

BIG SPRING HERALD

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"Reflecting a Proud Community"

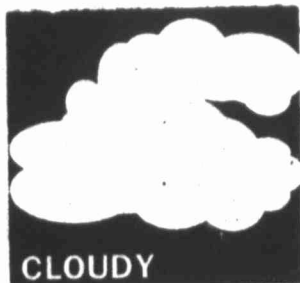
50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

EASTER

March 31, 2002

WEATHER

Today:



TODAY 65°-70°
TONIGHT 43°-45°

IN THIS ISSUE...

Today's issue of the *Big Spring Herald* contains our annual Progress Edition, a four-section special edition which focuses on many of the businesses in Big Spring and Howard County.

VITA workers to help with taxes Monday

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance volunteers will assist local residents with their 2001 income tax returns on Monday.

The volunteers will be at the Senior Citizens Center, 1901 Simler Drive, from 9 a.m. to noon.

Those interested are asked to bring their 2000 tax return, W2s and 1099 forms along with their tax booklet and other documents showing their 2001 income.

For more information, call Dorothy Kennemur, VITA volunteer, at 398-5522 or 267-1628.

WHAT'S UP...

MONDAY

□ District Committee Lone Star of Big Spring meets at noon at 610 Scurry.

□ Senior Circle, 4 p.m., SMMC. Sit and Be Fit Chair Aerobics. People 50 and over invited to participate. Call 268-4721.

□ Howard County ARC meets at 806 East Third. Call 264-0674.

□ Big Spring Chapter and Council RAM meets at 7:30 p.m. at the Masonic building 221 1/2 Main.

TUESDAY

□ Intermediate Line Dance classes, 9 a.m., Senior Citizens Center. Call 267-1628.

□ Coahoma Senior Citizens luncheon, the Coahoma Community Center at 11 a.m.

□ Big Spring Evening Lion's Club meets at noon at the Senior Center in the Whipkey Room.

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www.bigspringherald.com

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Words of faith become words of healing, says state hospital chaplain

By VALERIE AVERY
Special to the Herald

As Big Spring State Hospital Chaplain Rick Foster told of the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ during Good Friday services, the words of faith also were ones of healing.



Foster believes faith and church services have far-reaching effects on the treatment of people with mental illness.

"In my view, the treatment of mental illness needs that spiritual base," said Foster, who has been hospital chaplain for about 10

years. "What psychologists can do and psychiatrists can do is good. But what a chaplain can do is put a patient in touch with their own spiritual base."

Patients do not have the opportunity to visit regular churches in Big Spring, so the hospital provides weekly Sunday services. Good Friday and other religious holidays are recognized at the Tollet All Faith Chapel.

Father Richard Reagan of Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church celebrates mass each Monday at the hospital.

"I think it helps them," Foster said. "It helps them complete their need for worship."

Hymns, such as "The Lily of the Valley" and "The

See FAITH, Page 3A



Big Spring State Hospital activities therapy department employees Jaime Sotelo, Aaron Bayless and Dana Boes sing "Were You There" during the hospital's Good Friday services. Services are voluntary for patients and can be an integral part of their treatment plan.

Scene set for annual Spring City crafts show

The Spring City Arts and Crafts Show will fill the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum once again this weekend.

The 13th annual show will be Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and April 7 from noon to 5 p.m. There is no charge for admission.

New exhibitors will bring a variety of interesting items to this year's show, said Mel Prather, event organizer.

"Some of the newcomers will offer items such as sand art, jewelry, thermal wraps, candles, homemade food mixes and wooden crosses," he said.

"Decorative bottles, accent pillows, safari animal statues, handbags, original oil paintings, wooden shelves, Texas-style wall accessories, framed art prints, tables with Indian blankets and sand paintings under glass."

Furniture, homemade salsa, stained glass, candles, shadow boxes, Southwestern art and rocking chairs will also be featured, he said.

Exhibitors returning to the show from last year will also offer a wide assortment of items, including wood wreaths, seasonal decorations, monogrammed

See CRAFTS, Page 3A



After an Easter egg hunt at Carriage Inn retirement home Saturday morning, Loralee Hull (above) holds Koriegh Webb, who clutches her basket full of eggs. The Easter Bunny entertained Carriage Inn residents and 15 children. At top right, 4-year-old Jaden Pollock, student at Rainbow Christian Preschool, follows the trail of eggs and goodies left by the Easter Bunny at the Birdwell Lane Park early Friday. And at right, Jonathan Rudd, a 5-year-old student at Rainbow Christian Preschool, searches for eggs while Diana Phifer, owner and director, watches over the event.



HERALD photos/Roger Cline and Andrea Medlin

Time to get serious about trash, civic leader urges

HERALD Staff Report

Tired of seeing trash on the ground everywhere you go? Want to do something about it?

Saturday is the annual Texas Trash Off, a day set aside for volunteers from statewide to do their part to clean up Texas.

"What we want to do is to try to clean up our community, to beautify it," said

Trash Off organizer Pat Simmons. "We don't want to be known as a trashy place, and this is what we need to do to attract businesses and industries, because if they look around and see all of our trash, they just wave goodbye. They do not want to locate here."

Simmons said that while more than 185,000 volunteers are expected to partic-

ipate statewide, she already has 337 signed up locally. That's an improvement over last year's total of about 300.

Part of the purpose of the Trash Off is to raise awareness about litter and to educate the people on how to eliminate it, Simmons said.

"One thing that would help with plastic bags blooming in every vacant lot and on every mesquite

tree is to make sure you secure them after a purchase so they will not be another kite flying in the air," she said. "Recycle them at the stores."

People can also reuse the ubiquitous plastic sacks, she said.

"Use them for your household trash," she said. "When you place them in the dumpster, make sure

the ends are tied together to prevent loose items from flying out."

Several groups have already signed up to participate in the event, she said.

"We have one group of people from Cornell Correction that are willing to adopt Wasson Road," she said, adding that ALON

See TRASH, Page 3A

Tornadoes, heavy rain and hail hit Central, East Texas

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

A tornado blew through Limestone County Saturday, damaging houses and injuring at least four people, authorities said.

The storm cut a wide swath east of Thornton, said Aubrey Briggs, mayor pro tem of the city of about 500 people about 36 miles southeast of Waco.

"It missed the city. It was pretty widespread and pretty destructive," Briggs said. "My sister-in-law saw

it. She said it was just a red cloud. It must have been sucking dirt out of the ground."

A spokeswoman for the Limestone County Sheriff's Department said some injuries were reported, but no deaths. Officials were still assessing the situation Saturday evening, said the spokeswoman, who declined to give her name.

Four people were taken to Limestone Medical Center in Groesbeck, said a hospital spokeswoman who said she could provide

no further information.

"Quite a few houses were supposedly flattened," Briggs said. "We really don't know how many."

A command post was set up at a school in Thornton, where several people were treated for cuts and bruises and some were sent by ambulance to area hospitals, Briggs said.

Some storm damage was also reported in the Hico area, where authorities said some roofs were damaged. Some power lines were

down, according to the Hamilton County Sheriff's Department.

Strong winds damaged part of a hospital and knocked out power to some homes and businesses in one East Texas town as a large swath of storms lumbered across the state.

No injuries or deaths were reported after a storm cut through Atlanta, which straddles the Texas-Louisiana line, officials said.

Tom Crow, administrator at

See RAIN, Page 3A

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OBITUARIES

Imogene (Jiggs) Phillips

Imogene (Jiggs) Phillips, 82, of Big Spring died on Friday, March 29, 2002, in a local nursing home.

Graveside funeral services will be at 10 a.m. Monday, April 1, 2002, at the Peace Chapel at Trinity Memorial Park with the Rev. Walter McCall of Odyssey Hospice officiating, and grandson Dewayne Hollis assisting.

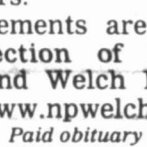
She was born on Sept. 20, 1919 in Big Spring and married Cecil Phillips on Sept. 15, 1940 in Big Spring. He preceded her in death on June 13, 2000.

Mrs. Phillips was a lifetime resident of Big Spring and was a homemaker. She was a member of the Order of the Eastern Star.

Survivors include one son and daughter-in-law, John and Carol Phillips of Garden City; three daughters and two sons-in-law, Janie and Rayford Harrison, and Joyce Hamlin, all of Big Spring; and Joann and Preston Hollis of Canyon; 13 grandchildren, Philip Harrison, Lila King, Melissa Harrison, Wesley Harrison, Heath Harrison, Sarah Harrison, Micah Harrison, Kevin Hamlin, Duncan Hamlin, Dewayne Hollis, Delbert Hollis, Jason Phillips and Jenny Carr; and five great-grandchildren.

The family suggests memorials to Odyssey Hospice, 1510 S. Gregg, Big Spring, 79720. The family will receive friends from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. today at the funeral home.

Grandsons will serve as pallbearers. Arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle and Welch Funeral Home. www.npwelch.com.



homemaker. She was a member of Hillcrest Baptist Church.

Survivors include two sons, Gary and Bob Miears, both of Big Spring; a sister, Ruby Atkinson of Big Spring; four grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

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

Lydia Czerkus

Lydia Czerkus, 95, of Big Spring died Thursday, March 28, 2002, at Mountain View Lodge.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Monday at St. Matthew Lutheran Church in Sandy Hill with the Rev. Bryan Sullivan of Grace Lutheran Church of Elgin officiating. Burial will follow in St. Matthew Cemetery in Sandy Hill.

Mrs. Czerkus was born Dec. 30, 1906, in Washington County, Texas. She was the wife of longtime Lutheran pastor Paul Czerkus. Rev. Czerkus preceded her in death in 1997. Mrs. Czerkus had been a resident of Big Spring for five years, moving to the area from Elgin.

Survivors include two daughters, Pauline Nelson of Big Spring and Elizabeth Brown of Kerrville; a sister, Dora Zschappel of Brenham; two grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

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



year-old girl died at the Daystar Residential Treatment Center, located next door to Shiloh.

The first death has been ruled accidental, but autopsy results are pending in the most recent death.

"Nobody is rushing to judgment" but last year concerns existed, and the benefit of the doubt was given," said Brazoria County District Attorney Jeri Yenne. "The benefit of the doubt will still be given, but there will be a thorough investigation."

Yenne told the Houston Chronicle for its Saturday editions she is concerned by the lack of records the facilities had on the two girls who died.

In the first case involving the 16-year-old girl at Shiloh, a private, for-profit facility, an autopsy concluded the death was accidental and due to cardiac arrest, said Children's Protective Services spokeswoman Estella Olguin.

Cal Salls, executive director of Daystar, said he doesn't believe the most recent death in February is a result of the 15-year-old girl dying from being restrained, because she had other serious health problems.

The girl had been at Daystar, a nonprofit, private facility that cares for children and teen-agers with mental disorders and behavioral problems, for only 12 days before she died, Olguin said.

She was restrained on the floor by three workers after she became disruptive and aggressive but was released after she calmed down, Salls said.

"She got up almost to a sitting position and went right back down," he said. "They could tell immediately she wasn't breathing."

The girl was mentally retarded, mentally ill, afflicted with a seizure disorder and heart problems and was obese, he said. "I think they will find the restraint did not cause the death," Salls said.

Daystar is licensed by the state to care for 156 children and is one of only two Texas facilities that cares for children with the most severe mental illnesses and behavioral problems. Shiloh is licensed to care for 40 children.

Workers at the facilities are not allowed to use mechanical devices or drugs to restrain patients but can physically restrain them, Olguin said.

The three workers who restrained the 15-year-old were placed on administrative leave, she said.

Car dealership says next door playground a hazard to cars and customers

HOUSTON (AP) — A Houston auto dealership is suing a family entertainment center, saying that "flying objects" — mostly multicolored golf balls from a miniature golf course — have caused the dealership thousands of dollars in damage.

"The very real possibility exists that a (dealership) employee or customer looking at cars or picking up a vehicle from the service department will get hit by a flying golf ball or other object, causing severe personal injuries," says the

A BIG SPRING AROUND THE TOWN

lawsuit, which was filed Thursday in the court of Ancillary Judge Joseph "Tad" Halbach.

Southwest Lincoln Mercury Inc. filed the lawsuit against Celebration Station, which is adjacent to the dealership on Southwest Freeway. A street separates the properties.

Body shop foreman Bill Kirby, in an affidavit, said that for the past several years he has found "landscaping rocks" as well as golf balls from Celebration Station thrown onto the car dealership property, the Houston Chronicle reported.

Attorney Scott Davenport, who filed the lawsuit, requested a restraining order requiring that security guards patrol the golf course and that surveillance cameras be placed along the side of the golf course. He also asked Celebration Station, owned by Whiteco Industries, to extend a large safety netting.

Halbach encouraged the two parties to work out an agreement rather than to sign a temporary restraining order.

Brad DeLuca, representing Celebration Station and Whiteco, said, "We did reach a tentative agreement." But he declined further comment pending company approval of the agreement.

The lawsuit says the dealership has boarded up a large plate glass window because of several breaks caused by objects originating from the playground grounds of the entertainment center.

Despite repeated requests to Celebration Station to monitor its patrons' conduct and to place a safety net between the properties, no such action has been taken, Davenport said.

"We're also looking at the bigger picture. We want to make sure no one gets hurt," Davenport said.

Alabama-Coushatta tribe plans to fight to keep casino open

HOUSTON (AP) — Attorney General John Cornyn successfully shut down a West Texas casino operated by an Indian tribe earlier this year.

On Monday, he will go to court attempting to close down another in East Texas.

Cornyn says the Alabama-Coushatta tribe is breaking a 1986 pledge and federal and state law by operating poker and blackjack tables, as well as slot machines, in a converted gift shop on tribal land.

"As an assurance to the members of the Texas congressional delegations and in order to gain federal recognition status, the Alabama-Coushatta pledged before Congress to prohibit gambling on tribal lands," Cornyn's office wrote in a motion filed in federal court in January.

Federal Judge John Hannah will hear arguments from both sides in a Lufkin courtroom on Monday afternoon.

Scott David Crowell, an attorney for the tribe, says Texas' decision to amend its constitution in 1991 to allow the state-run lottery opened the door for the tribe to permit gaming.

Crowell says the U.S. Supreme Court has given Indian tribes the "sovereign right to regulate gaming activity on their own land."

Cornyn disagrees. He has asked for a temporary injunction to prevent the gaming to continue.

"In this case, the Tribe is currently operating an illegal Las Vegas style casino operation within the state of Texas in violation of federal and state law," the injunction requesting filed by Cornyn's office reads. "The tribe began their illegal operation less than two months after a federal court interpreted the exact same statute to prohibit gaming on tribal reservation lands located within the state of Texas and issued an injunction against the Ysleta del Sur Pueblo."

The Ysleta del Sur Pueblo, or Tiguas, operated the Speaking Rock Casino in El Paso. It was shuttered in February after the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals upheld a district judge's ruling last October that the casino must close.

The Tiguas asked the U.S. Supreme Court for a stay, but it was rejected.

"We understand that bad decisions have come down in the Tigua litigation," Crowell said Friday. "But we are not part of that litigation, nor are we bound by that litigation."

SUPPORT GROUPS

MONDAY

•TOPS Club TX No. 21 (take off pounds sensibly), weigh-in 5:30 p.m. and meeting at 6 p.m., Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center, 306 West Third.

•TOPS Club TX No. 1756 (take off pounds sensibly), weigh-in 5:30 p.m. and meeting at 6 p.m., College Heights Christian Church, 21st and Goliad.

•Encourager's Support Group will meet April 1, 6 p.m. at Santa Fe Sandwiches. For more information call 398-5522.

•Military support group meets at 6 p.m. at the VA Medical Center in room 212 the first Monday of every month. The next meeting will be held April 8 in observance of Easter. Contact Wanda Gamble at 263-7180 or Treva Hall at 263-8106. Anyone interested in supporting loved ones in the military.

•Project Freedom, Christian support group for survivors of physical/emotional/sexual and/or spiritual abuse. Call 263-5140 or 263-2241 for dates/times of upcoming groups.

•Bereavement Support Group meets from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. the first Monday of each month at Community Care Hospice.

•Surviving Pregnancy Loss meets the second Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Howard County Library Committee Room. Call 631-4430 for more information.

•Narcotics Anonymous, 7 p.m., St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 1001 Goliad. Open to all substance abusers.

TUESDAY

•The Greater West Texas Chapter of the Alzheimers Association meets the first Tuesday of each month in the community room of the Howard County Library at 2 p.m. Our support groups are for all caregivers of anyone no matter what the disease or disability. All meetings are confidential and are for your support. For more information you can call our office at 264-2397 or go by 501 Rannels (RSVP office).

•Gamblers Anonymous, 7 p.m., St. Stephen's Catholic Church, room 1, 4601 Neeley, Midland. Call 263-8920.

•Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon open meeting and 7 p.m. 12 and 12 study.

POLICE

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

•MARIA BRITO ROJAS, 57, of 1503 Robin was arrested to hold for the Department of Public Safety.

•ADRIANNE CREEK-MORE, 37, of 413 Adams Street was arrested to hold for the Howard County Sheriff's Office.

•AGGRAVATED ASSAULT WITH A DEADLY WEAPON was reported in the 800 block of West Sixth Street.

•ASSAULT CAUSING BODILY INJURY/FAMILY VIOLENCE was reported in the 300 block of Settles Street.

