the third step in a five-stage system of terror alerts that replaces the vague warnings issued for the last six months.

The color-coded system comes partly as a response to public complaints that four broad terror alerts issued by the government since the September terror attacks raised alarm without providing useful guidance. The new system will provide guidance to citizens, the private sector and public agencies on how to respond.

The lowest-status warning is green, followed by blue, yellow, orange and red as the perceived dangers intensify.

"I think you'll see us maintaining at the national level, at the 'significant' level — the yellow level — for the foreseeable future," Ridge said on CBS' "The Early Show." At the same time, some areas could be at a higher stage of alert.

Each color will mean that conditions for that level warning, including credibility of the sources and specificity of the warning, have been met, officials familiar with the plan said. Federal, state and local officials will have authority to issue alerts. In the highest alert situations, the government will try to inform law enforcers first, the public immediately afterward.

Each alert type will be accompanied by guidelines

on how government agencies, private companies and the public should respond. For example, if a federal monument appeared threatened, authorities would reinforce security at the site. If a state monument were threatened, the state government would consult federal recommendations on how to react.

The public would in some instances be given guidance as well. An example would be to urge fans to arrive at a sports event early if security had been heightened.

The alert system will be in force immediately for federal agencies, and Ridge is urging state and local governments to adopt it, too. It will be subject to a 45-day comment period, after which it probably will be

revised. Ridge said Monday the multistage alert system will provide "a common vocabulary" of danger to help communities respond to threats.

Ridge, speaking to the National League of Cities, sought to bring local officials on board with the proposal, designed to provide more specific guidance when the government determines there is a new threat of terrorism.

"I think this model has built-in flexibility that states were looking forward to," said George Vinson, the special adviser on state terrorism to California Gov. Gray Davis. California was one of a handful of states that contributed to Ridge's effort to assemble a new alert system.

O'Neill expected to shift federal retirement funds, buying time prior to key showdown over debt limit

WASHINGTON (AP) — Treasury Secretary Paul O'Neill is expected to buy time in a looming political dispute over the federal debt ceiling by maneuvering some funds the government manages for federal retirees, congressional officials say.

The move is legal and was used by Robert Rubin, President Clinton's Treasury secretary, to avoid an unprecedented federal default during a 1995 budget fight with Congress. Even so, there could be a political price with many lawmakers focused on Enron Corp. and the demise of its employees' retirement funds.

President Bush and O'Neill have repeatedly

asked Congress to boost the current \$5.95 trillion debt limit by \$750 billion by late March or risk a default. But with Democrats and many Republican conservatives opposed, GOP leaders don't have the votes yet to push the measure through the House.

Delaying the debt limit vote could give Republican leaders time to win votes for it by attaching it to popular legislation paying for the war in Afghanistan. Congress is not expected to be ready to pass the bill financing the war until at least April or May.

Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle, D-S.D., has said he wants the debt limit bill passed unattached to

other legislation.

Many Republicans criticized Rubin when he shifted the retirement funds during a budget showdown with the GOP Congress nearly seven years ago. Democrats then defended the moves as necessary to avoid a default.

Treasury spokeswoman Michele Davis would not provide specifics when asked about plans to manage the government's borrowing needs. The plans were described on Monday by several congressional sources who spoke on condition of anonymity.

"We are working with Congress to pass an increase in the debt ceiling and we will do whatever it takes to avoid a default

should we not get" a higher borrowing limit from Congress, Davis said.

If Congress fails to raise the debt ceiling, O'Neill can legally shift money in retirement funds the Treasury Department invests for federal retirees into non-interest bearing accounts.

By shifting that money, it is no longer considered to count against the federal borrowing limit. That frees up room for Treasury to borrow more money to keep the government running and paying its bills.

Eventually, the money — along with all lost interest — would be put back into interest-bearing instruments.

Lawyer for alleged victims of pedophile priest says church has agreed to settle

BOSTON (AP) — The Archdiocese of Boston has reached a financial settlement with dozens of people who claimed they were sexually molested by now-defrocked priest John J. Geoghan, according to the plaintiffs' lawyer.

"We've resolved all issues," attorney Mitchell Garabedian said Tuesday morning.

Garabedian, who represents 70 alleged victims and 16 family members of alleged victims, would not say how much the settlement totaled, but it has been reported to be between \$15 million and \$30 million. Garabedian said the details of the settlement would be to announced later in the day.

The two sides wrapped up 11 months of negotiations late Monday night after an intense five-hour session involving Garabedian, mediator Paul Finn and Wilson Rogers Jr., the attorney for the archdiocese and Cardinal Bernard F. Law, Garabedian said.

Geoghan was accused by 130 people of molesting them during his decades as a priest. He is serving a 9- to 10-year prison sentence for groping a 10-year-old boy and faces another criminal trial. Two child

rape charges against him were dropped last week after a judge ruled the statute of limitations had expired.

The lead attorney for the archdiocese and a spokeswoman for the archdiocese did not immediately return phone calls for comment.

Garabedian said he was expecting the final document Tuesday morning. All 86 clients have agreed to the settlement, he said.

"I'm feeling like some weight has come off my shoulders," said Ralph DelVecchio, 45, who accused Geoghan of molesting him when he was 10. "This has been a long, drawn-out thing for everybody, (including) my family. Whatever amount they settled, I'm kind of relieved it's finally over."

The archdiocese months ago agreed not to require the 86 plaintiffs to sign confidentiality agreements, Garabedian said. In recent negotiations, the church also agreed to drop a request that Garabedian not handle any future abuse cases against the archdiocese.

Under the settlement, each plaintiff would get an average of \$232,000 to \$348,000, with an arbitrator deciding the amount in each case.

Anti-smoking groups want movie ratings to factor in tobacco

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — Citing a new study that examines the ties between Hollywood and cigarette makers, health advocates are calling for the film industry to incorporate tobacco as a factor in determining movie ratings.

The study, published Tuesday in the health journal Tobacco Control, said cigarette companies aggressively pursued product placement in films in the 1980s and "undertook an extensive campaign to hook Hollywood on tobacco by providing free cigarettes to actors."

"What it confirms is what we have suspected for quite some time that when stars light up in films... that can have a powerful influence on people," said study co-author Curtis Mekemson, a health and environmental consultant who specializes in tobacco content in movies.

The study reviewed more than 1,500 previously secret, internal tobacco industry documents made public through the 1998 tobacco settlement.

Under the agreement, the four largest manufacturers — Philip Morris, R.J. Reynolds, Brown & Williamson and Lorillard — pledged to make payments for 25 years to reimburse public costs of treating sick smokers.

Before that, under public and government pressure, the film industry adopted a voluntary ban on direct tobacco placement payments in 1989.

Still, tobacco use was featured in nearly 85 percent of the top 25 highest-grossing movies released each year from 1988 through 1997, according to a study released in 2001 by Dartmouth Medical School.