•ASSAULT CLASS C was reported in the 3600 block of Hamilton Street.

•THEFT of jewelry worth \$80 and a purse or wallet worth \$25 was reported in person at the police station.

•BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported twice at Howard College in the 1000 block of Birdwell Lane. According to the first report, someone entered an unlocked front door and stole \$40 cash. In the second incident, someone reportedly entered the residence through an unlocked rear window and stole credit cards.

•MINOR ACCIDENT was reported in the 1900 block of Morrison Drive and the 1600 block of Martin Luther King Boulevard.

•DISTURBANCE or FIGHT was reported in the 600 block of McEwen Street.

•DRAGRACING/RECKLESS DRIVING was reported in the 2900 block of Front Avenue.

•DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE was reported in the 1600 block of Donley Street.

The Family of Janie Huffstetler Wilson would like to thank everyone that sent flowers, food, memorials or sat with Canna Mom during her illness. A special thanks to Kirk McKnight and Elwin Cullom of Home Hospice. Sherry & Butch Hodnett & Children

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Effie Miears

Effie Miears, 77, of Big Spring died Wednesday, March 27, 2002, in a Lubbock hospital.

Graveside services will be at 2 p.m. Monday in Peace Chapel at Trinity Memorial Park with the Rev. Kevin Parker, pastor of Hillcrest Baptist Church, officiating.

She was born on Dec. 10, 1924 in Freemont, Ark. She married D.J. Miears, who preceded her in death in 1981. Effie was a longtime resident of Big Spring and a



CHS to put on one-act play Monday

The Coahoma High School theater department will hold one last performance of the its University Interscholastic League one-act play "Tom Jones" on Monday.

The performance will be held at 8 p.m. in the high school auditorium. Admission is free to the public but donations will be accepted for next year's one-act play.

Three Coahoma students earned honors at the UIL district contest held on March 23. Jessie Bennett was named to all-star cast. Stephanie McIntosh and Crystal Atkinson were selected for the honorable mention all-star cast.

Deaths of girls at mental health facilities being investigated

HOUSTON (AP) — The Brazoria County District Attorney's Office is investigating two teen-age girls who died in separate incidents after being restrained at two mental health residential treatment centers.

The first death happened more than a year ago, in which a 16-year-old girl from California died at the Shiloh Treatment Center near Manvel in southeast Texas.

The most recent death occurred Feb. 24, when a 15-

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL 24th & Johnson 267-8288 Lydia Czerkus, 95, died Thursday. Funeral services will be 2:00 PM, Monday at St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Sandy Hill, Texas. Burial will be in St. Matthew Lutheran Cemetery.

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

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The Brown Family would like to say thank you so much for all of the help in finding our loved one. All the time, phone calls and support are greatly appreciated. Thank You L.J. Rickey, Angela, Corbin & Brashara

Dear Friends, What a blessing to have you praying for us. Thank you so very much for the lovely flowers, gifts, visits, cards & phone calls. Your love & concern overwhelmed us & our families. We love & appreciate all of you so very much. Your love & prayers are a powerful part of the healing process. We wish we could tell each of you how much we love you. We are home now, so continue to pray for us as we struggle through this. In Christian Love, Bennie & Betty McChristian and Families.

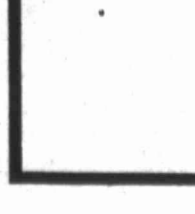
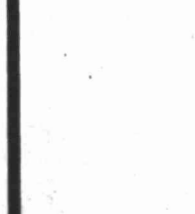
Bill Beauchamp sent a \$500 ch after-school pro

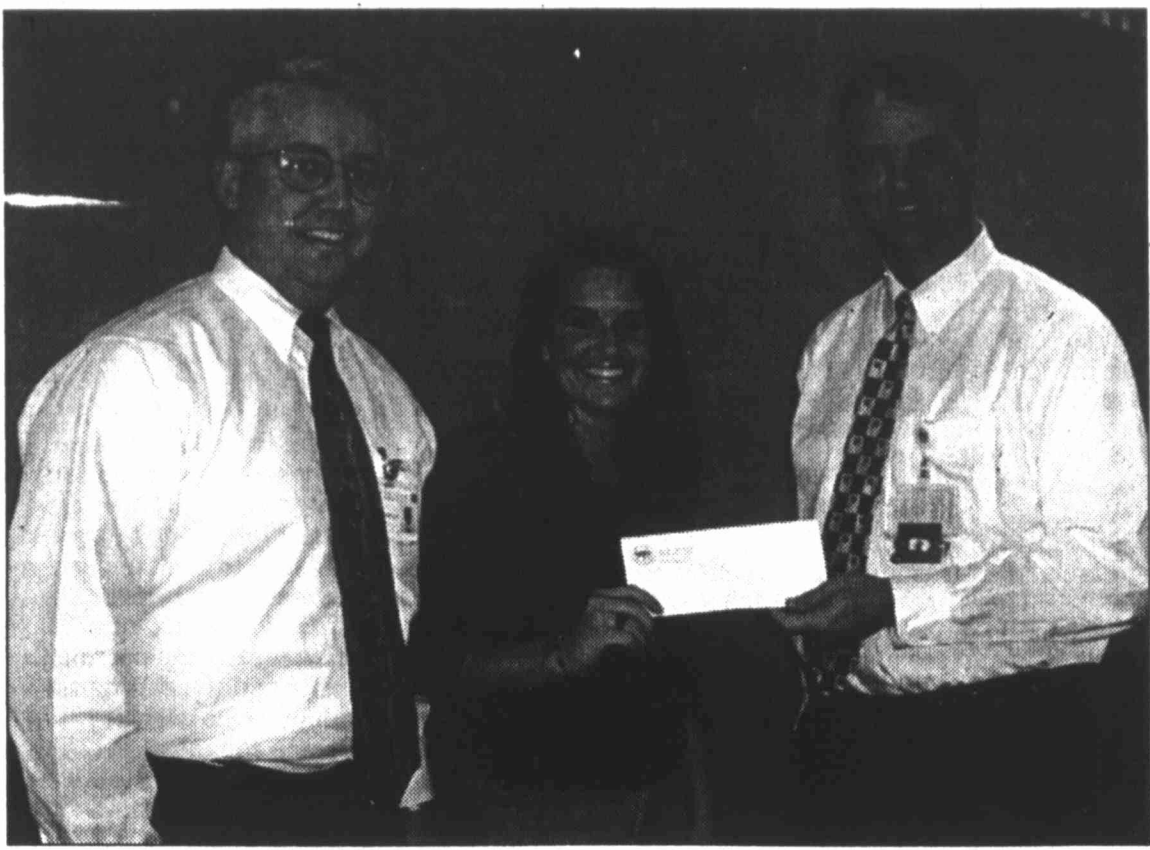
FAITH

Continued from

Old Rugged Croed with script detailing the w ing Jesus' de Friday is celebr day of Jesus' cr the atonement o sins.

Nearly 50 p employees spr selves througho ple chapel as s tered through glass windows. led the Respons "The Cross o patients parti reading out of the bound books "We have fai believe," Foster reading from "Thank you fo and reaching do Foster broke symbolizing Chr body on the





Courtesy photo

Bill Beauchamp, Scenic Mountain Medical Center CEO, left, and Tim Schmidt, CEO, present a \$500 check to Forsan High School junior Ashley Pierce. The donation is for Forsan after-school prom activities.



HERALD photo/Roger Cline

State Sens. Bob Duncan (R-Lubbock), left, and Teel Bivins (R-Amarillo), were in Big Spring Friday meeting with local media and Colorado River Municipal Water District officials. Also shown are regional representatives for the pair, Frances Wheat, middle left, for Duncan and Denise Perkins for Bivins.

FAITH

Continued from Page 1A

Old Rugged Cross" alternated with scripture readings detailing the week preceding Jesus' death. Good Friday is celebrated as the day of Jesus' crucifixion for the atonement of the world's sins.

Nearly 50 patients and employees spread themselves throughout the simple chapel as sunlight filtered through the stained glass windows. As Foster led the Responsive Reading, "The Cross of Christ," patients participated by reading out of the back of the bound books.

"We have faith, and we believe," Foster said before reading from John 3:16. "Thank you for loving us and reaching down to us."

Foster broke the bread symbolizing Christ's broken body on the cross, and

drank the fruit of the vine memorializing the blood Christ shed. As the patients moved solemnly forward to take Communion, the seriousness and reverence of the moment was not lost on them.

Jesus' Last Supper, where he showed the disciples how to break bread and drink of the cup in memory of Him was solemnly detailed.

Most of Big Spring State Hospital's patients need less than three months' hospitalization, but for the patients who stay for years, church services are a desired part of their ongoing treatment, Foster said.

Attention to patients' faith shows the hospital's commitment to people with mental illness and gives them more contact with expressing their faith. Services are voluntary.

Nearly a fourth of the hos-

pital's 187 patients regularly participate in church services. Most of the patients are Catholic or Protestant. Services are non-denominational, Foster said.

"Patients have rights to their own religious expression," he said.

CRAFTS

Continued from Page 1A

shirts, decorative light switch covers, clothing, chip and dip mixes, candy, quilts, dolls, and wooden signs.

Other returning exhibitors will display night lights, sun catchers, Southwestern jewelry, potpourri, ceramics, kitchen canister sets, barnwood and decorative birdhouses, belt buckles, quilted clothing,

angel pins, crosses, address plates, woodwork, wreaths, fudge, and wire-wrapped jewelry.

TRASH

Continued from Page 1A

USA, the City of Big Spring, the McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark staff, the American Legion Post and the Big Spring High School student council are also among the participating groups.

Groups or individuals wanting to sign up should call Simmons before Saturday this week at 263-4607 for more information and to find out how to get free trash bags. Simmons said people can also just feel free to select a spot and go pick up trash.

Large dumpsters will be placed at the Fifth and

Nolan, the Big Spring Mall Parking Lot and the old Wal-Mart location. Trash can also be taken to the landfill on FM 700.

RAIN

Continued from Page 1A

Atlanta Memorial Hospital, said a glass corridor connecting the hospital to administrative offices was destroyed from high winds.

"It just took the top off. It happened really, really fast," Crow said. "I drove around in town and I saw a couple of big trees, I mean big trees you can't get your arm around. They were knocked down."

The National Weather Service confirmed a tornado in Coke County, just north of San Angelo. Large hail and damaging winds were

likely in the area and officials urged residents to take cover.

"If you're out and about this afternoon and evening, I would definitely pay attention to the weather," said Bill Bunting, weather service spokesman.

"It's not the end of the world, just use your common sense."

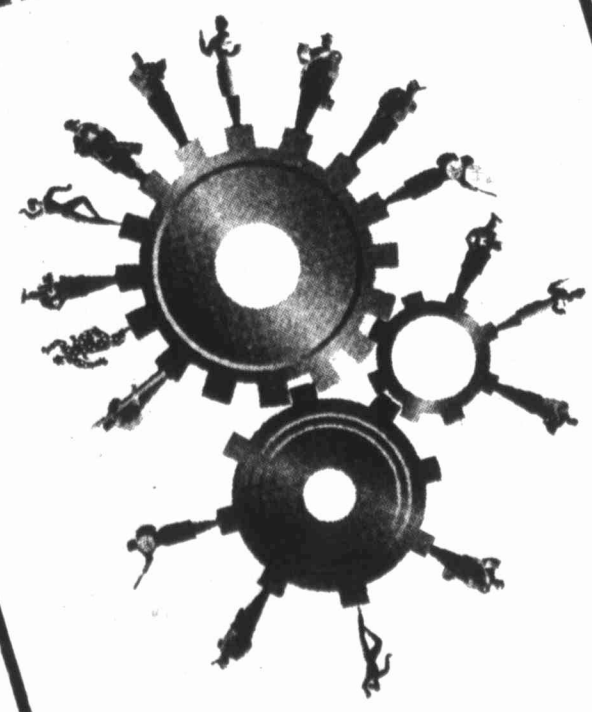
Meanwhile, flash flood watches and warnings continue for dozens of counties in North and East Texas.

They included Dallas, Tarrant, Denton, Collin, Cooke, Ellis and Rockwall counties, where as much as 2 inches of rain were possible on ground already saturated from earlier wet weather.

The sprawling storm system centered over North Texas, dumping heavy rain and spawning numerous thunderstorms.

*Progress 2002
in Today's Issue*

**TEAMWORK
TURNS THE
WHEELS OF
PROGRESS**



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*A Special
Thank You*

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Enjoy This Edition
As Much As We Enjoyed
Putting It Together.*

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EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

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

OUR VIEWS

Rain comes at a special time of year

West Texans are always happy to get rain, and the thunderstorms we've experienced over the past few days certainly have been welcome. We couldn't help notice, too, that they have come at a very special time — the Easter holiday. Easter is a very special time to many people — some for their religious beliefs, others who celebrate the occasion as a "rebirth" of the land. No matter what our faith, most of us will agree that it is a time of great expectation. It means that the cold, dormant days of winter are past, and the time for growth begins. The rain, of course, is very necessary to that growth. Without it, things grow slowly — if they grow at all — and do never fully mature. With it, plants grow strong and tall, and in abundance. The rain, too, lifts the spirits, just as do the symbols of Easter — the egg, the rabbit and the cross. They all represent life — and not only life, but life in abundance. New life, rebirth. And we are very much thankful.

YOUR VIEWS

TO THE EDITOR:
On behalf of the Vietnam Memorial Committee, I would like to express our deepest appreciation to the citizens of Big Spring for the tremendous success they made our chili supper and casino night. We would also like to express a very sincere thank you to the merchants of Big Spring for their support and participation. Our sponsors were the Herald, KBST and KBYG. The merchants and individuals who contributed were: Harris Lumber and Hardware, Gloria McDonald, Halfmann's Creations, KC Steakhouse, Allan's Furniture, Gold Rush, U.S. Flight Academy, Auto Zone, Morrison

Supply, Wal-Mart, Avis Lube, McMahon Concrete, Gillihan Paint and Body, Decorator's Center, Li'l Super, Howard College, Heavenly Scents, Dakota Floors, The Fun Shop, Attitudes Hair Design, George DeLuna, Ron and Jerri York, San Antonio Spurs, Dallas Cowboys, Midland Rockhounds, Dallas Stars, Wood's Boots, Houston Texans, Gary and Michele Rodriguez and LaVedera Club owners Arnold and Libby Uribe. Again, thank you Big Spring. Without your support, we couldn't have made it.

GENE WILSON
PRESIDENT
VIETNAM MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

LETTER POLICIES

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

Old man's fancy has no where to turn

One of our oldest clichés is the phrase "In spring, a young man's fancy turns to love." That's true when the sap still rises, but when the sap has settled down for a long winter's nap and is most reluctant to rise, you might as well fancy something else. Nature plays a cruel trick on elderly bachelors. The girls they are attracted to remind them of their daughters or granddaughters, while the ladies who are attracted to them remind them of their mothers. If you are too proud to play the old fool, then you might as well dig out the fishing pole from the closet, dust off the tackle box and head for the nearest water.

I've never been a good fisherman, but I enjoy it just the same. Holding a rod gives you a good excuse to stand and stare at

the water. If you stood and stared at the water without some fishing gear, some fool would no doubt think you were about to jump in or were waiting for a drug drop.

I also used to enjoy sitting in tree stands with my deer rifle. I never saw any deer, there being in Florida a lot more hunters than there are deer. Nevertheless, I enjoyed seeing the armadillos, the squirrels, the birds and the sunrises. There again, you need the rifle. If people come along and see a grown man just sitting in a tree, they'll think he is crazy.

Most folks, I've come to realize, have a pretty well-settled set of expectations about every aspect of life, and if they don't see what they expect to see or don't hear what they expect to hear, they get upset. I've tried to avoid that. While I have never seen an elf or a leprechaun, I have not ruled out the possibility that I might see one or both one day. Just because I haven't seen something doesn't mean that it doesn't exist. I love possibilities and even improbabilities.

I've never been a planner. I have simply wandered through life, taking advantage of whatever opportunity arose, but I never thought about the future. I've never become anything I planned to be because I never planned to be anything. I didn't plan on becoming a journalist, getting married, going into the Army, being a political speechwriter or becoming a columnist. They were just spontaneous choices I made as I wandered along and came to forks in the road.

I still like to keep my future open. I not only have no plans, I have no idea where I will be or what I will be doing or what I will be thinking three months from now. My future is deliciously full of unknown possibilities and uncertainty.

I hate to wake up and think: "Oh, this is Tuesday. I've got to go here, see this person, and then do this or that." I much prefer to wake up and say: "Aha, a brand-new day and not a single obligation. What will I see or do today?"

Some might think I've just never grown up, and they're probably right. I

never wanted to grow up. Still don't. What's fun about grimly trudging along a path of expectations and pre-conceptions? I love surprises. I love to play. I love to daydream.

If I'm a child, I'm at least a tough kid. I don't allow terrorism, mass murder, storms, tragedies, human decadence and corruption to interfere with my enjoyment of life. I don't expect one damn thing from anybody except that he or she will be a human being, which means the person might span the spectrum from extreme evil to extreme goodness. I've learned at last not to judge people and not to hold grudges. Those probably are the two greatest accomplishments of my life. Now I have to work on my temper.

The point is that slow sap or not, spring is still one of God's best treats for the human race, and I'm going to enjoy every single day of it. I hope you do, too.