The current film ratings system is administered by the Motion Picture

Association of America. The system is designed to offer warning for parents about the content of films, according to the MPAA's Web site. A Los Angeles-based ratings board takes into account theme, violence, nudity, language, sensuality, drug abuse and other elements when assigning a rating, the Web site states.

"We need to institutionalize change, and the best way to do that is through the ratings system," said Kori Titus, a spokeswoman for the Sacramento-area chapter of the American Lung Association.

The two-year study largely was paid for with a grant to the American Lung Association from the California Department of Health Services. Mekemson co-wrote the study with University of California, San Francisco, professor Stanton Glantz.

Andrea Yates case Closing arguments begin

HOUSTON (AP) — After three weeks of testimony from police, medical experts and family members, attorneys were set to make their final arguments on whether a Houston woman was insane when she drowned her five children in the family's bathtub in June.

Jurors in Andrea Yates' capital murder trial could get the case by midday today.

Before the defense rested, the jury saw a taped interview in which Yates told a psychiatrist that drowning her children "was a bad choice" and didn't make sense five months later. "I shouldn't have done it,"

Yates told Dr. Park Dietz, a forensic psychiatrist hired by the state to evaluate her.

Dr. Lucy Puryear, called as a rebuttal witness, testified that Yates' comments in November were a retrospective look on her actions, which she did not know were wrong until after she called police to her home June 20.

Yates, 37, who has pleaded innocent by reason of insanity, faces life in prison or the death penalty if convicted in the drownings of 7-year-old Noah, 5-year-old John and 6-month-old Mary. Charges later could be filed in the deaths of Paul, 3, and Luke, 2.

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

- Primary Election**
- County Commissioner Precinct 2**
- Perry Gamble.....R
 - Jerry Kilgore.....(I).....R
- County Commissioner Precinct 4**
- Roy Don Beauchamp.....R
 - Walter H. Brumley Jr.....R
 - Gary Simer.....(I).....D
- Justice of the Peace Precinct 1, Place 2**
- Kathryn Wiseman.....R
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Republican for the State Board of Education

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EDITORIAL

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

—FIRST AMENDMENT

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

John A. Moseley
Managing EditorKen Dulaney
PublisherBill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEWS

Take time
to cast your
ballot today

Today is Election Day across our great state and if you haven't already cast your vote, we encourage you to do so. Polls will be open until 7 p.m. throughout Howard County. That's plenty of time to work in a trip to your neighborhood ballot box and make your voice heard.

For folks residing in commissioner Precincts 2 and 4, and peace justice Precinct 1, there are locally-contested races on the Republican ballot. For everyone else, there are still a number of key races that warrant our attention.

For starters, there is the four-way race for governor on the Democratic ballot. Politics aside, the race is historically significant because it will probably produce the first Hispanic major-party nominee for governor — either Dan Morales or Tony Sanchez. Bill Lyon and John Worldpeace are the other two candidates.

Another possible "first" could come on the Democratic ticket for U.S. senator. The candidates are Ed Cunningham, Ken Bentsen, Victor Morales, Ron Kirk and Gene Kelly. If elected today and in the general election in November, Kirk would be the state's first black U.S. senator. Likewise, Victor Morales, if elected, would become Texas' first Hispanic U.S. senator.

On the Republican ticket for U.S. senator are Douglas G. Deffenbaugh, Dudley F. Mooney, John Cornyn, Bruce Rusty Lang and Lawrence Cranberg.

The early vote turnout has not been encouraging. Only a small percentage of the county's 18,000-plus registered voters cast a ballot. We hope that if you have not voted, you will take the time to do so.

Please, go vote!

YOUR VIEWS

TO THE EDITOR:

I do not take our *Big Spring Herald* for granted. Reading the *Herald* is a vital part of my activities. Three things which are linked together in my mind are the subjects of this letter.

The Feb. 28 Mini Page was titled "Learning to settle differences-kids as peacemakers." Presented were ideas for resolving conflict that were dynamic and certainly applicable to adult behavior. Furthermore, conflicts between nations could be resolved using such practical ways.

The second thought I would like to express is that I agree with columnist Charlie Reese on the subject of the futility of war. My father was a World War I veteran. I have personally lived through five major wars in which the United States was involved. We are now hoping to see an end to the current conflict in Afghanistan and its ramifications.

As a young person I was involved in hatred toward the Japanese, Germans and Italians. Maturity has taught me that today's enemies may become tomorrow's friends. Conversely, today's friends may become tomorrow's enemies. Jesus and other spiritual leaders have taught that we are to love our enemies and pray for them. That's a tall order and a worthy goal.

I also want to thank the *Herald* for allowing our Big Spring ministers and churches space in the Friday newspaper to share ideas. Specifically, an article by Dr. Jimmy Watson, pastor of First Christian Church, which appeared in the March 8 edition. I takes courage and honesty to come forward with a presentation making us take an honest look at our traditional views of God.

From one of my beloved denominations I learned to run religious thinking through four gates — scripture, reason, experience and tradition. Traditionally, the forward thrust of true Christianity has been led by men and women more dedicated to being honest to God than being accepted by the religious establishment.

Since Christianity's founder walked the earth teaching, healing and loving, the concept of who God is has had to expand. I thank Jesus for sharing the Loving Father concept which certainly has replaced the violent, punitive, tyrant concept of God for me.

It was good of Dr. Watson to offer dialogue about the ideas he presented and other issues of interest. I, for one, plan to take him up on his offer.

NANCY PATRICK
BIG SPRING

President Bush moves left for votes

How does President Bush, as a free-trader, defend his decision to impose tariffs on steel imports, an act of protectionism that President Clinton, a Democrat, managed to resist for eight years? And how does he rationalize his open encouragement of a pro-choice candidate for governor in the California Republican primary while he continues to nominate pro-life judges for the federal courts?

The answer is that Bush rarely does anything without calibrating the political consequences for his reelection in 2004. You would think with poll ratings hovering in the mid-70s that Bush wouldn't be so worried about his political standing. But he is haunted by his father's loss after one term, and he doesn't want to join him as a leader who lost the confidence of the nation.

JACK
ANDERSON

Bush's steel decision should secure West Virginia, a blue-collar state that traditionally voted Democratic until it defected to Bush in 2000, arguably winning the election for him. Another industrial stronghold Bush would like in his electoral column is Pennsylvania, where preserving America's steel industry is an article of faith, and Republicans and Democrats alike cheered Bush's decision. But even Bush supporters are hard-pressed to describe Bush's turnabout on tariffs as anything other than political exploitation.

The Wall Street Journal stated it as fact: "President Bush, putting domestic political concerns ahead of free-trade economics, extended life support for the beleaguered U.S. steel industry for a few more years."