Charley Reese can be contacted at briar@earthlink.net.



CHARLEY REESE



Jack Anderson and Douglas Cohon

Americans receive unequal representation

The problem lies in Section 5 of the Constitution: "1. Each House shall be the judge of the elections, returns, and qualifications of its own members, and a majority of each shall constitute a quorum to do business; but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day, and may be authorized to compel the attendance of absent members, in such manner, and under such penalties as each House may provide."

"2. Each House may determine the rules of its proceedings, punish its members for disorderly behavior, and, with the concurrence of two-thirds, expel a member." In other words, the U.S. Senate and the U.S. House of Representatives make

their own rules, which are not subject to review by any other entity because the legislative branch is coequal with the executive and judicial branches.

What this means is that a tyrannical majority — the very concept the Founding Fathers feared — in each house of Congress can make rules that effectively deprive some members of full rights. Specifically, the seniority system and the committee system have become the most powerful aspects of Congress though no such systems were envisioned by the Founding Fathers nor incorporated in the Constitution.

As a result, some representatives and senators wield more power than others. Bills are routinely buried and killed in committee, and committee chairmen, holding the power of the gavel, have more than anyone else to say about this. This is why, except for the general leadership posts, the most coveted positions in Congress are committee chairmanships.

This leads directly to pork-barrel spending, and it is no wonder that so many federal dollars are spent in the states and districts of the most powerful senators and representatives. The public realizes this, and factors it into their decisions at the ballot box. After all, why toss out a long-serving incumbent who is bringing home the bacon in favor of a better-qualified or more ideologically compatible challenger who will be dubbed a freshman upon entering Congress.

But Congress is not college. There should be no freshmen or seniors. Congress was created to represent the people and the states based upon the idea of one senator, one vote and one representative, one vote. The solution can only be achieved by constitutional amendment because the language, "Each House may determine the rules of its proceedings," is in the Constitution. This should be amended to read, "Each House may determine the

rules of its proceedings, but no member may be denied a vote on every issue."

In this way, committees could and should meet to study the details on esoteric subjects, but they should have no power to kill bills. Further, committee chairman could set agendas to hear bills, but this would not preclude any bill from being voted upon at any time by the full Senate or House. In short, committees and their chairmen would become what they were intended to be: advisors.

And until Congress becomes a place of one person, one vote, Americans will continue to receive unequal representation. Your senator or representative should defer to no other senator or representative no matter how long they may have served because the Constitution did not intend to grant a length-of-service multiplier to members of Congress. Nor did it intend to create committees to supplant the prerogatives and duties of Congress.



JACK ANDERSON



Mallard Fillmore by BRUCE TINSLEY

State

SAN ANTONIO state is considering income Texans copayments late according to a statement the federal program.

Copayment options four plans laid out the Texas Health Services Commission.

An agency of changes, which called "heartless," save the state at while encouraging clients to consider health care before agency care or prescription drugs.

Jason Cooke, Medicaid/Children's Insurance Program called the four

Hispanic

HOUSTON (AP) servatives who d consequences Hispanic population now sweeping Arr group has become fearsome than M Spanish-language for Chicano Movement of Aztlan. The Republican Texas denounces Chicano separatist trying to return western United Mexico.

Pat Buchanan c "unabashedly ra anti-American."

About 600 MEC bers nationwide ca University of Ho Friday and Saturday organization's natl ference.

Perhaps 300 or bers marched thr streets of d

Woman k operator

DALLAS (AP) woman was killed morning after she ly fell under the t car as it was bei for illegal parking.

Dallas police said Elix, 40, confronted truck driver as he being towed from apartment comp parking in a spot for tenants. As he

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Enron seeks court approval for to pay retention bonuses

NEW YORK (AP) — Enron is seeking the right to pay many of its employees lucrative retention bonuses and severance packages, saying such spending is "critical" to its plan to rebuild.

Enron asked a bankruptcy court Friday to approve the payments as part of an effort to recruit new employees and keep current ones from leaving. It also sought payment for the legal expenses of current executives and board members.

Each component requires bankruptcy court approval.

Part of the plan would allow the company to pay up to \$90 million in bonuses to hundreds of senior managers and employees working on asset sales. The payments would be funded with a small portion of the cash they collect from those sales.

Additional retention bonuses of up to \$40 million would be paid to others involved in day-to-day operations.

"Clearly, some security must be afforded to these employees," the company said in its filing with U.S. Bankruptcy Court. "Otherwise, they have little or no reason to defer finding new jobs."

For people now working at Enron but who might be laid off, the company is proposing a new severance package that would be based on years of service, with a maximum of eight weeks

base pay and a minimum of \$4,500. Total severance would not exceed \$7 million. "Enron has cut about 4,500 workers since Dec. 2, when it filed for protection from creditors under Chapter 11 of federal bankruptcy law."

In its filing, the company said compensation opportunities at Enron have greatly diminished since the loss in value of its 401(k) plan, other stock-incentive programs and the depletion of previous retirement plans.

"Key employees are not being compensated at competitive market levels," the company said.

In addition to the retention and severance proposals, Enron also requested authorization to pay certain legal expenses for directors and officers still with the company.

It said its insurance policies, which are supposed to cover the legal expenses of current and former directors and officers, "may be

inadequate." Several insurers have balked at honoring those policies, saying they were misled by Enron.

The payments proposed Friday would not cover legal costs of Enron's former top executives and directors, who are named in a multitude of employee and shareholder lawsuits and face investigations by Congress, the Securities and Exchange Commission and the Justice Department.

Company claims cyber school stole its course materials, sues

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — An online publishing company Friday sued a charter school that offers classes only over the Internet, claiming the school illegally copied course materials without paying for them.

The federal lawsuit was filed by New Forum Publishers, which offers online textbooks and curriculum guidelines to schools that pay a fee based on how many students they allow to access the material.

The publisher claims it offered Einstein Academy Charter School administrators a temporary password to its Web site in 2001 so the school could evaluate the material and decide whether to subscribe.

Einstein used the password to copy textbooks and other material, then distributed them to students, according to the lawsuit. New Forum said Einstein never subscribed to the service or paid a membership fee.

Attempts to reach Einstein executives or the school's lawyer by telephone Friday evening were unsuccessful.

Einstein has been hit by a flurry of lawsuits since it opened in September, including several from public school districts trying to stop their students from enrolling.

Under the state's charter school regulations, Einstein can enroll students anywhere in Pennsylvania. The school's tuition is covered by each student's local school district. Many have refused to pay, claiming the school hasn't done enough to ensure that its 2,000 students are getting a good education.

Two senior Andersen partners named to lead firm's transition

NEW YORK (AP) — Paul Volcker, the former Federal Reserve chairman in charge of trying to save Arthur Andersen, named two senior partners Friday to lead the firm's transition.

The announcement came a day after Andersen said it would embrace Volcker's plans for shaking up the firm, which has been indicted for destroying documents related to its audits of failed energy giant Enron.

The plans include separating the auditing and consulting practices to avoid conflicts of interest. No decision has been made on

what to do with the consulting business, where 60 percent of the firm's partners work.

The top ranks of the struggling company were jolted earlier this week when Joseph Berardino resigned as Andersen's global chief executive Tuesday. He has not been replaced.

The U.S. firm is currently being led by managing partner Larry Gorrell and a group within the firm that is representing Andersen in talks with the Justice Department.

Senior partners C.E. Andrews and Larry Rieger

will oversee the firm's transition to a new structure.

Volcker has said the firm will survive the exodus of clients if a number of requirements are met — including the Justice Department dropping its indictment against Andersen, something the department has indicated it has no plans to do.

Volcker also said progress has been made in talks to settle class-action lawsuits against the firm. But shortly after he made those remarks, a court-appointed mediator in talks between Andersen, Enron and lawyers for employees and

shareholders suing both entities, released a statement saying that "serious issues" remained.

The mediator, Eric D. Green, said he spoke out "in part to correct any other releases that may have been made by anybody else."

In his remarks, Volcker also hinted that there might be other changes in senior management. He has wide authority to mandate changes at Andersen under an agreement he reached with the firm in February.

The plan also calls for Volcker to take over the firm and head a seven-member governing board. That step will still occur if the other conditions of Volcker's plan are met, including the end of the legal actions against Andersen by the Justice Department and the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Whatever changes happen, clearly a new Andersen would be considerably smaller than today's firm, which employs 28,000 people in the United States.

Meanwhile, clients continued to flee the firm. Credit reporting agency Equifax, Domino's, and Xcel Energy all said Friday that they had switched auditors.

Probes of Clintons cost \$70 million

WASHINGTON (AP) — The investigative arm of Congress said Friday that the criminal investigation of former President Clinton and Hillary Rodham Clinton has cost \$70 million.

The General Accounting Office's figures make the probe of the Clintons the most expensive in the history of the now-expired law under which court-appointed independent counsels investigated top political figures.

The probe of the Clintons long ago surpassed the previous record of \$47.4 million, spent by prosecutor Lawrence Walsh during his six-year investigation of the Iran-Contra scandal.

The Clinton investigation,

which began in 1994, eclipsed the Iran-Contra cost three years ago.

The GAO said that Independent Counsel Robert Ray spent \$3.7 million in the six months ending last Sept. 30, raising the total costs for the probe to \$68 million. With additional costs since then, the figure is around \$70 million.

In his final report earlier this month, Ray said he and his predecessor, Kenneth Starr, spent \$42 million investigating the Clintons' involvement with their real estate partners Jim and Susan McDougal, owners of a failed Arkansas savings and loan.

Ray said that, as of a year ago, he and Starr had spent:

—\$12.5 million on the perjury and obstruction probe of the president and his sexual relationship with former White House intern Monica Lewinsky.

—\$1.8 million investigating the death of deputy White House counsel Vincent Foster, which was ruled a suicide.

—\$2 million investigating whether Hillary Clinton and presidential aides lied about the first lady's role in the purge of the White House travel office.

—\$1.8 million investigating the Clinton White House's gathering of FBI background files of hundreds of employees from Republican administrations.

SEC, Justice Department open investigation of Baker Hughes

HOUSTON (AP) — The Securities and Exchange Commission and the Department of Justice are investigating Baker Hughes Inc. in connection with its operations in Nigeria and other related matters, the company has announced.

Last week, a former region operations manager for the company's oil and

gas drilling operations in Nigeria filed a lawsuit against his former employer, alleging the company fired him for refusing to pay a bribe to a Nigerian oil official.

"Baker Hughes' policy is to provide full cooperation to the government and it is doing so in connection with this matter," the company

said in a statement Friday.

Alan Ferguson, a British national who was overseeing a division of Baker Hughes' operations in Nigeria, filed the lawsuit last Monday. He said he lost his job five months after refusing to give a share of the company's contract revenues to the Nigerian official.

END OF GAME NOTICE

Ten Reasons to Play Now.

12 WAYS TO CELEBRATE Game #180 (15) Overall Odds are 1 in 3.24	RACEWAY RICHES Game #194 (42) Overall Odds are 1 in 4.26	CASH EXPLOSION Game #203 (11) Overall Odds are 1 in 4.42
TRIPLE CASH IN A FLASH Game #205 (11) Overall Odds are 1 in 4.52	TEXAS FOOTBALL FEVER Game #218 (12) Overall Odds are 1 in 4.54	WILD MONEY Game #240 (11) Overall Odds are 1 in 4.77
HIGH ROLLER Game #238 (15) Overall Odds are 1 in 3.30	MONEY IN THE BANK Game #243 (11) Overall Odds are 1 in 4.76	TEXAS TRAILS Game #700 (12) Overall Odds are 1 in 4.94

These games will close on April 30, 2002. You have until October 27, 2002 to redeem any winning tickets for these games.

7-11-21

You can claim prizes of up to \$599 at any Texas Lottery retailer. Prizes of \$400 or more are redeemable at one of the 22 Texas Lottery Claim Centers or by mail. Questions? Call the Texas Lottery Customer Service Line at 1-800-37-LOTTO (1-800-375-6886).

NOTE: A scratch-off game may continue to be sold even when all the top prizes have been claimed. *The odds listed here are the overall odds of winning any prize in these games, including break-even prizes. Must be 18 years or older to purchase a ticket. © 2002 Texas Lottery.

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01 Dodge Neon \$8,988	01 Chevy Cavalier \$9,488	98 Oldsmobile Intrigue \$8,988	98 Plymouth Voyager \$8,588
98 Buick LeSabre \$10,988	01 Saturn I51 \$11,988	98 Ford Windstar \$9,988	98 Chevy Astro Van \$9,988

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Headg

KLAMATH FALLS (AP) — Farmers cheered, federal officials frowned Friday from first time since the drought was halted. Members of two banded drums to the Bush administration needs of farmers are considered Klamath Basin. Due to drought last year to cut Klamath area far fields of wheat, The decision res

Judge o support

WASHINGTON (AP) — A federal judge's decision could pave the way for legal action in the nation for medical place the matter voters this fall. U.S. District Judge Sullivan on Thursday turned a federal had effectively District of Columbia from putting on the ballot. The law was filed by Congress 1998

Correcti

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) — The Department of Corrections discontinued its inmate art show at the sale of art in prisons amid a drive over a serial killer. Corrections Commissioner James Flateau Friday that the "On Canvas" show 35 years in the Office Building has been eliminated. At the state Corrections Commission, Glenn Goord ordered the state's 67,000-plu

Jeffrey

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Colorado compared Jeffrey Dahmer murderers is in an attorney for families said Friday. Spectre Studios hand-painted, p urines of Dah Bundy, John W and Wisconsin Gein.

Creator David declined to be interviewed by The Associated Press but said in an e-mail "was making my artwork. I'm

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David G. General Manager

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Headgates open to farmers' cheers in dispute over irrigation

KLAMATH FALLS, Ore. (AP) — As farmers cheered, federal officials let the water flow Friday from a canal into fields for the first time since last summer, when irrigation was halted amid fears about endangered sucker fish.

Members of two Indian tribes chanted and banged drums to show their concern that the Bush administration is favoring the needs of farmers over their own. The fish are considered sacred to tribes in the Klamath Basin.

Due to drought, federal officials decided last year to cut off water to about 1,000 Klamath area farmers that use it to irrigate fields of wheat, potatoes and other crops. The decision resulted in confrontations pit-

ting farmers against environmentalists, Indian tribes and conservationists.

Federal officials decided to open the headgates Friday because of increased snow and rain this winter. But only two months of irrigation water have been authorized because federal agencies are still awaiting opinions, due June 1, from biology experts on long-term environmental impacts of water releases.

"We've come to understand and know the needs of agriculture in this valley," Interior Secretary Gale Norton said. "We have to find ways to balance the needs of the ecosystem and of people."

Norton and Agriculture Secretary Ann Veneman cranked open the headgates.

Farmers displayed a red, white and blue banner reading: "Thank you President Bush for caring about rural America."

They chanted "Let the water flow! Let the water flow!"

A banner carried by tribal members read: "Bush kills salmon." When Norton spotted it, she said: "We don't think that's true."

After the expert opinions are in, federal officials will reassess how much water is available for farmers.

The National Marine Fisheries Service and Fish and Wildlife Service have agreed that sending irrigation water to farmers will not jeopardize endangered species during April and May, according to a task force set up by the Bush administration to find

solutions to the water dispute.

Linda Lown, who farms 80 acres of alfalfa, said no one has come up with a way to guarantee a sufficient amount of water for farmers, fish and wildlife.

"People are skeptical that it will be resolved ... that there won't be further challenges," she said.

Environmentalists caution that giving farmers as much water as they need might mean that there won't be enough for fish or wildlife.

"We don't begrudge the farmers water. We just wish there was more effort made by the federal government to strike a balance," said Steve Pedery of the Portland-based conservation group WaterWatch.

Judge overturns law preventing medical marijuana supporters from putting issue before voters of D.C.

WASHINGTON (AP) — A federal judge's decision could pave the way for supporters of legalizing marijuana in the nation's capital for medical purposes to place the matter before city voters this fall.

U.S. District Judge Emmet Sullivan on Thursday overturned a federal law that had effectively blocked District of Columbia residents from putting the issue on the ballot.

The law was first enacted by Congress 1998, after dis-

trict residents voted to legalize marijuana for medical use. Known as the Barr Amendment for its sponsor, Rep. Bob Barr, R-Ga., the law has since been added yearly to legislation governing federal spending in the district.

The ballot initiative, which supporters want to again place on the city's ballot in November, would change city law to make it legal for seriously ill patients to get and use marijuana if their physicians recommend it.

But the District of Columbia Board of Elections and Ethics declined to certify the proposed initiative, citing the Barr Amendment's ban on the city using federal funds to pursue it. The initiative's supporters, the Marijuana Policy Project, then sued the city and federal governments.

Sullivan granted their request for an injunction barring the law's enforcement, saying it unconstitutional limits political speech.

"The Constitution does not allow Congress to pre-clear acceptable viewpoints for public debate and expression," he wrote.

Sullivan noted Congress could enact a law prohibiting changes in district drug laws or veto any legislation passed by citizens.

In order for the initiative to appear on city ballots in November, supporters must get petition forms approved by the board and then collect and certify 16,000 valid signatures, all by July fifth.

Corrections department ends sale of inmate art, art show

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) — The Department of Correctional Services has discontinued its annual inmate art show and banned the sale of art produced in prisons amid an uproar over a serial killer who profited from his works.

Corrections spokesman James Flateau confirmed Friday that the "Corrections on Canvas" show, held for 35 years in the Legislative Office Building in Albany, has been eliminated.

At the same time, Corrections Commissioner Glenn Goord ordered, effective immediately, that the state's 67,000-plus inmates

are not allowed to profit from their art or handicraft, though they can still produce it.

Inmates, who buy their own art supplies, had been allowed to keep half the proceeds from their sales in the nine-day show, with the other half going to the state Crime Victims Board.

Last year, \$5,395 went to the Crime Victims Board, bringing the total over the past 16 years to more than \$45,000, Flateau said.

"It was designed to allow inmates to show that during incarceration, they were finding positive ways to use their time in a manner that

was felt contributed to rehabilitation," Flateau said. "In more recent years, the show has been perceived by some as the state providing a forum for inmates to profit from their crimes."

Last year, a portrait of the late Princess Diana was among 10 sketches and paintings by convicted serial killer Arthur Shawcross selling for up to \$540 each.

Relatives of Shawcross' victims were outraged. Shawcross, 56, is serving a 250-year sentence for killing 11 Rochester-area women a decade ago.

Robert Gangi, executive director of the Correctional

Association of New York, called the ban a "blow to the rehabilitative process, at least for those inmates who produce attractive art."

Gangi said most inmate artists are not predatory or dangerous, and selling their art helped rehabilitating inmates "increase their sense of themselves."

After the uproar over Shawcross, Gov. George Pataki directed Goord to review the rules to disallow participation by notorious violent criminals. Goord took the directive one step further and barred it for all inmates.

Jeffrey Dahmer action figure upsets victims' families

MILWAUKEE (AP) — A Colorado company's line of dolls depicting serial killer Jeffrey Dahmer and other murderers is in poor taste, an attorney for victims' families said Friday.

Spectre Studios offers hand-painted, posable figurines of Dahmer, Ted Bundy, John Wayne Gacy and Wisconsin killer Ed Gein.

Creator David Johnson declined to be interviewed by The Associated Press, but said in an e-mail that he "was making money doing my artwork. I'm sure that

seems a very feeble excuse for a victim's family member watching the news."

In 1991, Dahmer admitted killing 17 young men and boys in Milwaukee, mutilating the victims and cannibalizing some of them. Gein, whose story is echoed in the movies "Psycho" and "Silence of the Lambs," committed his crimes in Plainfield.

Families of the victims go through the horror of Dahmer's crimes every time they hear his name, said Tom Jacobson, a Milwaukee lawyer who represented the

families of 11 of Dahmer's victims.

"Do you know how awful it is for these families every time something like this happens?" Jacobson said. "Isn't that sick and disgusting — taking advantage of what this man did? What will people exploit next?"

He conceded there is nothing the families can do to stop sales of the figures. Lawsuits seeking to stop a comic book depicting Dahmer and a book written by Dahmer's father were unsuccessful.

Michael Lisowski, who

knew four of Dahmer's victims, said the figures may offend some but are obviously in demand.

"I think it's grotesque, but I mean the guy must be doing it because there's a market for it," he said. "I suppose people jump into that, they see Jeffrey Dahmer and jump on the bandwagon. I think you have to kind of let the thing run its course."

Body of abducted girl found in southwestern Louisiana

HATHAWAY, La. (AP) — The body of a 12-year-old girl was found Friday in a gully, a day after she was abducted from outside her home in southwestern Louisiana.

Jefferson Davis Parish Sheriff Ricky Edwards would not say where exactly Holli Thibodeaux's body was found, nor how she died. Edwards declined to give any further details.

Dozens of FBI agents had joined the search Friday for Holli. She was abducted Thursday at the Hathaway Village Trailer Park after the driver of a pickup stopped to ask for direc-

tions to nearby Jennings, Edwards said.

The man grabbed Holli, threw her into his truck and drove north on Louisiana Highway 26, Edwards said.

Another girl who was with Holli ran and escaped. The FBI released a composite sketch of the suspect and said they were looking for a light blue, full-sized pickup truck with a new silver toolbox and a red-and-yellow ladder in the back.

FBI agent Kenneth Kaiser said agents had several leads and had gathered evidence from the site.

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Ceremony of Hope



May 10-11, 2002
Blankenship Field

On May 10 and 11, many of your friends and neighbors will run or walk on a track for 24 hours at Blankenship Field in an effort to put cancer on the run. At 10 p.m. on Friday, May 10, there will be a chance for you to participate in a candle lighting ceremony to honor special people in your life who have battled cancer or are undergoing treatment now.

Luminarias may be purchased for a donation either by filling out and returning the form below or at the event preceding the ceremony.

Please Print

I would like to purchase _____ luminarias for a donation of _____ in honor/memory of _____

Please write the following message on my luminaria: _____

Purchased by: _____

Address: _____

Make checks payable to: ACS / Relay for Life
Return to: JoAnne Forrest, 1411 Derrick Rd., Big Spring, TX 79720
For more information: Call 267-6286

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David Gates
General Manager

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at



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New meal sizes to suit every appetite.

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\$5.99 - The Classic - 1 Entree, 4 Sides and Bread

\$6.99 - The Works - Anything You Want, Seconds Are On Us!

Each side is your choice of a salad, soup, vegetable or dessert.

FRESH NEW FOOD

Tasty new entrees, salads, soups, breads and desserts!

FRESH NEW PORTIONS

Dig into satisfying servings of all your favorites.

FRESH NEW SMILES

Get the great service you deserve.

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Military upgrading flexibility, feels diplomatic rebuff on Iraq

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. military presence in the Persian Gulf has increased substantially due to the war in Afghanistan, but there's little doubt the new troops and equipment could be turned on Iraq in a future offensive.

The number of U.S. military personnel in the Gulf region and Central Asia — from Saudi Arabia to Pakistan — has increased from fewer than 25,000 to nearly 80,000, since the Sept. 11 attacks.

While about 7,000 are in Afghanistan, thousands more have been sent to the Gulf region to support the Afghan operation.

In Kuwait — at Iraq's door — the number of American troops has nearly doubled, from 5,500 to about 10,500, since Sept. 11, defense officials said.

Most are support personnel who keep planes flying and food flowing to troops in the field.

But Gen. Tommy Franks, who commands U.S. forces

Analysts say

Attack might take 100,000 or more troops

WASHINGTON (AP) — It would start with a fierce air bombardment. Next, special forces could fan out to create "no-movement" zones and then search for biological and chemical weapons. Predator remote-controlled planes would patrol for Scuds on the ground.

In the end, however, it would take a much more massive military commitment than in Afghanistan if the United States were to attack Iraq.

In all, analysts say, 100,000 or more American troops might be needed

in the region, said he's considering augmenting the ground combat force in Kuwait, which now numbers 3,500 to 4,000 troops.

In Saudi Arabia, weapons and other gear are being pulled out of long-term stor-

age. Some computer and communications equipment is going to a previously secret base in Qatar, potentially giving U.S. forces a command center outside of Saudi Arabia, where there's little support for a new

offensive against Iraq. Senior U.S. defense officials insist the Gulf buildup is not a prelude to an invasion of Iraq, but they acknowledge it is serving as a warning to Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, and would

be useful in a future conflict.

They provide both valuable training and "a hedge against miscalculation," by Saddam, Franks told reporters Friday at a Pentagon briefing.

have not decided whether to attack Iraq. The administration accuses Saddam of developing weapons of mass destruction and sponsoring terrorists, and says it is considering options from diplomatic pressure to covert action to military strikes.

If Bush did decide on military action, he would have options ranging from isolated airstrikes to support for Iraqi rebels to a full-scale assault aimed at overthrowing Saddam.

"Anything short of a ground invasion would run

a high risk of failure," said Philip Gordon of the Brookings Institution, who echoes many analysts in saying that if military action is taken, it must be decisive.

An attack generally would feature more special forces and more precision bombs than were used in the 1991 Gulf War.

Most analysts believe an attack would not come before the fall because the administration would give Saddam a chance to readmit U.N. weapons inspectors first.

Franks said he has received no order to plan for war with Iraq.

But the general made clear he's working to ensure the United States could run a war in the Gulf, even if allies such as Saudi Arabia refused to allow operations from its soil.

"Let me put it this way. We are increasing or improving our command and control capacity in all of my region," Franks commented.

The Bush administration accuses Iraq of developing weapons of mass destruction and sponsoring terrorists, and says options are being considered ranging from diplomatic efforts to push Saddam to readmit U.N. weapons inspectors to possible military action.

Saudi Arabia, a U.S. ally, has made clear that America should not invade Iraq, and that if Bush decides to go ahead, U.S. troops could not operate from Saudi soil — at least publicly.

Israel insists it intentionally has Palestinian leadership become increasingly Saturday that Israel to keep him pen the time being.

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Britain's que mother, a fa royal, dies a

LONDON (AP) Queen Mother Eli symbol of courage nity during a tu century of war upheaval and roya died Saturday in She was 101 years

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Government says Lindh treated same as U.S. soldiers in Afghanistan

WASHINGTON (AP) — Far from enduring the horrific conditions claimed by his lawyers, American-born Taliban John Walker Lindh was treated as well as U.S. soldiers during his captivity in Afghanistan, federal prosecutors say.

Rebutting defense claims, prosecutors said in court papers filed Friday that Lindh, shot in the leg, received "the very same

medical treatment provided to wounded United States military personnel."

He was fed the same Meals Ready To Eat, in the same quantities, and was given warm comforters in freezing weather, they said.

"While the Navy physician who was treating him had to sleep on a concrete floor in a sleeping bag in a room with a hole in the wall and a hole in the ceiling,

Lindh slept on a stretcher in a container that protected him from the elements," prosecutors said.

The defense had argued that incriminating statements Lindh made to interrogators should be thrown out, in part because he was interviewed after being confined in a freezing metal container, bound with circulation-cutting handcuffs and blindfolded.

The government did acknowledge that conditions in a U.S. military camp in Afghanistan weren't ideal.

However, the court filing said, the United States "had not plucked John Walker Lindh out of the California suburb where he used to live and dropped him into a metal container in the middle of Afghanistan."

Lindh entered that country, sought out training at

an al-Qaida camp in Afghanistan, learned to use shoulder-fired weapons and grenades and swore allegiance to jihad, or holy war, the government said.

Lindh is charged with conspiracy to murder U.S. nationals, providing support and services to foreign terrorist organizations and using firearms and destructive devices during crimes of violence. Three of the 10

Copies of the libel threat were sent to Amazon.com, Borders Inc. and Barnes & Noble, all of which have the book listed on their Web sites.

"We had repeatedly made contact with these guys, trying to work with them," Joseph said of Lindh's lawyers. "We called them up and left a message saying,

"We'll show you a copy of the book. We'll even let you print your rebuttal."

Joseph said another edition with footnotes would be released later.

Lindh, 21, is awaiting trial in Virginia on charges he conspired to kill Americans abroad by aiding terrorists.

Publisher sends out 10,000 copies of John Walker Lindh paperback book

SAN JOSE, Calif. (AP) — About 10,000 copies of a book about John Walker Lindh's road to a Taliban training camp are now on the market, the publisher says.

The books were shipped to retailers Monday, despite a written warning from a member of Lindh's defense team alleging the book contained defamatory mate-

rial, said publisher Rhawn Joseph of San Jose-based University Press, California.

Nearly 12,000 orders for the 224-page paperback book, "John Walker Lindh: American Taliban," have been received so far, Joseph said Thursday.

Lindh attorney George Harris had warned in his letter, sent

March 12 in response to promotional descriptions of the book, that "publication would be at your peril." The letter contended "the book is grossly and outrageously false and defamatory," but did not provide specifics.

Kerry Efigineo, a spokeswoman for the Lindh defense team, said Harris had no further comment.



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Israelis

RAMALLAH, (AP) — Israel allowed pita bread and other badly ripen Saturday in Arafat's office where the leader was effectively detention, able Israeli soldiers Hebrew just on side of the walls.

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Israelis allow food in for besieged Arafat and aides as supplies dwindle

RAMALLAH, West Bank (AP) — Israeli forces allowed pita bread, cheese and other badly needed supplies Saturday into Yasser Arafat's office building, where the Palestinian leader was effectively under detention, able to hear Israeli soldiers speaking Hebrew just on the other side of the walls, aides said.

Water, electricity and land phones were out in the three-story building within a sprawling Ramallah compound overrun by Israeli troops Friday. Arafat spent much of his second day in confinement working with his aides in a darkened room, his face illuminated by a flashlight.

Israel insists it will not intentionally harm the Palestinian leader, but it became increasingly clear Saturday that Israel intends to keep him penned in for the time being.

At a Cabinet meeting Friday, Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's aides hotly contested what to do with the Palestinian leader. Defense Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer indicated Saturday that Sharon advocated expelling Arafat from the Palestinian areas, and only changed his mind when intelligence officials warned him such a step would be counterproductive.

Israel took over the compound and the rest of the West Bank city of Ramallah in what it calls the start of large-scale operation against militants after a string of anti-Israeli attacks.

With food supplies running low Saturday, the Israeli military provided pita bread, mineral water, cheese, eggs, flashlights, candles and canned meat for the people inside the building.

Adam Shapiro, an American who was trapped alongside Arafat for 24 hours until Israeli troops let him leave Saturday evening, said the Palestinian leader was in "good spirits" and trying to keep up the morale of those around him during a harrowing night.

"He is certainly steadfast, he is deeply saddened by the

Britain's queen mother, a favorite royal, dies at 101

LONDON (AP) — The Queen Mother Elizabeth, a symbol of courage and dignity during a tumultuous century of war, social upheaval and royal scandal, died Saturday in her sleep. She was 101 years old.

After years of frailty and ill health, the queen mother died "peacefully" at Royal Lodge, Windsor, outside London, Buckingham Palace said. Her death came seven weeks after the death of her younger daughter, Princess Margaret, at age 71.

Queen Elizabeth II was at her mother's side when she died. The queen mother had rarely been seen in recent months because of her failing health.

The queen mother "had become increasingly frail in recent weeks following her bad cough and chest infection over Christmas," said a palace spokesman, who was not named in keeping with tradition.

Prince Charles and his sons Princes William and Harry were "completely devastated" after being informed of the news on their skiing holiday in Switzerland, a royal spokesman said. Charles was very close to his grandmother, was cutting short his vacation to return home on Sunday.

Britain's main television and radio channels interrupted regular programs with news of the death. National figures and ordinary people from all walks of life united in expressing admiration and grief for the queen mother.

situation, the tremendous loss of life, but at the same time, he is trying to inspire people to continue their struggle," Shapiro said.

Israeli troops hit the building sporadically with heavy machine gun fire, said Shapiro, a member of a group in solidarity with Palestinians who entered the compound Friday to help treat the wounded.

It was not clear how many were still in the office build-

ing. Shapiro reported up to 60 bodyguards and 40 staff were with Arafat, though the number may have been lower by the time he left. Some reports said only a few people were left in the compound by Saturday night: three Arafat advisers, his doctor, the head of the presidential guard and his official photographer.

Shapiro, who is from New York City, said Arafat and his aides made use of the

entire three-story office building. But there were dangers in movement: one of Arafat's guards was shot and killed as he moved along an overpass linking the office building with a neighboring one, Shapiro said. Two Palestinians total have been killed in the compound and at least two dozen wounded. Nine more Palestinians and two Israeli soldiers have died in fighting elsewhere in Ramallah

since Friday.

Shapiro and Arafat and about six aides shared breakfast on the floor of one of the rooms Saturday morning.


Palestinian Information Minister Yasser Abed Rabbo, who stayed in touch with Arafat by cellular phone, said Israeli forces were so close that Arafat and his aides could hear the Hebrew spoken behind nearby walls.

When Israeli troops backed by tanks Friday stormed the complex, which is the size of a city block, soldiers entered buildings adjoining the offices, knocking down wall after wall until they reached the wall shared with Arafat's building.

Ben-Eliezer said soldiers had strict orders not to enter Arafat's office building and not to harm him in any way.