Bush says he is upholding free-trade principles and providing only temporary assistance until the steel industry, beset by cheap foreign imports and overwhelmed by health and pension obligations, can regain competitive standing.

California's Republican

Party also needed rehabilitation. The GOP hasn't been able to muster a majority in the state for a president, senator or governor since 1994. If the party could come up with a candidate more suited to the state's progressive profile, the most vote-rich state in the union might be more amenable to a Bush candidacy in 2004, or so the theory went.

But having Bush promote the candidacy of former Los Angeles Mayor Richard Riordan for governor looked like political opportunism. Riordan actually gave money to Bill Clinton and to San Francisco Mayor Willy Brown, which disqualifies him in the eyes of most conservatives. He was trounced in last week's GOP primary by financier Bill Simon Jr., a political novice who passes all the right-wing litmus tests.

Moderates cheered Bush's willingness to back Riordan, but there were too few of them to make a difference. The ill-fated endorsement doesn't signal a move to the center on Bush's part, while Simon's win reinforces what conservative Republicans care about.

Bush doesn't want to go into 2004 having to write off California, the biggest electoral prize in the country. His support of Riordan said that any Republican is better than no Republican. The problem for Bush is that the right wing is not as pragmatic as he'd like. They'd rather stick to their principles than adopt his definition of how to achieve what they want.

Most analysts predict Simon will be defeated in November by Democratic Gov. Gray Davis, perhaps the least colorful and most canny politician in the country.

His \$10-million ad campaign targeting Riordan as wishy-washy on abortion rights cost Riordan suburban soccer moms and reminded social conservatives he wasn't one of them, either.

The White House promises to put its full resources behind Simon. If he falls short at the ballot box, moderates will say, "I told you so." But Bush will have learned a different lesson, that it's often easier to achieve conservative principles through court appointments than elections.

ADDRESSES

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Phone: 202-224-5922

• CHARLES STENHOLM

U.S. Representative

17th District

1211 Longworth Office Bldg.

Washington, 20515.

Phone: 202-225-6605.

• HON. RICK PERRY

Governor

State Capitol

Austin, 78701

Phone: 1-800-252-9600.



Where media is concerned, trivia reigns

Not long ago, the TV folks interrupted their coverage of the war to make a big to-do over the possibility that David Letterman might switch to the ABC network, and ABC might drop the late-night news show "Nightline," hosted by Ted Koppel.

Who cares, besides Letterman and Koppel?

Our war on terrorism seems to be losing its ability to captivate the TV talkers, so they have resumed their fascination with trivia, such as the "Killer Mom" trial in Texas and the "Killer Dogs" trial in California, not to mention Academy Awards, escapades of entertainers, drunken sports figures, the homosexual adoption argument and 40-year-old pet turtles.

Gosh, I hate to sound like an old fogey, but changes in television lineups are not that important. For that matter, neither is television. Neither are murder trials. People are always committing bizarre crimes.

In the meantime, the American people — 98 percent of whom claim they depend on television for their news — are growing necessarily more and more ignorant of a world that is getting to be more and more dangerous and uncertain. One of the cable talk shows went to its "correspondent on the ground" in Afghanistan, and all he did was read a news story by Reuters. Often, the correspondents simply repeat what the Pentagon folks said at the morning briefing, and in one case, they showed video that had been shown in Washington. You don't need to send people 10,000 miles to do that.

Meanwhile, what do we really know about what's going on in Afghanistan? Nothing, except for the Pentagon briefings. One of Fox News' military experts the other night said Apache helicopters had been used to transport a few troops. I'd like to see that. The last and only time I rode in an Apache, it was two-seater attack helicopter. Maybe they tied the passengers to the Hellfire missiles.

Being from the Vietnam War era, I have to marvel at the television people acting like cheerleaders and repeating verbatim the words of the Pentagon. I

don't recall any television reporters who yakked on and on about how dangerous the jungle was and how fierce the Viet Cong were and what a terrible job "our guys" had to do. God knows, better this cheerleading than the critical carping and often dishonest reporting that was done in Vietnam, but hasn't anybody these days ever heard of or read Ernie Pyle, the great World War II correspondent?

In the meantime, of course, Europe, South America and the rest of Asia don't seem to exist. Except for the bloodshed in Palestine and the daily rations of Let's-Go-to-War-With-Iraq propaganda, the rest of the Middle East doesn't seem to exist.

The fact is that since corporate bean counters have bought up the newspapers, television networks and cable companies, they've cut back on news. There are practically no foreign correspondents permanently stationed overseas anymore, and trust me, if you fly in for a few days and then fly out, you won't learn any more than an ordinary tourist.

I wish the government would get off Microsoft's back and bust up the shared monopolies that

have put so much of America's communications into a very few corporate hands. Whether one uses this or that Internet browser doesn't matter, but if the whole country is getting the same corporate, politically correct message from all the news outlets, then we're in trouble as a free society.

We shouldn't allow any corporation to own more than three or four newspapers, and then we should bar it from owning television, radio and cable. We shouldn't allow any corporation to own more than one network, and then we should bar it from owning cable channels and production companies and magazines and book publishers.

One day, historians will look back and see the death of the independent, locally owned newspapers and television stations, the death of independent book publishers and even independent bookstores as the beginning of the end of a free society. Pretty soon, everything we read or hear or see will be controlled by a group of men who can have dinner at a small table.

Charley Reese can be contacted at briar1@earthlink.net

CHARLEY
REESEMallard Fillmore
by
BRUCE TINSLEY

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Bulldog golf
at Merkel In

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8 p.m. — NI

at Louisville, E

10 p.m. — M

State at UNLV

PRO BASKETE

7 p.m. — To

at New Jersey

HOCKEY

6:30 p.m. —

Flayers at Toron

Leafs, ESPN2.

TENNIS

Midnight —

Series, Pacific

early round co

(delayed tape)

IN BRIEF

Bulldog golfers sixth at Merkel Invitational

Coahoma's Bulldogs combined for a 341 total Monday to finish sixth in a field of 11 teams entered in the Merkel Invitational Golf Tournament.

Merkel's host Badgers took the team title, posting a 299 total on their home Merkel Country Club course, finishing 10 strokes ahead of the runners-up, Abilene High's junior varsity.

Stephen Binion led the way for the Bulldogs with a round of 80, while Travis Hipp finished with an 82 and Chase Ward posted an 85.

Cory Hill added a 94 to the team total, while Kelby Kemper posted a 103. Rickey Richters, playing for medalist honors only, finished at 101.

Sporting clay touney scheduled for MDA

The third annual "Break Clay for MDA" sporting clay tournament has been scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, March 22-23, at Windwalker Farms in Stanton.

The deadline for entries is Saturday. For more information, contact the Muscular Dystrophy Association in Midland by calling 570-4970.

Little League umpires needed

Umpires are needed to call Little League baseball games in the Big Spring area this season.