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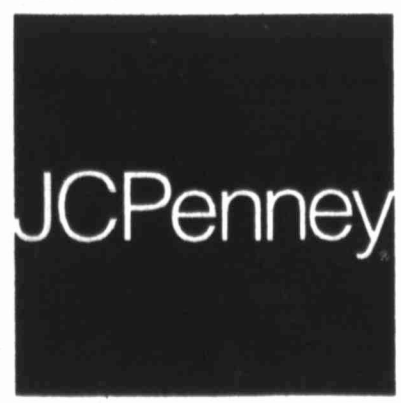


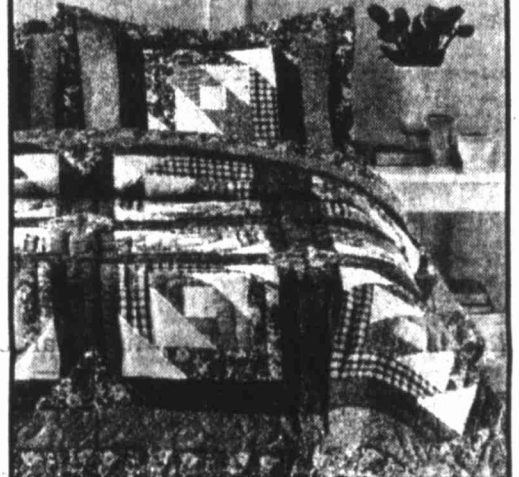
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FOR HER
50%
ENTIRE STOCK:

- Carolyn Taylor® sweaters
- Worthington® silk/linen suited separates
- Worthington® silk/cotton separates
- Cabin Creek® wrinkle-free pants
- St. John's Bay® flat-front twill pants
- SJB Active® stretch pique separates
- Delicates® Spa rayon & terry cloth robes
- gold earrings

50%
SPECIAL SELECTION:

- dresses & pantsuits
- Crazy Horse® coordinates
- national-brand collections from Alfred Dunner®, Sag Harbor® & Koret®
- spring sweaters from St. John's Bay® & Cabin Creek®
- juniors' Arizona Jean Co.® basic jeans
- gold chains

it's all inside:




MONDAY & TUESDAY ONLY!
FOR HOME
50%
ENTIRE STOCK:

- The JCPenney bed pillow
- "BIGGER" bath towels, "BIGGER" bath rugs & "BIGGER" accent rugs
- made-to-measure blinds, shades, curtains & draperies

50%
SPECIAL SELECTION:

- quilts & sheets
- Protocol® luggage



MONDAY & TUESDAY ONLY!
FOR KIDS
50%
SPECIAL SELECTION:

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- girls' Easter dresses
- boys' athletic pants and team tees
- boys' OTB® woven shirts
- Bright Future® infant bedding groups
- Carter's® crib sheets, blankets & diaper bags

SALE PRICES EFFECTIVE APRIL 1-2, 2002, unless otherwise noted. Percentages off regular price or original price. Actual savings may exceed stated percentage off. "Regular" and "Original" prices reflect offering prices which may not have resulted in actual sales. Any event designated as a "sale" excludes Value Right merchandise and items sold everyday with discounts if purchased in multiples of "2" or more. Intermediate markdowns may have been taken on original-priced merchandise. Clearance items available while supplies last. Merchandise selection may vary from one JCPenney store to another.

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Big Spring Sunday, M

SPORTS

NCAA - M

THE FINAL FOUR
At The Georgia Dome
Atlanta
National Semifinals
Saturday, March 30
Indiana (24-11) vs. C
Maryland (30-4) vs. C

NCAA - W

THE FINAL FOUR
At The Alamodome
San Antonio
National Semifinals
Friday, March 29
Oklahoma 96, Duke
Connecticut 79, Ten
National Championship
Sunday, March 31
Oklahoma (32-3) vs.
p.m.

AL SCHEDULE

Today's Game
Cleveland (Colon
Washburn 11-10), 7:05
Monday's Games
Toronto at Boston, 12
NY Yankees at Baltim
Minnesota at Kansas
Chicago White Sox at
Texas at Oakland, 9:0

NL SCHEDULE

Today's Games
No games scheduled
Monday's Games
Philadelphia at Atlant
Pittsburgh at N.Y. Met
Chicago Cubs at Cinc
San Diego at Arizona,
Colorado at St. Louis,
Tuesday's Games
San Francisco at Los
Milwaukee at Housto
Florida at Montreal, 6
San Diego at Arizona,

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE
Atlantic Division
W L
x-New Jersey 47 41
Boston 41 43
Orlando 39 38
Philadelphia 38 38
Washington 34 34
Miami 32 32
New York 27 27
Central Division
W L
Detroit 43 43
Milwaukee 38 38
Charlotte 37 37
Indiana 35 35
Toronto 34 34
Atlanta 29 29
Cleveland 25 25
Chicago 17 17

WESTERN CONFERENCE
Midwest Division
W L
x-Dallas 50 49
x-San Antonio 49 49
Minnesota 44 44
Utah 40 40
Houston 26 26
Denver 21 21
Memphis 18 18
Pacific Division
W L
x-Sacramento 52 52
x-Lakers 44 44
Portland 42 42
Seattle 42 42
L.A. Clippers 37 37
Phoenix 33 33
Golden State 18 18
x-clinched playoff spot

Friday's Games
Washington 107, Milwauk
Dallas 108, Boston 82
Miami 92, Atlanta 80
Orlando 114, Indiana 106
Sacramento 92, Charlotte
Minnesota 98, New York
Detroit 110, Golden State
L.A. Clippers 96, Phoe
Seattle 79, San Antonio 7
L.A. Lakers 91, Portlan
Saturday's Games
New Jersey 102, Philadel
Charlotte at Cleveland, (n)
Golden State at Memph
Denver at Chicago, (n)
Phoenix at Houston, (n)
Seattle at Portland, (n)
Utah at L.A. Clippers, (n)
Sunday's Games
Milwaukee at Boston, 11
Sacramento at Atlanta, 1
Miami at Indiana, 2 p.m.
Dallas at Washington, 2 p
New York at Orlando, 2 p
New Jersey at Minnesota,
Toronto at Philadelphia, 2
San Antonio at L.A. Lak
Denver at Detroit, 7 p.m.
Monday's Games
No games scheduled

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE
Atlantic Division
W L
x-Philadelphia 40 21
N.Y. Islanders 36 26
New Jersey 34 27
N.Y. Rangers 31 36
Pittsburgh 28 34
Northwest Division
W L
x-Boston 41 22
Toronto 38 23
Ottawa 36 24
Montreal 30 29
Buffalo 30 34
Southeast Division
W L
Carolina 32 24
Washington 32 32
Tampa Bay 25 34
Florida 21 41
Atlanta 19 43

WESTERN CONFERENCE
Central Division
W L
y-Detroit 50 14
Chicago 38 23
St. Louis 36 25
Nashville 26 39
Columbus 20 41
Northwest Division
W L
Colorado 41 25
Edmonton 34 26
Vancouver 36 30
Calgary 28 31
Minnesota 25 31
Pacific Division
W L
San Jose 38 25

IN BRIEF

Steers drop close decision at Levelland

Big Spring's Steers suffered a 6-5 loss to Levelland's Lobos in District 4-4A baseball action on Friday.

The loss leaves the Steers with a 2-4 record in district play going into Tuesday's 4:30 p.m. game against Plainview's Bulldogs at Steer Park.

Ice cream social to honor Franks

An ice cream social to honor former Big Spring Steers star and current NFL Pro Bowler Daniel "Bubba" Franks will be held from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. Friday, April 5, at Steer Gym.

The event is being sponsored by the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, Big Spring Independent School District, the city of Big Spring and H.E.B.

A presentation by Big Spring Mayor Russ McEwen is scheduled, as well as autograph and photo opportunities with Franks, who is a tight end with the Green Bay Packers.

Lady Hawks get wins over EPCC's Tejanas

Howard College's Lady Hawks took three of four games from El Paso Community College's Tejanas in Western Junior College Athletic Conference softball action last week.

The Lady Hawks opened the four-game road trip with a 4-3 loss to the Tejanas. However, they rebounded to split the first doubleheader with an 8-0 win.

They followed that with 3-1 and 7-4 wins the next day, improving to 29-13 overall and 6-2 in conference play.

They will travel to Midland on Wednesday and Thursday to take on Midland College's Lady Chaparrals in twinbills set for 4 p.m. starts.

Country Club slates 3-person scramble

The Big Spring Country Club will hold a 3-person scramble Saturday and Sunday with shotgun starts slated for 1 p.m. on both days.

Entry fees are \$50 per player, plus the cost of cart rental. However, private carts are welcome.

The field will be flighted for Sunday's round based on Saturday scores.

For more information or to enter, call the pro shop at 267-5354.

Teen League baseball meeting scheduled

A Teen-age League baseball meeting has been scheduled for 7 p.m. Monday at the Roy Anderson Complex.

Anyone interested in coaching or helping with the league is invited to attend.

Registration for players wanting to be placed on a team will begin from noon to 5 p.m. Saturday.

Players must bring a copy of their birth certificate and the \$65 registration fee.

For more info, call Darrell or Sheri Nichols at 263-2917 after 5 p.m.

Little League umpires needed

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

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

Forsan runners compete well at Bluebonnet Relays

HERALD Staff Report

BROWNWOOD — Forsan's Queens compiled 84 points to finish third in the girls' teams standings Friday at the Bluebonnet Relays, while the Buffs managed 31 points to finish sixth in the boys' team standings.

Becky Zubiate provided the Queens' first points when she won the 3,200 meters with a time of 13:30.02 and late added a second-place finish in the 1,600 meters with a 6:17.01 clocking.

The Queens' 400-meter relay four-some of Krista Gamble, Lindsey

Allen, Jaclyn Hise and Candace Gamble added another first-place finish with a time of 52.83.

Hise added a win in the 400 meters, finishing with a time of 65.08 seconds, while Candace Gamble won the 200 meters with a 28.0 clocking.

Allen chipped in a third-place time of 13.29 seconds in the 100 meters, while she, Krista Gamble, Casie Harmon and Kesha Christian combined for a fourth-place time of 1:57.74 in the 800-meter relay.

And in the 1,600-meter relay saw Zubiate, Candace Gamble, Cynthia Becerra and Hise combine for a

4:33.02 clocking, good enough for third place.

The Buffs' only first-place finish came in the field events where Billy Kinsey won the discus with a toss of 133 feet, 5 inches. Teammate Donny Allen added third place with a 120-1.

Josh Bedwell, Wes Longorio, David Lee and Cody Lefever combined for a third-place clocking of 44.71 seconds in the 400-meter relay, and Lee added a sixth-place point in the 200 meters with a time of 25.04.

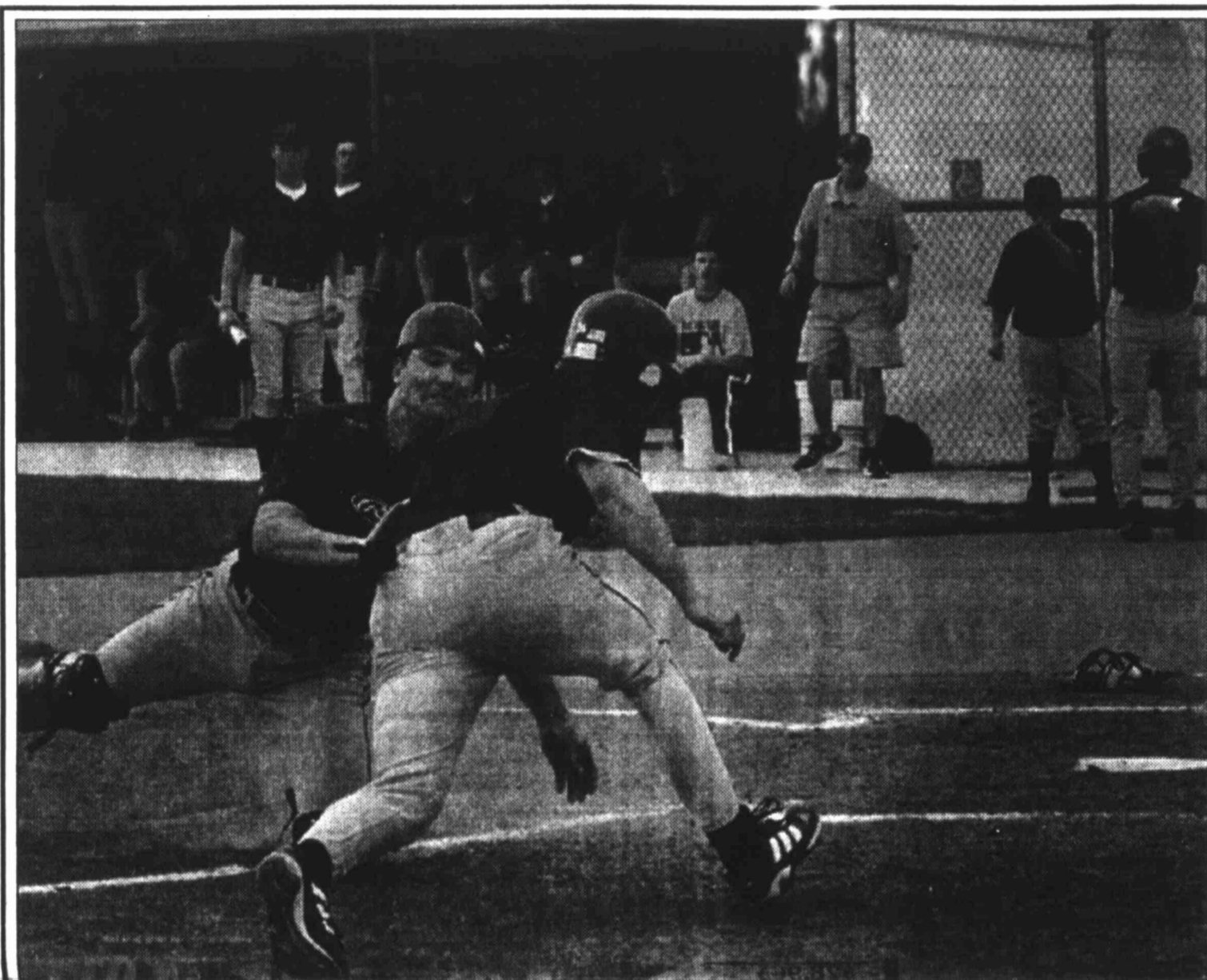
Ross Rhoton rounded out the Buffs' scoring with a time of 5:09.0 in the 1,600 meters, finishing fifth. In the junior varsity division,

Forsan's boys finished third with 45 points.

Jeremy Bedwell led the way, winning the 400 meters, finishing fourth in the long jump and fifth in the 200 meters. Mitchell Hooper added fifth place in the 400 meters.

Trey Paradez and Josh Helmstetler also provided multiple points. Paradez finished third in both the 1,600 meters and the 3,200 meters, while Helmstetler finished third in the high jump and was fourth in the 300 hurdles.

Codee Barraza added a fourth-place effort in the discus and Brent Wood was sixth.



Howard College's Greg Lindsey is tagged out by Clarendon catcher Andrew Graham as he tries to score from first on a double by teammate Brian Halbert during the second inning of Friday's game at Jack Barber Field. Clarendon dealt the Hawks a 13-10 loss.

Hawks fall to Clarendon

By JOHN A. MOSELEY

Managing Editor

It was almost eerie.

At least the Howard College and Clarendon College pitching staffs must have thought so.

As thunderstorms began to build in the Crossroads area Friday afternoon, Clarendon College's Bulldogs shocked Howard College's Hawks by rallying from a 10-6 deficit to take a 13-10 win in Western Junior College Athletic Conference baseball action.

The Hawks wouldn't get an opportunity for revenge, however, as rains washed out Friday's scheduled nine-inning nightcap in the fourth inning. That precipitation also rained out another doubleheader scheduled for Saturday. Those games will be

rescheduled for late April.

Friday's loss left the league-leading Hawks with a 23-10 record overall and an 8-3 mark in conference play, while Clarendon improved to 7-6 on WJCAC play and 12-18 overall.

Simply put, it wasn't the Hawks' day.

Clarendon broke open a scoreless game in the top of the second inning when center fielder Chris Stephens sent a 1-1 offering from Hawks starter Murray Carson towering over the left field fence at Jack Barber Field.

Bulldogs shortstop Ringo Galarza followed that with a double to gap in right and scored on a single to right by designated hitter Socrates Caba. That ball got past Hawks left fielder Leonard Guerrero, allowing Caba to reach second.

Caba would score a few minutes later on a two-out single by Phillip Roberson.

The Hawks seemed poised to answer in their half of the second when first baseman Greg Lindsey led off with a single to left and teammate Brian Halbert followed with a double into the power alley in right.

Bulldogs starter Simon Walshe managed to get out of trouble when Lindsey tried to score on the play and was thrown out at the plate. Walshe then struck out Hawks third baseman Blake Walker and retired shortstop Zane Shook on a fly to left.

Clarendon made it 5-0 in the top of the third.

And while the Hawks erased the goose egg on their side of the scoreboard in the bottom of the third,

they again saw a play at the plate limit their effectiveness.

Howard center fielder Jeremy Wilcomb led off the third with a single to left and Moore followed with a one-out single to right. When Guerrero doubled with a shot to deep center, it looked as if the Hawks would score a couple of runs.

But Wilcomb waited to be sure the deep fly ball wasn't caught before leaving second, forcing Moore to slow down as he rounded second. Bulldog second baseman Jesus Echneverria's relay throw to the plate wasn't in time to get Wilcomb, but did nip Moore at the plate.

Guerrero would score to make it 5-2 on a Lindsey

See HAWKS, Page 12A

Rangers hope Gonzalez, new arms get them out of cellar

ARLINGTON (AP) — The Texas Rangers missed Juan Gonzalez.

The Rangers won three AL West titles in Gonzalez's last four years in Texas, then he was traded to Detroit. The Rangers finished last in the division both seasons he was gone, losing a total of 180 games.

The two-time AL MVP wanted to return to the team he signed with at age 16 and Texas' new general manager John Hart, who was in Cleveland with Gonzalez last season, was happy to bring him home.

That was the easy part for Hart. The more difficult challenge was to improve the worst pitching staff in the majors the past two seasons.

So Hart signed 16 new pitchers and brought 34 to spring training, including Chan Ho Park, the top starting pitcher on the free agent market.

Ismael Valdes and Dave Burba also were brought in to help fill the rotation. Depth was added in the bullpen, including controversial closer John Rocker and setup men Jay Powell and Todd Van Poppel.

"We're going to score some runs with the lineup we have, that's for sure," said 10-time All-Star catcher

Ivan Rodriguez, going into the final year of his contract after two injury-shortened seasons. "What we've got to do is keep the pitchers positive."