Anyone interested in umpiring is asked to contact David Roman at 263-1631, or at home, 263-4688, after 6 p.m.

Cowboys meet with free agent Glover

IRVING (AP) — Free agent La'Roi Glover has met with the Dallas Cowboys, who are looking for a boost at defensive tackle.

But team officials say signing the 6-2, 285-pound Glover won't be easy since passing-rushing tackles are hard to come by.

Glover, formerly with the New Orleans Saints, was positive after a tour of the Cowboys' Valley Ranch headquarters and a multiple-hour meeting with owner Jerry Jones.

"I'm looking for a place that's going to be the best fit for me," Glover said. "To me, winning is the highest priority. And to win, you've got to have good chemistry."

Glover, who turns 28 in July, earlier visited Cleveland and Arizona. Glover totaled 25 sacks in the past two seasons, including 17 in 2000, one of the highest single-season sack totals by a defensive tackle in league history.

ON THE AIR

Television COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Men
6 p.m. — NCAA Tournament play-in game, Alcorn State vs. Siena, ESPN.
8 p.m. — NIT, Princeton at Louisville, ESPN.
10 p.m. — NIT, Arizona State at UNLV, ESPN2.

PRO BASKETBALL

7 p.m. — Toronto Raptors at New Jersey Nets, TBS.

HOCKEY

6:30 p.m. — Philadelphia Flyers at Toronto Maple Leafs, ESPN2.

TENNIS

Midnight — Masters Series, Pacific Life Open, early round coverage (delayed tape), ESPN2.

Lady Steers thinclads win title at Canyon Reef Relays

HERALD Staff Report

SNYDER — Field events strength and solid relays finishes provided just enough points for Big Spring's Lady Steers to claim the team championship at the Canyon Reef Relays on Saturday.

Big Spring finished the meet with 128 points, giving the Lady Steers a five-point margin over Levelland's Lady Lobos. Abilene Wylie's Lady Bulldogs were a distant third with 53 points, while Canyon was fourth with 42.

The Lady Steers got off to a good

start by winning four of the six field events and taking second place in the other two.

Cierra Butler provided a win in the discus, Ka'Rissa Magers won the triple jump, Brittany Rainey finish first in the high jumps and Cycelye Tuitt claimed a win in the long jump.

Tuitt added sixth place in the high jump behind Rainey, while Amisha Vanderbilt added fifth-place points in the discus and Rachele Guinn was third in the triple jump behind Magers.

In the shot put, Lady Steers

Ashley Smith, Vanderbilt and Krystal Deleon finished second, third and fourth, respectively and Chelsea Churchwell rounded out Big Spring's strong field events showing with a second-place finish in the pole vault.

The Lady Steers' only points in individual running events came from Sara Acevedo, who posted a time of 63.5 seconds in the 400 meters; and Tuitt's fourth-place finish in the 200 meters.

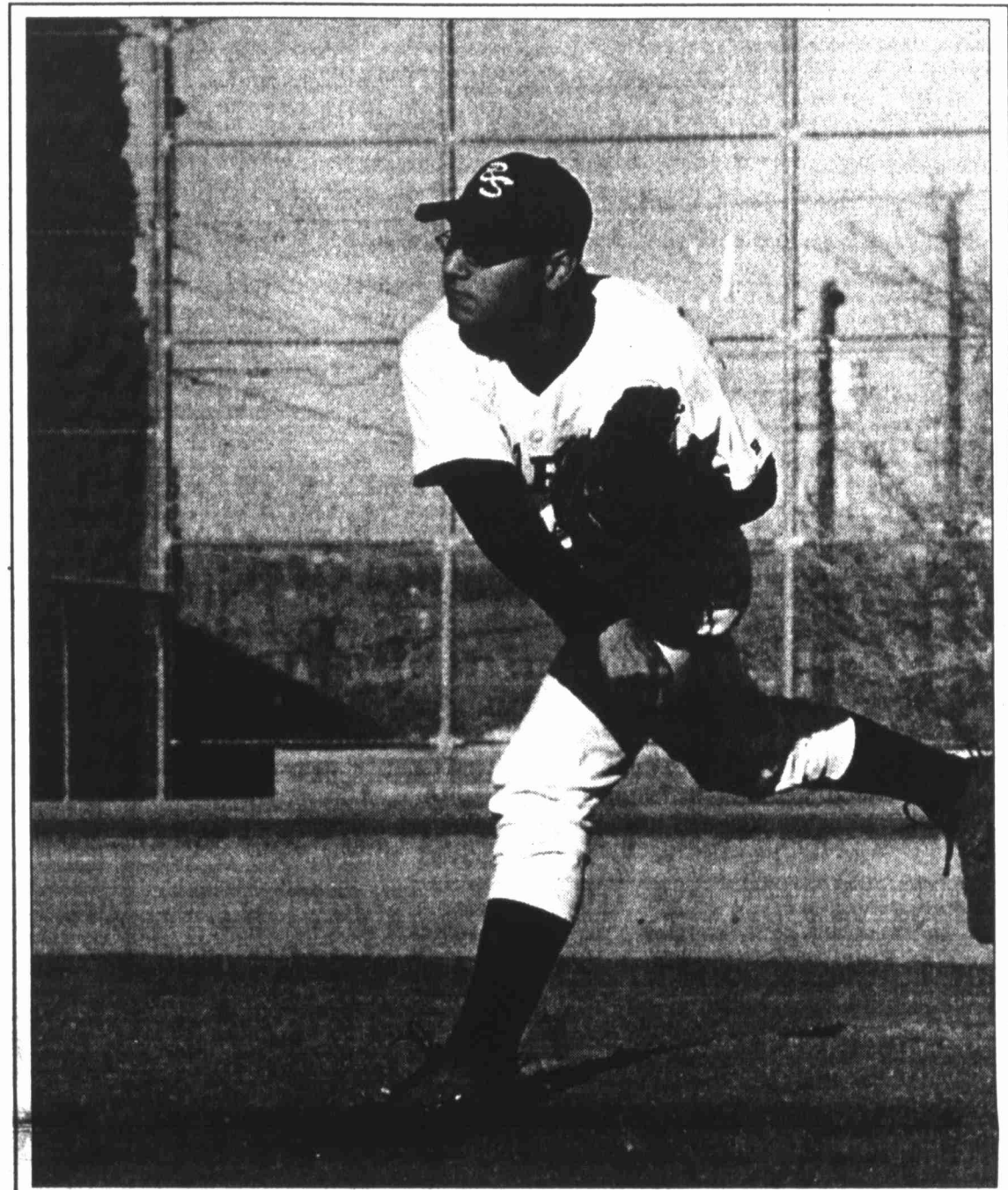
Magers, Guinn, Tuitt and Airianne Brown provided Big Spring's only other first-place finish

when they combined for a time of 1:46.8 in the 800-meter relay.