Texas shouldn't have problems scoring runs with Alex Rodriguez (.318, AL-leading 52 homers, 135 RBIs), Gonzalez (.325, 35, 140), Rafael Palmeiro (.273, 47, 123) and Ivan Rodriguez (.308, 25, 65 in 111 games) batting in a row and surrounded by other quality hitters.

The Rangers led the majors with 246 homers and 595 extra-base hits last year. Gonzalez is the team's career leader in both categories.

"We're talking about one of the best run producers ever," said Alex Rodriguez, the \$252 million shortstop whose MVP-type numbers weren't enough to save the Rangers last season. "Juan takes pressure off me individually and the whole team. More importantly, he takes pressure off our pitching staff."

Texas scored 890 runs, an average of 5.5 per game, last season. But its team ERA was 5.71.

Gonzalez has scored or driven in 1,842 runs in 1,503 career games, an average of about 1.2 runs per game. "I'm probably going to get more

run support than I ever have, but I can't even expect that," said Park, 80-54 with a 3.77 ERA the past six seasons in Los Angeles. "I have to focus on my job, the pitching."

Park will be the opening day starter Monday at Oakland.

Closer Jeff Zimmerman, who converted 28 of 31 save opportunities, is on the disabled list because of tendonitis in his right elbow and won't pitch until at least May.

That clears the way for Rocker, who had 87 saves the past four seasons. But he also had a troubled relationship with teammates in Atlanta and Cleveland after his disparaging remarks about gays, minorities and others in a Sports Illustrated interview before the 2000 season.

Hart also traded for Carl Everett, the outfielder suspended three times the past two seasons in Boston for an outburst with an umpire and constant arguments with managers Jimmy Williams and Joe Kerrigan.

Many questioned those acquisitions, but it was a quiet spring for Texas. Rocker and Everett mixed well with their new teammates and

easygoing manager Jerry Narron.

"I was asked a lot of questions as we brought in some controversial players and we obviously made a lot of changes," Hart said. "It was a very professional camp. I haven't had any issues. It has been as I had hoped for."

Everett will start in center after spending most of the spring recovering from offseason right knee surgery.

Frank Catalanotto, Rusty Greer and Gabe Kapler will split time in left and other positions.

The Rangers will keep Catalanotto, fifth in the AL in hitting at .330 after becoming an everyday player, in the lineup by playing him some at second base. Michael Young, a solid defender at second, hit .249 as a rookie.

Greer, an outfield starter since 1994 and .305 career hitter, will be the primary DH. He played just 167 games the last two years because of injuries after averaging 146 games a year from 1995-99.

Rookie third baseman Hank Bialock, who has never played

See RANGERS, Page 12A

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SPORTS EXTRA

NCAA - MEN

THE FINAL FOUR
At The Georgia Dome
Atlanta
National Semifinals
Saturday, March 30
Indiana (24-11) vs. Oklahoma (31-4)
Maryland (30-4) vs. Kansas (33-3), late
National Championship
Monday, April 1
Semifinal winners, 8:18 p.m.

NCAA - WOMEN

THE FINAL FOUR
At The Alamodome
San Antonio
National Semifinals
Friday, March 29
Oklahoma 86, Duke 71
Connecticut 79, Tennessee 56
National Championship
Sunday, March 31
Oklahoma (32-3) vs. Connecticut (38-0), 7:30 p.m.

AL SCHEDULE

Today's Game
Cleveland (Colon 14-12) at Anaheim (Washburn 11-10), 7:05 p.m.
Monday's Games
Toronto at Boston, 12:05 p.m.
NY Yankees at Baltimore, 2:05 p.m.
Minnesota at Kansas City, 3:05 p.m.
Chicago White Sox at Seattle, 4:05 p.m.
Texas at Oakland, 9:05 p.m.
Tuesday's Games
Detroit at Tampa Bay, 6:15 p.m.
Texas at Oakland, 9:05 p.m.
Cleveland at Anaheim, 9:05 p.m.
Chicago White Sox at Seattle, 9:05 p.m.

NL SCHEDULE

Today's Games
No games scheduled
Monday's Games
Philadelphia at Atlanta, 12:05 p.m.
Pittsburgh at NY Mets, 12:10 p.m.
Chicago Cubs at Cincinnati, 1:15 p.m.
San Diego at Arizona, 3:05 p.m.
Colorado at St. Louis, 3:10 p.m.
Tuesday's Games
San Francisco at Los Angeles, 3:10 p.m.
Milwaukee at Houston, 4:05 p.m.
Florida at Montreal, 6:05 p.m.
San Diego at Arizona, 7:35 p.m.

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE
Atlantic Division
W L Pct GB
New Jersey 47 26 .644 —
Boston 41 32 .562 6
Orlando 39 33 .542 7 1/2
Philadelphia 38 34 .528 8 1/2
Washington 34 38 .472 12 1/2
Miami 32 39 .451 14
New York 27 44 .380 19
Central Division
W L Pct GB
Detroit 43 29 .597 —
Milwaukee 38 33 .535 4 1/2
Charlotte 37 34 .521 5 1/2
Indiana 35 36 .493 7 1/2
Toronto 34 38 .472 9
Atlanta 29 43 .403 14
Cleveland 25 47 .347 18
Chicago 17 55 .236 26

WESTERN CONFERENCE
Midwest Division
W L Pct GB
Dallas 50 22 .694 —
San Antonio 49 23 .681 1
Minnesota 44 28 .611 6
Utah 40 32 .556 10
Houston 26 45 .363 23 1/2
Denver 21 49 .300 28
Memphis 18 53 .254 31 1/2
Pacific Division
W L Pct GB
Sacramento 52 19 .732 —
LA Lakers 51 21 .708 1 1/2
Portland 44 28 .611 8 1/2
Seattle 42 31 .575 11
LA Clippers 37 36 .507 16
Phoenix 33 39 .458 19 1/2
Golden State 18 54 .250 34 1/2

Friday's Games
Washington 107, Milwaukee 98
Dallas 108, Boston 82
Miami 92, Atlanta 80
Orlando 114, Indiana 106
Sacramento 92, Charlotte 87
Minnesota 98, New York 77
Detroit 110, Golden State 103
LA Clippers 96, Phoenix 94
Seattle 79, San Antonio 76
LA Lakers 91, Portland 79
Saturday's Games
New Jersey 102, Philadelphia 92
Charlotte at Cleveland, (n)
Golden State at Memphis, (n)
Denver at Chicago, (n)
Phoenix at Houston, (n)
Seattle at Portland, (n)
Utah at LA Clippers, (n)
Sunday's Games
Milwaukee at Boston, 11:30 a.m.
Sacramento at Atlanta, 1 p.m.
Miami at Indiana, 2 p.m.
Dallas at Washington, 2 p.m.
New York at Orlando, 2 p.m.
New Jersey at Minnesota, 2:30 p.m.
Toronto at Philadelphia, 2:30 p.m.
San Antonio at LA Lakers, 4:30 p.m.
Denver at Detroit, 7 p.m.
Monday's Games
No games scheduled

NHL
EASTERN CONFERENCE
Atlantic Division
W L T OLS Pts GF GA
Philadelphia 40 21 9 3 92 219 169
N.Y. Islanders 36 26 7 4 83 213 202
New Jersey 34 27 9 4 81 181 172
N.Y. Rangers 31 36 4 7 70 201 235
Pittsburgh 28 34 7 4 67 183 215
Northeast Division
W L T OLS Pts GF GA
Boston 42 22 5 7 94 216 181
Toronto 38 23 9 4 89 218 187
Ottawa 36 24 8 7 87 226 192
Montreal 30 29 12 3 75 186 194
Buffalo 30 34 9 1 70 190 186
Southeast Division
W L T OLS Pts GF GA
Carolina 32 24 14 5 83 200 203
Washington 32 22 10 7 75 207 226
Tampa Bay 25 34 10 4 64 157 188
Florida 21 41 7 5 54 161 225
Atlanta 19 43 8 4 50 172 259

WESTERN CONFERENCE
Central Division
W L T OLS Pts GF GA
Detroit 50 14 8 2 110 231 180
Chicago 38 22 12 1 89 202 187
St. Louis 36 25 8 4 84 196 187
Nashville 26 35 13 0 65 178 203
Columbus 20 41 8 5 53 149 222
Northwest Division
W L T OLS Pts GF GA
Colorado 41 25 7 1 90 187 153
Edmonton 34 26 12 3 83 190 170
Vancouver 36 30 3 6 81 226 195
Calgary 28 31 3 7 71 180 198
Minnesota 25 31 11 7 68 176 209
Pacific Division
W L T OLS Pts GF GA
San Jose 38 25 8 3 87 214 180

Los Angeles 36 24 10 4 86 193 170
Phoenix 35 24 9 6 85 196 185
Dallas 33 25 11 4 81 197 192
Anaheim 27 38 7 3 64 165 185
Two points for a win, one point for a tie and overtime loss.
x-cinched playoff spot
y-cinched conference

Friday's Games
Washington 3, New Jersey 1
Chicago 3, Minnesota 1
Saturday's Games
New Jersey at Toronto
Buffalo at Philadelphia
Tampa Bay at Ottawa
Pittsburgh at Montreal
New Jersey at Toronto
N.Y. Islanders at Washington
Atlanta at Detroit
N.Y. Rangers at Florida
St. Louis at Nashville
Colorado at Phoenix
Los Angeles at Calgary
Dallas at Edmonton
Anaheim at Vancouver
Columbus at San Jose
Today's Game
Minnesota at Chicago, 2 p.m.
Monday's Games
Philadelphia at Buffalo, 6 p.m.
New Jersey at N.Y. Islanders, 6 p.m.
Toronto at Detroit, 6:30 p.m.
N.Y. Rangers at Tampa Bay, 6:30 p.m.
Montreal at Pittsburgh, 6:30 p.m.
Columbus at Dallas, 7:30 p.m.
St. Louis at Phoenix, 8 p.m.
Nashville at Colorado, 8 p.m.

Transactions
BASEBALL
Major League Baseball
N.Y. Mets—Reduced the suspensions of San Diego of Ryan Klesko to four games and Anaheim INF Scott Spiezo to five games for their roles in a ring-training brawl. Rescinded Philadelphia manager Larry Bowe's one-game suspension for arguing with an umpire.
American League
BALTIMORE Orioles—Purchased the contract of RHP Rodrigo Lopez from Rochester of the International League. Placed OF Albert Belle on the 15-day disabled list.
BOSTON RED SOX—Purchased the contracts of OF Rickey Henderson, INF Rey Sanchez and INF Carlos Baerga. Sent INF Wilton Veras to Pawtucket of the International League.
KANSAS CITY ROYALS—Agreed to terms with 1B Mike Sweeney on a five-year contract extension through 2007. Placed RHP Roberto Hernandez, LHP Darrell May, OF Mark Quinn, and RHP Kris Wilson on the 15-day disabled list. Released RHP Doug Henry. Optioned LHP Chris George to Omaha of the PCL. Reassigned C Hector Ortiz and C Darryl Ardo to the minor league camp.
TAMPA BAY DEVIL RAYS—Placed LHP Bobby Seay on the 15-day disabled list, retroactive to March 22.
TEXAS RANGERS—Purchased the contract of LHP Rich Rodriguez from Oklahoma of the PCL. Placed RHP Jovanny Cedeno on the 60-day disabled list.
National League
CHICAGO CUBS—Optioned RHP Carlos Zambrano to Iowa of the PCL.
CINCINNATI REDS—Placed INF Juan Castro on the 15-day disabled list. Recalled SS Gookie Dawkins from Louisville of the International League.
LOS ANGELES DODGERS—Reassigned INF Phil Hitt to their minor league camp.
PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES—Released INF Kevin Jordan. Assigned LHP Pete Zamora, INF David Doster and C Jeremy Salazar to Scranton Wilkes-Barre of the International League. Purchased the contracts of C Todd Pratt and INF/OF John Mabry from Scranton Wilkes-Barre. Recalled INF Nick Punto from Scranton Wilkes-Barre.
PITTSBURGH PIRATES—Placed OF Chad Hermansen and RHP Kris Benson on the 15-day disabled list.
SAN DIEGO PADRES—Purchased the contracts of 3B Sean Burroughs, 1B/OF Mark Sweeney, OF Trenidid Burgos and RHP Jason Boyd. Placed LHP Kevin Walker and RHP Adam Eaton on the 60- and RHP Tom Deway on 15-day disabled lists. Optioned C Javier Cardona to Portland of the PCL. Reassigned IF Julius Matos, OF Pete Incaviglia and RHPs David Lundquist and Mike Cuddihy to their minor league camp.
National Basketball Association
MEMPHIS GRIZZLIES—Placed F Jim Jackson on the injured list. Activated Malik Allen from the injured list.
ORLANDO MAGIC—Activated G Mike Miller from the injured list. Waived G Dee Brown. Named Brown special assistant to Magic operations.

FOOTBALL
National Football League
KANSAS CITY CHIEFS—Signed WR Johnnie Morton to a one-year contract.
MIAMI DOLPHINS—Re-signed DE Adevalte Ogunleye to a one-year contract.
NEW YORK GIANTS—Re-signed S Shaun Williams. Released LB Jack Golden and DL Jamie Carter.
ST. LOUIS RAMS—Traded CB Jacob Shepherd to Houston for a conditional 2003 seventh-round draft pick.
SAN DIEGO CHARGERS—Re-signed K Steve Christie and DE Adrian Dingle.
National Hockey League
NHL—Suspended Buffalo RW Rob Ray, pending a hearing on April 1, for hitting St. Louis D Bryce Salvador in the face with the butt end of a stick in a game on March 24.
ANAHEIM MIGHTY DUCKS—Recalled D Aris Brimaris from Cincinnati of the AHL.
COLUMBUS BLUE JACKETS—Recalled RW Chris Nielsen and C Andrej Nedorost from Syracuse of the AHL.
DALLAS STARS—Recalled G Chad Alban from Utah of the AHL. FLORIDA PANTHERS—Recalled LW Ryan Jardine from Utah of the AHL. Assigned D Vladimir Sapozhnikov to Utah.
MONTREAL CANADIENS—Assigned LW Marcel Hossa to Quebec of the AHL.
NEW YORK ISLANDERS—Recalled D Bramislav Mezei from Bridgeport of the AHL.
OTTAWA SENATORS—Recalled RW Josh Langfield from Grand Rapids of the AHL. Recalled D Joel Kwiatkowski to Grand Rapids.
PHILADELPHIA FLYERS—Recalled LW Guillaume Lefebvre and LW Todd Fedoruk from Philadelphia of the AHL.
PHOENIX COYOTES—Signed LW Andrei Nazarov to a three-year contract.
ST. LOUIS BLUES—Recalled D Christian Laferriere from Worcester of the AHL.
WASHINGTON CAPITALS—Recalled D Todd Roloff from Portland of the AHL.
COLLEGE
AUBURN—Named Laura Farina women's volleyball coach.
DENISON—Named Bob Ghilioni men's basketball coach.