Tuitt, Brown, Tosha Banks and Magers combined to finish second in the 400-meter relay, crossing the finish line with a 51.1-second clocking.

The Lady Steers' 1,600-meter relay entry consisting of April Salazar, Guinn, Acevedo and Brown finished fourth with a time of 4:18.0.

The Lady Steers now take a week-end off for spring break before returning to action March 22-23 at Abilene Christian University's All-American Classic.



Big Spring pitcher Eric Chavez follows through on a pitch in a relief appearance during the Steers' home opener against Monahans last week. The Steers were scheduled to return to Steer Park today, playing host to Lubbock Estacado's Matadors in the District 4-4A opener for both teams.

UConn completes season-long stay on top of AP women's poll

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

From the pre-season WNIT to the eve of the NCAA tournament, it was Connecticut all the way.

The unbeaten Huskies completed a season-long run at No. 1 in the AP women's basketball poll Monday, the third straight year they have finished on top.

Only Texas has had a longer run of consecutive No. 1 finishes in the poll, which started in the 1976-77 season. The Longhorns topped the final poll four straight years, from 1984 through 1987.

It was the sixth time a team went all season at No. 1 and the second time for the Huskies (33-0). They

first did it in 1999-2000, a season they capped with their second national championship.

"I think it's a consistency we're proud of," Connecticut coach Geno Auriemma said. "I think people around the country are starting to notice, if they haven't already."

"It's not easy to get to that point and stay there, year after year. It makes me feel pretty good about what we're doing."

Connecticut, the No. 1 seed in the NCAA Midwest Regional, received all 44 first-place votes from a national media panel and had 1,100 points.

The Huskies started the season by winning the

WNIT and have been a unanimous No. 1 since beating Tennessee on Jan. 5. Tennessee had received a handful of first-place votes before then.

Oklahoma, fourth last week, jumped past Duke into the No. 2 spot, its highest ranking ever. The Sooners (27-3) are the No. 1 seed in the West Regional after winning the Big 12 regular-season and conference tournament championships. They had 1,031 points in the voting.

Duke held at No. 3 with 1,020 points. Vanderbilt moved up one spot to fourth and Stanford fell from second to fifth after losing to Arizona State in the finals of the Pac-10 tournament.

Duke the final No. 1 a fourth straight year

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

Duke moved back into the No. 1 spot in the AP college basketball poll Monday, a record fourth straight year the Blue Devils were on top of the final rankings of the season.

Duke (29-3), which won the Atlantic Coast Conference tournament Sunday with a 91-61 victory over North Carolina State, had been tied with UCLA for the most consecutive years as the final No. 1. The Bruins' run was 1971-73.

This is the sixth final No. 1 ranking for Duke, leaving it one behind UCLA and Kentucky for the most ever.

The No. 1 ranking is Duke's 14th in 18 polls this season and the Blue Devils were a unanimous choice for nine of those weeks, never dropping below third.

The Blue Devils received 58 first-place votes and 1,759 points from the national media panel, easily out-distance runner-up Kansas (29-3), which had been No. 1 the last three weeks.

The Jayhawks were No. 1 on 10 ballots and had 1,667 points, 37 more than Oklahoma (27-4), which knocked them from the No. 1 spot by beating them 64-55 in the Big 12 championship game on Sunday.

The Sooners, who didn't receive a No. 1 seed for the NCAA tournament, received two first-place votes in moving up one spot to their highest ranking of the season.

Maryland, which received the only other first-place vote, dropped two places to fourth after losing to North Carolina State in the ACC semifinals.

Cincinnati, the only team to reach 30 wins this season and, like Maryland, a first-time No. 1 seed in the NCAA tournament, remained fifth in the poll.

Gonzaga, Arizona, Alabama, Pittsburgh and Connecticut rounded out the Top Ten.

Oregon was 11th, followed by Marquette, Illinois, Ohio State, Florida, Kentucky, Mississippi State, Southern

California, Western Kentucky and Oklahoma State.

The last five ranked teams were Miami, Georgia, Stanford, Xavier and Hawaii.

Mississippi State (26-7), which beat Alabama in the Southeastern Conference championship game, and Hawaii (27-5), which beat Tulsa for the Western Athletic Conference title, were the only newcomers in the final poll, replacing Indiana and California.

Mississippi State was ranked earlier in the season for one week at No. 22, but fell out in the next voting after losing road games to Arkansas and Mississippi.

Hawaii, which is in the rankings for the first time since a three-week stint in the 1997-98 season, has won 12 of its last 14 games.

Indiana (20-11) dropped out from 23rd after losing to Iowa in the semifinals of the Big Ten tournament, while California (22-8) fell from 25th after losing to Arizona in the quarterfinals of the Pac-10 tournament.

Duke and Kansas were the only No. 1 teams in a season in which 46 teams made the Top 25.

Eight teams were ranked in every poll — Duke, Maryland, Kansas, Illinois, Kentucky, Florida, Stanford and Oklahoma State — with Duke, Maryland and Kansas the only ones in the Top Ten the whole season.

Seven schools — UCLA, Missouri, Iowa, Saint Joseph's, Virginia, Boston College and Syracuse — were ranked in the Top Ten at some point this season but weren't in the final poll.

In addition to Hawaii, which came in for the final poll, North Carolina and North Carolina State were the only other one-week wonders, falling out of the Top 25 the week after they entered.

Four conferences each had six teams ranked at some point during the season — ACC, Pac-10, Big 12 and Big East — while the Big 10 and SEC each had five.

A night of technical fouls gets three NBA coaches tossed

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

Flip Saunders, Jerry Sloan and Nate McMillan all had short nights. At least they didn't have to stick around to see their teams lose.

All three were ejected with two technical fouls Monday night. Saunders was tossed in Minnesota's 108-99 home loss to the Los Angeles Clippers. Sloan left early when Utah lost 79-78 at Memphis. McMillan was expelled in Seattle's 119-108 defeat at Dallas.

Saunders was thrown out in the third period after receiving back-to-back technical fouls from referee Jack Nies, but that didn't do much to motivate his team. "He's definitely got a quick trigger," Saunders said of Nies.

Sloan had nothing to say after he was ejected. Utah's Andrei Kirilenko collided with Tony Massenburg mid-

way through the second period and went down hard. No foul was called, and Sloan drew two technicals less than a minute later.

McMillan was feeling victimized, getting his second tech with 42 seconds left.

"We haven't had a fair game since I've been around," said McMillan. "We're not getting a fair game and we don't stand to survive. When I tried to get ejected, I didn't. Then when Gary Payton got held for the fourth or fifth time, I had to say something and that's when it happened."

Elsewhere, it was Sacramento 107, Chicago 103; Boston 104, Washington 99; San Antonio 93, Denver 78; and Atlanta 121, Golden State 96.

Clippers 108, Timberwolves 99

Darius Miles had three soaring dunks among his 20

points as the Clippers crept within 1 1/2 games of Utah for the final Western Conference playoff berth.

Sean Rooks had 11 of his 13 points in the fourth quarter as the Clippers won their third straight on the road and their sixth in seven games.

"We have a young team, and every night I think we learn something new," said guard Jeff McInnis, who had 17 points and 14 assists.

Kevin Garnett, coming off a four-point performance in Phoenix, scored 26 points for Minnesota, whose reserves was outscored 54-15. Joe Smith added 25 for the Timberwolves.

Grizzlies 79, Jazz 78

Pau Gasol led Memphis with 20 points, including a dunk for the last field goal of the game with 1:06 to play.

Gasol added a free throw with 30.1 seconds left to make the score 79-77. Utah's Jarron Collins hit one free throw for the final margin.

Mavericks 119, SuperSonics 108

The Mavericks scored a season-best 71 points in the first half, then Seattle got back into the game, going from 18 down to within five.

Dallas has the most victories in the NBA, but will play 12 of its last 19 on the road after winning eight of its last 10, nine of those games at home.

Steve Nash had 23 points and nine assists, and Dirk Nowitzki had 19 points and 12 rebounds for the Mavericks. Seattle's Desmond Mason tied his career high with 25 points.

Kings 107,

Bulls 103

Peja Stojakovic scored 29

points, including a pair of free throws to seal the game. Chris Webber finished with 26 points and 11 rebounds, and Vlade Divac added 14 points and 14 rebounds. It was the third straight victory for Sacramento, which has the NBA's best record, and its sixth in a row over the Bulls.

Chicago lost despite a gutsy effort from Jalen Rose, who had 35 points and a season-high 13 assists.

Spurs 93, Nuggets 78

Tim Duncan had 21 points and nine rebounds as the Spurs won their seventh straight. San Antonio, 13-3 against the Midwest Division, also had a 10-game winning streak in December.

The Nuggets didn't give themselves a chance in this one.

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PERSONAL

To Whom it May Concern: It has come to my attention that a former employee of Whitmore's Plumbing Service has been approaching local residents with persistent requests for money, citing various family emergencies. This person has repeatedly used my name and the name of my plumbing company when he makes these requests. The current employees of Whitmore's Plumbing Service are: 1. D Scott Whitmore 2. Esther Whitmore 3. J. Cullen Sartor I am not responsible for any debts incurred by any other person, and no former employee is authorized to represent me or use my name or the name of my business for personal gain. D. Scott Whitmore Whitmore's Plumbing Service

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Alternative day care worker needed. Female preferred. 267-1685
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Administrative Assistant
A worldwide leader in water products and services, is looking for a part-time Administrative Assistant located in Big Spring, TX. This position is responsible for the routine general administrative and operation support activities. In addition, the successful candidate will provide administrative support to project manager and be responsible for preparing daily invoice log, accounts receivable collections, coding timesheets and preparing payroll summaries, maintaining of files and other duties as assigned. Good computer literacy with knowledge of MS Office and basic office machines required. Must also have food organizational, written and verbal communication skills. Must be able to move objects between 25-35 lbs. Two plus years experience preferred. High school Diploma or GED required. Qualified candidates should submit a resume to: P.O. Box 23, Odem, TX 78370 Fax 361-368-7053 EOE/AA-MF/DV

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HELP WANTED

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.

HELP WANTED

Full time evening cook/kitchen help needed. Monday-Saturday. Experience or good work history required. Will train. Right Pay for Right Person. Apply in person at Red Mesa Grill 2401 Gregg.

HELP WANTED

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Call for Products or Opportunity Ask for Charisa 915-263-4679
Immediate opening at an assisted living facility in Big Spring for an RN. Fax resumes with salary requirements of 915-268-9092 or apply in person at Marcy House, 2301 Wasson, Big Spring, Texas. Pre-employment drug/alcohol testing required EOE.

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StarTek
"Habra Espanol?" Customer Care Representative
StarTek, Inc. is hiring an additional 40+ full and part-time bilingual customer care representatives for additional growth in our state-of-the-art inbound call center in Big Spring. If you have a friendly speaking voice, can use a mouse, enjoy helping people, and type at least 20 WPM, you are just who we're looking for!

HELP WANTED

The City of Big Spring is accepting proposals for the full time position of Caretaker at Moss Lake. Proposals will be accepted until 5:00 p.m. Monday, March 18, 2002. Interested individuals should pick up proposal requirements from the Director of Public Works office located at 310 Nolan, or call 264-2500 for more detailed information. The City of Big Spring is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

HELP WANTED

EARN EXTRA MONEY \$
Independent Contractors (must be at least 18) needed to deliver the Western Plains Phone Book in Big Spring, Sweetwater & surrounding areas. Call Today! 1-888-606-8900 Se habla Espanol 1-877-755-6400

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Alternative day care worker needed. Female preferred. 267-1685

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Texaco Star Stops are now taking applications for full-time & part-time positions. Apply in person at the following locations: Manager position available: Star Stop #4 2501 S. Gregg Star Stop #8 800E. I-20 Star Stop #12 400 S. Gregg Star Stop #14 4806 W. Hwy 80 We are a Drug Free Work force. No phone calls please. PUT YOUR PC TO WORK! \$25 - \$75 HR PT/FT BZNSVENTURE.COM 800-365-0825 RN position available at Best Home care. Apply at 1706 Marcy Drive.

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Gills Fried Chicken has immediate openings for day & evening shifts. Must be able to work weekends. Apply in person: 1101 Gregg St.

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Mechanical contractor needing sheet metal helper for Scenic Mountain Medical Center project there. Experience not required call 915-653-5261

HELP WANTED

Apply at StarTek, Inc. 501 Birdwell Lane, Big Spring, TX 79720 or call (915) 264-2700 and ask to speak with a Recruiter. Applications also accepted at the Texas Workforce Commission or at www.startek.com.

HELP WANTED

StarTek offers great benefits including catastrophic medical coverage, paid time off after 90 days, immediate child care reimbursements, local business discounts, medical/dental insurance, paid holidays, and incredible advancement opportunities.

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Nalley-Pickle-Weich Funeral Home has an excellent career opportunity for men and women. We need 2 full-time Counselors. * Rewards in service oriented employment * Unlimited income * Average \$35,000 to \$45,000 first year. * Lead system * Enjoyable, positive working conditions. Call 1-800-723-3542 Ext. 601 BILINGUAL A PLUS

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HELP WANTED

Part time evening dishwasher needed. Must be 16 Apply at Red Mesa Grill 2401 Gregg.

HELP WANTED

Don't miss out on this BILINGUAL OPPORTUNITY
Need mature lady to work PT in laundromat. Work 7 days on 7 days off. Pick up application @ 208 W. 11th Place or 1208 Gregg.