PGA
Saturday
Purse: \$4 million
At TPC at the Woodlands
The Woodlands, Texas
Yardage: 7,018; Par 72 (36-36)
Third Round
Vijay Singh 67-65-66, 198
Darren Clarke 69-65-67, 201
Jose Maria Olazabal 71-68-64, 203
Shigeki Moriyama 68-71-66, 205
Brandt Jobe 70-68-69, 205
Rory Sabbatini 69-71-66, 206
Paul Stanekowski 72-68-66, 206
Adam Scott 72-67-67, 206
Jim Carter 65-73-68, 206
Jay Haas 67-70-69, 206
Greg Norman 70-68-68, 206
J.P. Hayes 67-68-71, 206
Greg Chalmers 69-72-66, 207
Fred Couples 68-71-68, 207
Justin Leonard 70-68-69, 207

Brny Baird 70-71-67, 208
Fred Funk 71-70-67, 208
Tom Pernice, Jr. 71-70-67, 208
David Toms 69-72-67, 208
Nick Price 68-71-69, 208
Chris Riley 67-70-71, 208
Rod Pampling 70-71-68, 209
Robert Alenby 68-72-69, 209
Jery Kelly 71-68-70, 209
Scott Verplank 67-70-72, 209
Tom Byrum 70-70-70, 210
Dennis Paulson 72-69-69, 210
Stephen Ames 71-71-68, 210
Frank Nobilo 70-70-71, 210
David Duval 75-67-68, 210
Jeff Brubaker 70-72-68, 210
Luke Donald 71-68-71, 210
Chad Campbell 69-74-67, 210
Loren Roberts 70-71-70, 211
Jery Smith 70-70-71, 211
John Huston 70-73-68, 211
Geoff Ogilvy 71-65-75, 211
Woody Austin 71-70-71, 212
Russ Cochran 71-70-72, 212
Michael Allen 71-69-72, 212
Pat Batters 72-70-72, 212
Brian Bateman 67-72-73, 212
Craig Peoples 71-72-69, 212
David Pate 74-69-69, 212
Ship Kendall 72-70-72, 212
Shingo Katayama 68-72-73, 213
Bob Burns 68-74-71, 213
Hui Su-ton 72-67-74, 213
Tommy Armour III 72-70-72, 213
Jan Leggatt 70-73-70, 213
J.L. Lewis 68-73-73, 214
Phil Taitaurang 69-73-73, 214
Chris Dimarco 69-73-73, 214
Esteban Toledo 66-73-75, 214
Mike Heinen 70-73-71, 214
Kent Jones 70-73-72, 215
Andrew Magee 69-74-71, 214
John Day 70-71-74, 215
Len Mattiace 72-69-74, 215
Bob May 72-70-73, 215
Miguel A. Jimenez 69-73-73, 215
Jay Williamson 72-70-73, 215
Bob Tway 71-71-73, 215
Heath Slocum 70-73-72, 215
Robert Thompson 70-73-72, 215
Kevin Sutherland 70-74-74, 216
Michael Clark II 70-72-74, 216
K.J. Choi 72-70-75, 217
Peter Jordan 70-73-74, 217
Colin Montgomerie 72-71-74, 217
Grant Waite 72-71-78, 221

2. Allen Oak 12-0
3. Austin Bowie 14-2
4. Flower Mound 17-0
5. Cypress Falls 12-2
6. Lufkin 9-4
7. Clear Creek 14-1
8. Round Rock Westwood 15-4
9. Midland 14-4
10. Corpus Christi Mocs 15-3
Class AA
1. Southlake Carroll 13-5
2. Saginaw Boswell 18-0
3. Cedar Park 14-4
4. Brenham 13-4
5. Hewitt Midway 16-3
6. Beavert 15-6
7. Crowley 13-3
8. Kilgore 11-3
9. Canyon Randall 12-5
10. El Campo 12-4
Class A
1. La Grange 12-3
2. Lubbock Cooper 13-4
3. Sinton 11-4
4. Fomby 11-5
5. Sennelock 11-3
6. Little Elm 11-1
7. Yoakum 11-1
8. Shallowater 12-2
9. Center 11-2
10. Lorena 12-1
Class 2A
1. Hughes Springs 13-1
2. Celina 13-1
3. Leon 13-2
4. Deweyville 12-1
5. Elyman Fields 13-3
6. Clifton 11-1
7. Central Heights 12-4
8. Lockney 11-1
9. Garmston 10-0
Class 1A
1. Bremond 10-1
2. Bosqueville 8-1
3. West Sabine 10-1
4. Santo 8-1
5. Hiram 7-3
6. Windthorst 5-3
7. West Sabine 9-1
8. Brock 5-2
9. McLeod 7-4
10. Valley Mills 8-1
11. Petrolia 7-2

Class 1A
1. Jody Bell Jr., Salem, N.J., \$29,511; 2. K.C. Jones, Las Animas, Colo., \$20,286; 3. Todd Suhm, Brighton, Colo., \$19,758; 4. Jerrod Pillars, Streetman, Texas \$18,317; 5. Bill Pace, Stephenville, Texas \$18,100; 6. Birch Negard, Buffalo, Wyo. \$16,968; 7. Brad Gleason, Touchet, Wash. \$15,903; 8. Cash Myers, Athens, Texas \$15,410; 9. Ivon Nelson, Williston, Fla. \$15,213; 10. Kyle Hughes, Model, Colo. \$15,123; 11. Curtis Cassidy, Donora, Pa. \$14,987; 12. Brock Andrus, St. George, Utah \$14,226; 13. Craig Cavaness, Brenham, Texas \$13,524; 14. Randy Suhm, Riverton, Wyo. \$12,719; 15. Jason Miller, Lance Creek, Wyo. \$11,026; 20. J.D. Crouse, Canon City, Colo. \$10,585.
SADDLE BRONC RIDING
1. Dan Mortensen, Billings, Mont., \$47,558; 2. Jesse Bail, Camp Creek, S.D., \$31,293; 3. Tom Reeves, Eagle Butte, S.D., \$24,675; 4. Steve Dollard, Winkup, Ariz., \$23,364; 5. Shane Moran, Dillon, Mont. \$20,068; 6. Rod Warren, Big Valley, Alberta \$17,121; 7. Ryan Mapston, Geyser, Mont. \$16,588; 8. Jess Martin, Dillon, Mont. \$16,563; 9. Todd Fike, Pavilion, Wyo. \$15,730; 10. Rance Bray, Dumas, Okla. \$13,912; 11. Glen O'Neil, Didsbury, Alberta \$12,199; 12. Billy Etbauer, Ree Heights, S.D. \$11,464; 13. Charley Gardner, Ruby Valley, Nev. \$11,422; 14. Scott Miller, Waco, Texas \$10,852; 15. Scott Johnston, Guadalupe, Texas \$10,611; 16. Cody Demers, Boulder, Mont. \$10,558; 17. Johnny Hammack, Powell Butte, Ore. \$10,424; 18. Craig Latham, Goodwell, Okla. \$9,806; 19. Johnny Pollock, Dublin, Texas \$7,797; 20. Cody Martin, Hatfield, Ark. \$7,710.
CALF ROPING
1. Blair Burk, Durant, Okla., \$31,566; 2. Trevor Brazier, Anson, Texas, \$28,929; 3. Fred Whitfield, Hockley, Texas, \$25,055; 4. Cash Myers, Athens, Texas \$24,051; 5. Justin Maass, Giddings, Texas \$21,004; 6. Jeff Chapman, Athens, Texas \$19,523; 7. Bryan McElihan, Fort Meade, Fla. \$18,314; 8. Johnny Emmons,

Washburn, Texas \$18,304; 9. Brad Goodrich, Hermiston, Ore. \$17,310; 10. Clay Carmy, Brazoria, Texas \$15,209; 11. Justin Truman, Huntington, Utah \$13,661; 12. Tommy Guy, Abilene, Texas \$13,046; 13. Guy Smith, Enora, Alberta \$12,813; 14. Rick Kuechler, Prescott, Ariz. \$12,156; 15. Matt Shozawa, Pocatello, Idaho \$11,968; 16. Rusty Sewall, Del Rio, Texas \$11,809; 17. Doug Pharr, Resaca, Ga. \$11,737; 18. Marty Lindner, Giddings, Texas \$10,813; 19. Monty Lewis, Hereford, Texas \$10,636; 20. Jerome Schneberger, Ponca City, Okla. \$9,958.
BARREL RACING
1. Charmayne James, Athens, Texas, \$23,701; 2. Tami Fontenot, Ethel, La. \$19,274; 3. Kay Blanford, Sutherland Springs, Texas, \$18,322; 4. Tammy Key, Ledbetter, Texas, \$17,190; 5. Heather Henderson, Middleburg, Fla. \$16,916; 6. Mully Powell, Sims, Mont. \$16,616; 7. Gloria Freeman, Calhoun, Ga. \$14,061; 8. Melaine White, Killeen, Texas \$13,716; 9. Amy Dale, Graham, Wash. \$13,577; 10. Kristie Peterson, Elbert, Colo. \$12,948; 11. Janae Ward, Addington, Okla. \$12,441; 12. Taina Bird, Post, Texas \$8,705; 13. Janna Riley, Paige, Texas \$8,165; 14. Kelly Kaminski, Bellville, Texa \$8,072; 15. Rachael Sprout, Arlee, Mont. \$7,411; 16. Taina Bird, Post, Texas \$8,705; 17. Chene Scrivner, Nampa, Idaho \$8,165; 18. Kelly Kaminski, Bellville, Texa \$8,072; 19. Julianne Wall, Blackfoot, Idaho, \$7,470; 20. Patti Jo Hugton, Terry, Miss. \$7,168.
BULL RIDING
1. Terry Don West, Henryetta, Okla., \$26,747; 2. Cody Hancock, Taylor, Ariz. \$25,529; 3. Justin Andrade, Grover Beach, Calif. \$23,554; 4. Johnny Chavez, Bosque, N.M. \$20,765; 5. Robbie Russell, Jacksonville, Texas \$19,619; 6. Jason Bennett, Grand Prairie, Texas \$18,778; 7. Bryan Richardson, Dallas, Texas \$14,502; 8. Luke Kelley, Marion, Ill. \$14,502; 9. Cory Melton, Hillsboro, Texas \$14,485; 10. Blu Bryant, Robinson, Texas \$14,410; 11. Jason McClain, Kiowa, Colo. \$14,064; 12. Robert Bowers, Brooks, Alberta \$13,288; 13. Josh O'Byrne, Animas, N.M. \$12,995; 14. Jason Legler, Loveland, Colo. \$11,583; 15. Lee Akin, Weatherford, Okla. \$10,698; 16. Chad Castillo, Stephenville, Texas \$10,334; 17. Thomas Bert, Modesto, Calif. \$10,119; 18. Gregory Allan Potter, Whitt, Texas \$9,753.
STEER ROPING
1. Trevor Brazier, Anson, Texas, \$8,497; 2. J.P. Wickett, Sallisaw, Okla., \$6,905; 3. Cash Myers, Athens, Texas, \$5,519; 4. Jason Evans, Huntsville, Texas, \$3,815; 5. Scott Sneed, Uvalde, Texas, \$3,006; 6. Marty Jones, Hobbs, N.M. \$2,988; 7. Wade Lewis, Hereford, Texas, \$2,683; 8. JB Whittley, Gardendale, Texas, \$2,662; 9. Buster Record Jr., Buffalo, Okla., \$2,195; 10. Guy Allen, Santa Anna, Texas, \$2,026; 11. J.D. Yates, Pueblo, Colo., \$1,953; 12. Rocky Patterson, Pratt, Kan., \$1,884; 13. Don Ed Eddleman, Santa Anna, Texas, \$1,817; 14. Chet Herren, Pawshuk, Okla., \$1,810; 15. Mike Collins, Vinita, Okla., \$1,555.

HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL

The Top 10 high school baseball rankings for the five UI classifications as determined by the Texas High School Baseball Coaches Association and THSB Magazine. Rankings are through Mon. March 25.
Class AA
1. Sugar Land Elkins 130

REDEO LEADERS

Through March 24
ALL AROUND
1. Cash Myers, Athens, Texas \$44,979; 2. Trevor Brazier, Anson, Texas \$41,018; 3. Jesse Bail, Camp Creek, S.D. \$38,803; 4. Kyle Hughes, Model, Colo. \$22,435; 5. Chad Klein, Clinton, La. \$21,404.
BARRECK RIDING
1. Cody Jesse, John Day, Ore. \$28,642;

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MAR 31 2002

Big dream to big screen: Morris thrilled as 'The Rookie' opens

NEW YORK (AP) — Seeing how the movie was based on his life story, of course there was a part to play for Jim Morris in "The Rookie."

As an umpire, of all things. "I didn't even recognize myself," the teacher-turned-pitcher kidded this week. "Rung up a guy in a minor league game. I looked pretty good."

Now 38 and a motivational and inspirational speaker living in Dallas, Morris enjoyed the cameo role. He's equally thrilled with how the Disney film starring Dennis Quaid turned out.

So are a lot of people — it opened Friday to good reviews.

"Watching your life unfold on the screen, it's unbelievable," Morris said.

Almost as incredible as what actually happened.

"Everyone knows his story, it's pretty special," agreed his former Tampa Bay bullpen mate and major league mentor, Kansas City reliever Roberto Hernandez.

Sports agent Steve Canter served as the architect of Morris' business affairs, sifting through 150 offers for the rights to the pitcher's tale. The result was a paperback book titled "The Rookie" and the movie.

"We heard from everyone, but Disney was our first

choice," Canter said. Drafted in 1983 by Milwaukee, Morris never got above Class A because of elbow and shoulder injuries. He left the game in 1989 and eventually became a high school science teacher in rural Texas.

While coaching the school's baseball team in 1999, he made a deal with his players: If they won a district title, he'd attend a major league tryout camp.

The team made good on its half, and so did Morris. The left-hander's fastballs in the upper-90s mph impressed the Devil Rays enough to sign him.

That September in Texas, Morris at 35 became the oldest rookie to make his big league debut since Minnie Mendoza did it at 36 in 1970 for Minnesota.

Morris struck out the first batter he faced, Royce Clayton.

"That jog in from the bullpen, that's one of my greatest moments," he said.

It was special for others, too.

"My memory of that night was pretty vivid when he came to the mound," Tampa Bay catcher John Flaherty said.

"I had never caught him before, never seen him before. I ask him what pitches he had — fastball, curveball or slider — and he

said no, pretty much a fastball," he said.

Morris' season with Tampa Bay in 2000 was cut short by surgery on his left elbow.

He joined the Los Angeles Dodgers in the offseason, then retired for good during spring training in 2001 because of tendinitis in his left shoulder.

His final stats: a 0-0 record, no saves, 13 strikeouts in 15 innings and 4.80 ERA in 21 games. Along with a lifetime of memories — for him, his wife and three children.

"No regrets," Morris said. "I had a great time."

For the humble Morris, who liked "Field of Dreams," this movie has parallels.

"It's about second chances, about father-son relationships, about more than baseball," he said.

And like "Field of Dreams," where Kevin Costner did well in the baseball scenes, Quaid does fine on the mound.

Morris and former major leaguer Jim Gott worked with Quaid at Dodger Stadium. Canter also served

as a consultant, and a man Morris played ball with long ago, Mark Ciardi, was one of the movie's producers.

"Dennis and the filmmakers did a great job bringing Jim's story to life," Canter said.

Morris, already taking bookings into early next year for speaking engagements, spent this week attending premieres in New York and Los Angeles.

At home in Dallas, he volunteers with youth baseball players. He's also kept in touch with members of the high school team he

coached, along with some of his former big league teammates.

"We became close," Hernandez said. "Even last year, when he was thinking about still pitching, he called me up when he was doing the dishes one night and we just talked."

Hernandez said Morris asked him to come to Hollywood for the premiere.

"I said, 'No, that's OK. This is your thing. I'll see it when it comes out,'" Hernandez said. "I'll take the book and loved it."

HAWKS

Continued from page 10A

single.

A solo home run by Clarendon's Victor Rodriguez made it a 6-2 Bulldog lead in the top of the fourth. But the Hawks tied it up in their half of the inning sending 10 runners to the plate.

And after Hawks reliever Ken Bice retired the Bulldogs in order in the fifth, Howard took the lead.

Wilcomb got things started with a one-out double to right. Second baseman Brad Workman, who'd had an RBI infield single in the fourth, drew a walk, setting the stage for Moore to rip a 2-RBI double to the fence in left.

Two more Hawks runs would score, thanks to a pair of Clarendon errors and a wild pitch, giving Howard its only lead of the

game at 10-6.

But Bice ran into trouble at the start of the sixth inning, giving up back-to-back singles to start the frame, walked another batter and then served up a 2-RBI single before being replaced on the mound by Karsten Gaarder.

But Gaarder fared little better. He retired the first batter to face him, but then gave up a single and a dou-

ble that allowed the Bulldogs to retake the lead at 11-10. He would give up two more runs in the seventh, while his teammates were unable to score on Clarendon relievers Billy Shea and Jonathan Hall.

The Hawks return to action at 5 p.m. Monday when they take on Lubbock Christian University's junior varsity in a double-header at Hays Field.

PERFECT

Continued from Page 10A

title and won another championship in 2000 with a team that lost only once.

This bunch, though, is something else. The Huskies' blend of teamwork, slick passing, shooting and tough defense sets them apart. With a victory, they'll make their claim as the best women's team ever.

They certainly looked it Friday night. Tennessee has won six national titles and is the most successful program in the country. Against Connecticut, the Lady Vols were in over their heads.

"Just the way we took the game to a very good team, a very good team, I'm really, really proud of my team right now," Auriemma said. "They're a pretty special group and we played a pretty special kind of game."

Because of its dominance this season — UConn's average victory margin is nearly 37 points — the national championship was practically conceded to the Huskies when the NCAA tournament started.

Oklahoma, though, isn't conceding anything.

"I don't think anybody has shipped the trophy to Storrs yet," Coale said. "If it's all right with the rest of you guys, we're going to go ahead and play and see what happens. So we'll be there Sunday night."

Connecticut hit Tennessee (29-5) from every direction. Player of the year Sue Bird and Asjha Jones each scored 18 points, with Jones grabbing 10 rebounds and Bird adding five assists and four steals.

Diana Taurasi had 17 points and 10 rebounds, while Swin Cash had 13 points, five assists and four blocks. Connecticut blocked 10 shots in all and held Tennessee to 31 percent shooting.

"It was very shocking to

see how we played," Tennessee's Loree Moore said. "We didn't get going into our rhythm and they took advantage of that. They just steamrolled."

No Tennessee player scored in double figures. Kara Lawson and Courtney McDaniel led the Lady Vols with nine points each.

Oklahoma broke Duke's 22-game winning streak by building a 14-point lead and then answering when the Blue Devils (31-4) made a run in the second half.

Out of synch and taking poor shots in the first half, Duke started getting the ball inside and drew to 64-62 when Alana Beard fed Michele Matyasovsky for a layup with 7:49 left.

Forward Caton Hill, usually overshadowed by the Sooners' perimeter players, countered with a 3-pointer just 11 seconds later, and the run was over. Oklahoma went on to outscore Duke 22-5 in building an 86-67 lead with less than two minutes to play.

"Hill put the dagger in us with that 3," Duke's Krista Gingrich said. "We didn't match up out of the break and she nailed it."

Ross led Oklahoma with a career-high 26 points, including four 3-pointers. Stacey Dales added 17 points, Hill scored 14 and LaNeisha Caufield 12.

"I knew the team would mostly focus on LaNeisha and Stacey," Ross said. "I took whatever came my way. They left me open a couple of times and I stuck in some baskets."