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Now hiring experienced servers and cashiers. Must be available for all shifts. Excellent benefits. Please apply in person at: Country Fare Restaurant, Rip Griffins N. Hwy 87 & I-20

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HELP WANTED

The City of Big Spring is accepting applications for Utility Repairman until March 18, 2002. For further information contact City Hall Personnel at 310 Nolan, Big Spring, TX. 79720 or Call 915-264-2346. The City of Big Spring is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

HELP WANTED

Therapy
SunDance Rehabilitation Corporation, a national provider of subacute rehab services, is currently seeking therapy professionals to join our team in BIG SPRING, TX. PT / PTA Full-time. SunDance offers very competitive salary, company provided CEU seminars and for full-time employees, excellent pre-tax benefit policy, generous paid time off, 401 (k) and more! Please contact Lisa Hayden at 877-504-3535. Fax: 877-743-8815. Lisa.Hayden@sunh.com EOE

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TUESDAY												MAR. 12																																												
Channel	Time	Program	Channel	Time	Program	Channel	Time	Program	Channel	Time	Program	Channel	Time	Program	Channel	Time	Program	Channel	Time	Program																																				
KMID (2)	6:30	News Fortune	KPEJ (3)	6:30	King of the Hill Raymond	KERA (5)	6:30	News-Lehrer	FAM (6)	6:30	Home Videos	KOSA (7)	6:30	News Ent. Tonight	WFAA (8)	6:30	News (CC) Fortune	KWES (9)	6:30	News Seinfeld (CC)	WTBS (11)	6:30	Friends (CC) Roseanne	UNI (13)	6:30	Intrusa	DISN (14)	6:30	Movie: Cadet Kelly (CC)	NASH (15)	6:30	Mad TV (CC) Mad TV (CC)	TMC (16)	6:30	Movie: Steel Magnolias	SHOW (20)	6:30	Baby	HBO (22)	6:30	Update With John Hagee	KMLM (24)	6:30	Update With John Hagee	A&E (25)	6:30	Law & Order (CC)	DISC (26)	6:30	Discovery Venomous Snakes	TNT (28)	6:30	Pretender (CC)	TLC (41)	6:30	Secrets of Forensic Science
	7:30	Dharma-Greg Spin City (CC)		7:30	70s Show Undeclared		7:30	Poika Passion (CC)		7:30	Movie: Prelude to a Kiss (CC)		7:30	JAG (CC)		7:30	Dharma-Greg Spin City (CC)		7:30	Fraser (CC) Watching Ellie		7:30	NBA Basketball: Toronto Raptors at New Jersey Nets		7:30	Amigas y Rivales (SS)		7:30	Star Trek: Next Gener.		7:30	Star Trek: Next Gener.		7:30	Movie: The Green Mile		7:30	Movie: Judge Dredd (CC)		7:30	Monima		7:30	CCM N. McBride		7:30	Biography (CC)		7:30	New Detectives		7:30	Law & Order (CC)		7:30	Private Eye: True Stories
	8:30	NYPD Blue (CC)		8:30	24 (CC)		8:30	Kiss (CC)		8:30	Guardian (CC)		8:30	NYPD Blue (CC)		8:30	Fraser (CC) Scrubs (CC)		8:30	Fraser (CC) Scrubs (CC)		8:30	Nets Inside NBA		8:30	Aqui y Ahora		8:30	Star Trek: Next Gener.		8:30	Star Trek: Next Gener.		8:30	Movie: The Green Mile		8:30	Movie: The Green Mile		8:30	Movie: The Laramie Project (CC)		8:30	Light of the Southwest		8:30	Movie: Scarface		8:30	New Detectives		8:30	Law & Order (CC)		8:30	World's Worst Drivers
	9:30	Philly (CC)		9:30	Cops (CC) Blind Date		9:30	Down From the Mountain		9:30	Whose Line? Whose Line?		9:30	Judging Amy (CC)		9:30	NYPD Blue (CC)		9:30	Philly (CC)		9:30	Nets Inside NBA		9:30	Aqui y Ahora		9:30	Star Trek: Next Gener.		9:30	Star Trek: Next Gener.		9:30	Movie: The Green Mile		9:30	Movie: The Green Mile		9:30	Movie: The Laramie Project (CC)		9:30	Light of the Southwest		9:30	Movie: Scarface		9:30	New Detectives		9:30	Law & Order (CC)		9:30	World's Worst Drivers
	10:30	News Nightline		10:30	Jerry Springer (CC)		10:30	Bee Gees		10:30	700 Club (CC)		10:30	News (35) Late		10:30	News (CC) Nightline		10:30	News (35) Tonight		10:30	Movie: Shoot to Kill		10:30	P. Impacto		10:30	Star Trek: Next Gener.		10:30	Star Trek: Next Gener.		10:30	Movie: The Green Mile		10:30	Movie: The Green Mile		10:30	Movie: The Laramie Project (CC)		10:30	Light of the Southwest		10:30	Movie: Scarface		10:30	New Detectives		10:30	Law & Order (CC)		10:30	World's Worst Drivers
	11:30	Politically Inc. Cheers		11:30	Suddenly Spin City (CC)		11:30	Story (CC) The Who: Live at Royal Albert Hall (CC)		11:30	Who's Boss? Who's Boss?		11:30	Ent. Tonight (37) Late		11:30	Ent. Tonight (37) Late		11:30	Ent. Tonight (37) Late		11:30	Ent. Tonight (37) Late		11:30	En las Mejores Familias		11:30	Mad TV (CC)		11:30	Mad TV (CC)		11:30	Movie: Phantom of the Opera		11:30	Movie: Buggy Beyond		11:30	Dennis Miller Church		11:30	Update With Church		11:30	Biography (CC)		11:30	New Detectives		11:30	Movie: Creepshow		11:30	World's Worst Drivers
	12:30	Cowboy Paid Program		12:30	Home Imp. Paid Program		12:30	Home Imp. Paid Program		12:30	Street Smarts		12:30	Street Smarts		12:30	Street Smarts		12:30	Street Smarts		12:30	Street Smarts		12:30	Movie: Fast		12:30	Mickey Mouse		12:30	Mickey Mouse		12:30	Movie: Phantom of the Opera		12:30	Redemption (CC)		12:30	Faith Pleases God		12:30	Movie: Scarface		12:30	New Detectives		12:30	Extreme Driving Quiz						

DENNIS THE MENACE



"IT'S OKAY FOR YOU TO WIN ONCE IN A WHILE, GRANDPA. I CAN TAKE IT."

FAMILY CIRCUS

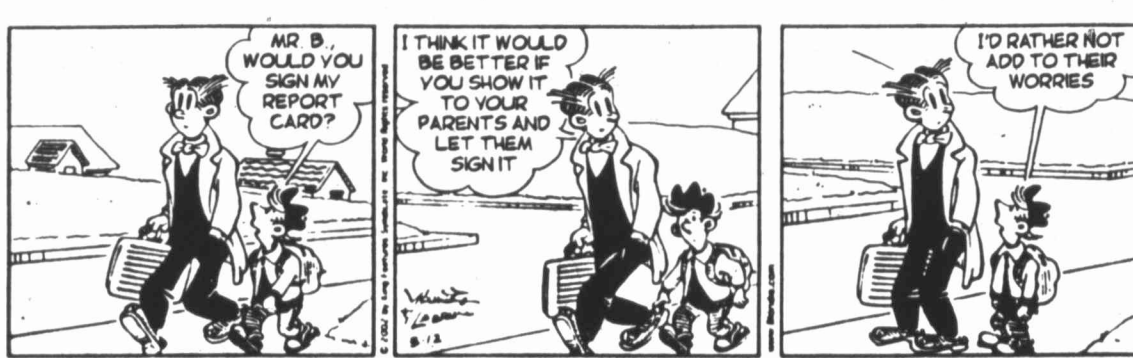


"I can't tell you 'cause I'm wearin' my mittens."

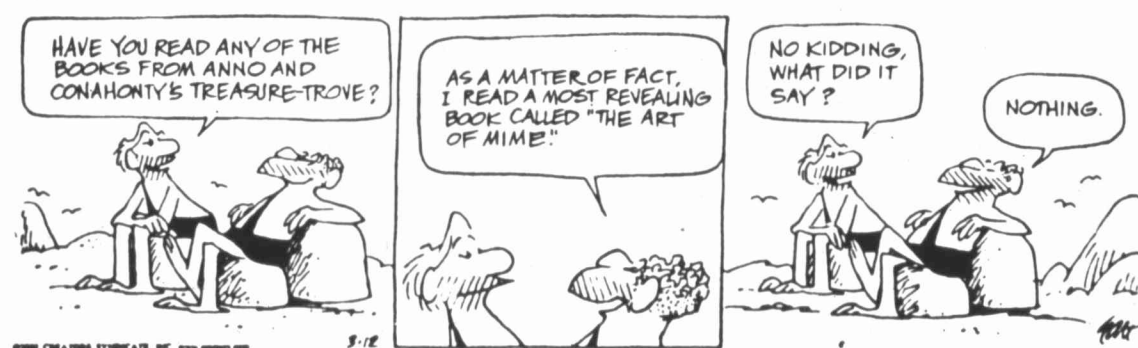
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THIS DATE IN HISTORY

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

Today is Tuesday, March 12, the 71st day of 2002. There are 294 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On March 12, 1933, President Roosevelt delivered the first of his radio "fireside chats," telling Americans what was being done to deal with the nation's economic crisis.

In 1664, New Jersey became a British colony as King Charles II granted land in the New World to his brother James, the Duke of York.

In 1912, Juliette Gordon Low founded the Girl Guides, which later became the Girl Scouts of America.

In 1925, Chinese revolutionary leader Sun Yat-sen died.

In 1930, Indian political and spiritual leader

Mohandas K. Gandhi began a 200-mile march to protest a British tax on salt.

In 1938, the "Anschluss" took place as German troops entered Austria.

In 1939, Pope Pius XII was formally crowned in ceremonies at the Vatican.

In 1947, President Truman established what became known as the "Truman Doctrine" to help Greece and Turkey resist Communism.

In 1951, "Dennis the Menace," created by cartoonist Hank Ketcham, made its syndicated debut in 16 newspapers.

In 1969, Paul McCartney married Linda Eastman in London.

In 1999, Hungary, Poland and the Czech Republic joined NATO.

Today's Birthdays: Former astronaut Wally Schirra is 79. Playwright Edward Albee is 74. Former Atlanta Mayor Andrew Young is 70. Broadcast journalist Lloyd Dobyns is 66. Singer Al Jarreau is 62. Actress-singer Liza Minnelli is 56. Singer-songwriter James Taylor is 54. Rock singer-musician Bill Payne (Little Feat) is 53. Actor Jon Provost ("Lassie") is 52. Author Carl Hiaasen is 49. Actor Jerry Levine is 45. Rock musician Steve Harris (Iron Maiden) is 45. Singer Marlon Jackson (The Jackson Five) is 45. Actor Courtney B. Vance is 42. Actor Titus Welliver is 41.

Answer to previous puzzle

MEMO	PASO	AMPS
IRAN	MARTS	GORE
RATTLE	TETRA	BOBE
SHIER	OKRA	LINK
MILKWEED	LES	
ROBESON	YALE	
OBI	TOGA	MEHTA
TIBET	TED	SWOON
HELIO	SOLD	MOD
INST	IRATELY	
ETC	CRIBBAGE	
FBI	AIRE	WEEPS
LOSS	BOTTLENECK	
ANTE	ANTIS	STAT
TEST	LYES	YENS

Newsday Crossword COMPLETE COLLECTIONS by Bob Frank

Edited by Stanley Newman

ACROSS	57 Lavish party	9 Actor E.G.	35 Note above G
1 Play for time	58 On the	10 Yule song gift	36 Takes the
6 "Casey at the Bat," for one	up and up	11 Everything considered	40 Single or
10 Docking spot	59 Stared at	12 Coup d'	42 Thwarted
14 Paddler's craft	60 Vaudevillian family of note	13 IRA type	43 Shoulder wraps
15 Out of port	61 Messy places	18 Important time	45 Fireplace residue
16 Division word		22 Took on, as freight	46 "Chances ___"
17 Everything considered	DOWN	24 Business-addr. part, perhaps	47 Flu symptom
19 H.S. junior's exam	1 Lasting impression	25 Beer variety	48 Lean and strong
20 Interstate stop	2 Shaggy-dog story	26 Playing marble	49 ___-bitty
21 Nero Wolfe, e.g.	3 Aardvark meal	27 Everything considered	50 Mathematical points
23 Greek vowels	4 Plunderers	28 Ceremonies	51 Netman Nastase
24 Druggist's store: Abbr.	5 Official emissary	29 Upright	52 Tennis units
25 Cuba (rum drink)	6 Tops of the head	30 Sways back and forth	55 Starter for classical
28 Car with a rumble seat	7 Job-safety org.	32 Edifices: Abbr.	
31 Vanderbilt and Brenneman	8 Wide shoe width		
32 Good Book			
33 Grenada gold			
34 Today rival, initially			
35 Everything included			
37 Gumshoe			
38 German article			
39 DHL rival			
40 Here again			
41 Warning signs			
43 Sea dogs			
44 A lot			
45 Sounds of relief			
47 Watches for			
49 Haifa residents			
53 Young lady			
54 Everything considered			
56 Hankering			