Oklahoma played well against Connecticut during the regular season, keeping it close most of the way before losing 86-72. Now the Sooners get a chance to see what they can do on a much bigger stage.

"It is going to be a tough game," Taurasi said. "It's going to be a lot different than tonight's game."

RANGERS

Continued from Page 10A

above Double-A, took the starting job from Mike Lamb (51 errors in 214 games the past two years) this spring. Blalock hit .352 in 131 games in Class-A and Double-A last season.

Kenny Rogers (5-7, 6.19 ERA), healthy after surgery

last July for a circulatory problem in his left shoulder, and Doug Davis are the only rotation holdovers.

Valdes, whose best season was 15-7 for Los Angeles in 1996 when he was 22, ended spring training with soreness in his right elbow. He was 9-13 with a 4.45 ERA for Anaheim last season.



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A Victorian light hearted farce and a true revenge were the area high school students tackled University Intelleague one-act year.

Although not Howard County advanced in co students dedic hours, several n enormous amount to the producti year's plays.

Big Spring H theater students "Medea" by Eur final chapter of hero Jason. Jason his wife, Medea another woman builds until its clusion as the cent bear the Jason's crime an vengeance.

Amanda She nered the bes award at the s one-act contest.

and Dan Weissn all-star cast. was named o backstage cre Erica Rodriguez Barrow and Mol

were named to able mention all Amanda She

formed the lead the cast-off wife Mark Sheedy the Greek lege Weissman play the king. C Medea's nurs Plaia was the t Churchwell a Stokes were sol Mayfield an Calobres wer vants to Medea

Chorus mem Barrow, won Maberry, woma Rodriguez, wom Stephanie Fra

On the

Aspiring To B Ten years ago I began writing on a regular bas Big Spring Hera

Before that, I school news and tures for the pap March, 1992, the tion of "Prime o Life" was publis

John Walker v ing editor of the that time, and M Florez edited the publication.

Early contribu included Al Sco Griffith, and Sh Mary Randle so the list.

Eventually the

Do you have an interesting item or story idea for life? Share it by calling Andrea Medlin 263-7331, Ext. 236.

Area schools give it their all for UIL competition



A Victorian fairy tale, a light hearted romantic farce and a tragic tale of revenge were the subjects area high school theater students tackled for the University Interscholastic league one-act play this year.

Although none of the Howard County schools advanced in competition, students dedicated long hours, several nights and a enormous amount of heart to the production of this year's plays.

Big Spring High School theater students performed "Medea" by Euripides, the final chapter of the Greek hero Jason. Jason casts off his wife, Medea in favor of another woman. The play builds until its tragic conclusion as the most innocent bear the brunt of Jason's crime and Medea's vengeance.

Amanda Sheedy garnered the best actress award at the south zone one-act contest. Holli Cobb and Dan Weissman earned all-star cast. Weissman was named outstanding backstage crew leader. Erica Rodriguez, Brittany Barrow and Molli Maberry were named to the honorable mention all-star cast.

Amanda Sheedy performed the lead of Medea, the cast-off wife of Jason. Mark Sheedy portrayed the Greek legend, Jason. Weissman played Creon, the king. Cobb was Medea's nurse, Justin Plaia was the tutor, Logan Churchwell and Chris Stokes were soldiers, Holly Mayfield and Synda Calobrevre were the servants to Medea.

Chorus members were Barrow, woman one; Maberry, woman two; and Rodriguez, woman three. Stephanie Franco provid-

ed the light and was the stage manager. The play was under the direction of Zane Harwell.

The Coahoma High School play "Tom Jones" is a romantic farce set in 1750 England. It's an absurd play loosely based on the original story written by Henry Fielding. Elements in the play include romance, action, comedy and drama, everything a one-act play needs.

Jessie Bennett was named to the all-star cast at district one-act contest. Stephanie McIntosh and Crystal Atkinson were both named to the honorable mention all-star cast.

The cast includes Billy-Bob Walker as Partridge, Kasey Huckabee as Bliffl, Eric Henry as Tom Jones, McIntosh as Bridget and Justice Dowling, Brandon Gressett as Mr. Western and Captain Blifill, Bennett as Sophia Western and Tiffani Paige as Deborah, Honour and Nancy.

Jamie Corse as Lady Bellaston, Sarah Collom as Jenny Jones and Mrs. Waters, Garret Cornett as Squire Allworthy and Servant, Atkinson as Miss Western, Crisly LaRue as Mrs. Whitefield, Cade "Pud" Bowlin as the Highwayman and Constable, Gene Corse as Mr. Fitzpatrick and Jamie McCrea as Mrs. Fitzpatrick are also featured in the play.

The crew members for "Tom Jones" are Lauren Nichols, Natalie Rodgers, Tim Spurgin and Taylor Sheppard.

Understudies are Eric Barton, Travis Hipp, Chase Ward, Cory Hill, Brenda Rodriguez, Lupe Garza and Ashley Casbeer. The play's stage manager is Chelsea Cornett. "Tom

Jones" is under the direction of Melinda Smith and assistant director Kim Doss.

Forsan High School theater students presented a Victorian fairy tale in an unsentimental, realistic manner. "Sara Crewe," the main character and title of the play is the daughter of a British Army captain in India. A bright, imaginative child, fluent in several languages, Sara is sent to a boarding school in London.

When her father dies and her fortune is lost, the headmistress of the school, Miss Minchin turns Sara into a servant, banishing her to a rat-infested attic but even at her most desperate point Sara maintains her basic goodness.

Forsan received the alternate play at district one-act contest — Kesha Christian earned best actress honors. Cory Reyna, Abby Janca and Rachel Clinton, all were named to the honorable mention all-star cast.

The cast includes Kesha Christian as Sara Crewe, Clinton as Miss Minchin, Heather Hise as Lavinia, Ashley Pierce as Jessie, Janca as Ermengarde, Cassie Christian as Lottie, Ruth Kaelin as cook, Felicia Osburn as salesgirl No. 1 and baker, Casi Graves is salesgirl No. 2 and urchin, Ross Rhoton as Captain Crewe, Reyna as salesman, Trey Kuykendall as Lascar and Clay Vickers is Carrisford.

Crew members are Rachel Kaelin, Kandis Snowden and Lakacia Lewis. The play was under the direction of Jim Rhodes.



Above, Sophia Western, played by Jessie Bennett, and Tom Jones, played by Eric Henry, share an intimate movement during a scene from the Coahoma High School production of "Tom Jones."

Below, a street urchin, played by Casi Graves, pleads for food in a scene from the Forsan High School production of "Sara Crewe."

At left, Medea, played by Amanda Sheedy, left, confronts Creon, the King, played by Dan Weissman, while the chorus, Molli Maberry, left, Erica Rodriguez and Brittany Barrow observe. Soldiers Logan Churchwell and Chris Stokes stand at attention during a scene from the Big Spring High School production of Medea.



Story by Lyndel Moody. Photos courtesy of Big Spring High School, Forsan High School and Coahoma High School.

On the business of writing, "It involves a great deal of industry and a little arrogance."

Aspiring To Be A Writer
Ten years ago this month I began writing a column, on a regular basis, for the Big Spring Herald.

Before that, I had done school news and a few features for the paper, but in March, 1992, the first edition of "Prime of Your Life" was published.

John Walker was managing editor of the Herald at that time, and Martha Florez edited the monthly publication.

Early contributors included Al Scott, Myrtle Griffith, and Sharon Rich. Mary Randle soon joined the list.

Eventually the columns

from local writer were printed in the Life! section of the newspaper.

Remembering those years made me think about this business of writing.

I have aspired to be a writer ever since I won a dollar in an essay contest sponsored by the Omaha World Herald. I was in the eighth grade, and I have never forgotten the thrill.

Writing is essentially a lonely business. It involves



JEAN WARREN

a great deal of industry and a little arrogance.

The writer must believe that someone is interested in what he has to say.

The writer must also be willing to work very hard, and to remember Mark Twain's advice, "The difference between the right word and the almost right word is the difference between lightning and the lightning bug."

I have great respect for Mark Twain and William Shakespeare. Those literary giants wrote with pen and ink and had to make few revisions.

Most of us, however, are not geniuses, although I

have had a few students who thought they were. They found the requirement to proofread their compositions and make a second copy distasteful.

Isaac Singer said, "The waste basket is the writer's best friend." How true!

Another best friend for a writer is a truthful critic. My husband encouraged my writing efforts, reading manuscripts, making suggestions, and supplying moral support for the inevitable rejections.

But he probably helped me most by giving objective evaluations. Once, he looked over something I was working on and said,

"I know what you meant, but you sure didn't say so."

Now I sometimes call one of my sisters and ask for an opinion.

There is plenty of advice out there for the aspiring writer. Columnist Sharon Randle says to write about what you know.

Mary Higgins Clark suggests it is best to write what you like to read.

I'm sure their ideas are excellent, but fond as I am of murder mysteries, I must admit that, to date, I have not attempted one.

Speaking of murder, I have to smile at the unrealistic picture of a writer as

portrayed in the popular re-runs, Murder She Wrote.

I still enjoy the show, although it often requires total suspension of logic.

I remember one episode when Jessica had 10 pages to write in an afternoon. Ten pages! Come now.

The funniest comment about writing that I have come across is by Dorothy Parker—"I hate writing, but I love having written."

I have never hated writing, but I have learned the best motivation. It is a deadline.

Jean Warren writes a regular column for the Herald.

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ANNIVERSARIES

ENGAGEMENTS



James C. and Jewell Dunlap

James C. and Jewell Dunlap of Big Spring will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary March 30, 2002, with a family luncheon with their children and grandchildren. A reception hosted by their children and spouses will follow at the Texas RV Park Reunion Hall.

He was born in Birth Right. She was born Jewell Elizabeth Wood in Knott. The couple met through friends and were married April 4, 1942, at the court house. The ceremony was performed by Walter Grice.

The couple's children are Mary Gowen of Midland, James of Roswell, N.M., Carol Wright, Gary Dunlap, Ronald Dunlap, all of Big Spring, Gerald of



Terrell, Jannetta Pena of Gardendale and the late Sharron Walls. They have 21 grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

Other places they lived during their marriage were Childress and Odessa.

He was previously employed in construction. She was employed the Senior Citizens for nine and a half years and with Nurses Unlimited for 11 1/2 years. They are both now retired.

The couple are Jehovah's Witnesses. He has been a member of Carpenter Local for 56 years.

Their hobbies are "Dominoes, caring for the elderly and, loving our great-grandchildren."



R.D. (Doc) and Myrt Tindol

R.D. (Doc) and Myrt (Norwood) Tindol celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Saturday, March 23, at a party held at the Howard College Cactus Room.

The event was hosted by the couple's three children and their spouses, Mr. and Mrs. Tony (Karen) Goeke, Dr. and Mrs. Neal Tindol, and Dr. and Mrs. Rogan Tindol; and their grandchildren, Gregory Goeke, Kimberly Goeke and Will Tindol.

The couple were married March 28, 1952, at the West Side Baptist Church with the Rev. Cecil Rhodes officiating.



Mr. and Mrs. William Traywick Morgan of Montgomery, Ala., announces the engagement of their daughter, Jennifer Lynn Morgan to Steven Paul Huston, the son of Dr. and Mrs. James William Huston of Big Spring.

The bride-elect is the granddaughter of the late Mr. E.O. Holman of West Virginia and Mrs. Virginia N. Holman of Elkins of West Virginia and the late Mr. and Mrs. Henry T. Morgan of Tarrant, Ala.

Miss Morgan graduated from Auburn University in Auburn, Ala. She is employed as a teacher with the Lee County Alabama School System.

The groom-elect is the grandson of the late Mr. John Henry Thweatt and Mrs. John Henry Thweatt of Luxora, Ark., and the

Amy Lange, formally of St. Lawrence, and Dr. Joseph John Zubak, both of Dallas, will be united in marriage on May 18, 2002, at the Holy Angels Catholic Church in San Angelo with the Rev. Charles Greenwell officiating.

Amy is the daughter of Sharon and the late Roger Lange of San Angelo.

Joseph is the son of the late Mary Ann and Joseph Zuback of Adah, Pa.



late Mr. and Mrs. LaVerne Huston of St. Louis, Mo.

Mr. Huston will graduate from Auburn University in May 2002 with a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering.

The ceremony is planned for June 15, 2002, at Taylor Road Baptist Church in Montgomery, Ala.

Paid announcement

WHO'S WHO

The United States Achievement Academy announced today that Brian J. Wingert of Big Spring has been recognized for his achievement as a National Leadership and Service Award winner.

Brian Wingert, who attends Big Spring High School, will appear in the United States Achievement Academy Official Yearbook, with its publication nationally.

"Recognizing and supporting our youth is more important than ever before in America's history. Certainly, United States Achievement Academy winners should be congratulated and appreciated for their dedication to excellence and achievement," said Dr. George Stevens, Executive Director of the United States of Achievement Academy.

The USAA National Leadership and Service

Awards provide students with many benefits and services and is a great tribute to a student's, dedication, talent, and ability.

Brian Wingert is the son of Chris and Karen Wingert of Big Spring. The grandparents are Cad and Anne Wingert of Big Spring and Charles and Linda Towne of Houston.

Kamie Schwartz, a senior management major at West Texas A & M University, has been named a "Greek Woman of the Year."

She is a member of Chi Omega fraternity, having served both as secretary and president.

She is currently the president of Rho Lambda and a candidate for May graduation.

Kamie is a 1998 graduate of Garden City High School and the daughter of Floyd and Martha Schwartz of St. Lawrence.

STORK CLUB

Tori Paige Franco, girl, born March 9, 2002 at 9:43 a.m. Weighing 6 pounds, 5 ounces and was 20 inches long. Parents are Melissa Hale and James Franco.

Baby Boy Flanagan, boy, born March 8, 2002 at 8:05 a.m. Weighing 5 pounds, 15 3/4 ounces and was 18 1/4 inches long. Parent is Demetria Flanagan.

Katie Ann Humphries, girl, born March 6, 2002 at 10:42 a.m. Weighing 8 pounds, 13 1/2 ounces and was 22 1/2 inches long. Parents are Kristal and Kyle Humphries.

Jesse Harlan Boyce, boy, born March 8, 2002 at 8:52 a.m. Weighing 7 pounds, 12 ounces and was 20 1/2 inches long. Parents are Buford and Emily Boyce. Grandparents are Charlene and John Boyce of Colorado City.

Agustin Gomesindo DeLos Santos, boy, born March 7, 2002 at 9:46. Weighing 7 pounds, 1/2 ounce and was 21 1/2 inches long. Parent is Jennifer Rangel. Grandparents are Ida and Edward Rangle of Big Spring, Manuela DeLos Santos of Big Spring and Luz DeLos Santos, Jr. of Abilene.

Born to Dean and Teresa Hodnett of Greenwood, formerly of Big Spring; Jackson Hud Hodnett, born Feb. 27, 2002, at 8:37 a.m. Weighing 8 pounds, 3 ounces and was 20 1/2 inches long. He has a big brother Rhet Lanhan Hodnett. Grandparents are Butch and Sherry Hodnett, J. J. Murlay and Virginia Booker.

Haden Tyler Robertson, boy, born March 17, 2002, at

9 p.m. Weighing 6 pounds, 12 1/2 ounces and was 20 3/4 inches long. Parents are Amanda and Jason Wayne Robertson. Grandparents are Shirley Brumley and the late Walter Brumley Sr. and Doris Robertson and the late George Robertson of Odessa.

Carlos Anthony Quinonez, boy, born March 19, 2002, at 3:55 p.m. Weighing 7 pounds, 14 1/2 ounces and was 21 inches long. Parent is Sabrina Quinonez. Grandparents are Lisa Enriquez of Kansas.

Bradee Lynn Rios, girl, born Feb. 26, 2002, at 9:51 a.m. Weighing 7 pounds, 9 ounces and was 19 1/2 inches long. Parents are T.J. and Cindy Rios. Grandparents are Rudy and Lupe Hernandez of Phoenix, Ariz., and Luis and Erlinda Rios of Big Spring.

JACK & JILL DAYCARE
Open 7 days a Week 5 am-Midnight
Birth to 12 years old
1708 S. Nolan 267-8411

Did you take FEN-PHEN?

The diet drug Fen-Phen was marketed under several names including **Redux, Pondimin, Fenfluramine, or Dexfenfluramine.** If you took these diet drugs, you should know that it may not be too late to opt-out of the nationwide class action for the purpose of pursuing a lawsuit against the drug company individually.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, AND TO FIND OUT IF YOU ARE ELIGIBLE FOR A FREE, NON-INVASIVE ECHOCARDIOGRAPHIC SCREENING, PLEASE CALL US

713-963-0400 or 800-859-9009

BILL BASS & ASSOCIATES
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GOD'S FORMULA FOR REVIVAL

You are invited to
GOSPEL MEETING
with Ben Mereness

April 7-10, 2002 at the **Coahoma Church of Christ**
"A Loving Church That Exalts Jesus Christ"

311 North Second Street, Coahoma, Texas

Sunday Bible Class (9:30 a.m.)
Sunday Morning Worship (10:20 a.m.)
Sunday Evening Worship (6:00 p.m.)
Monday Evening (7:00 p.m.)
Tuesday Evening (7:00 p.m.)
Wednesday Evening (7:00 p.m.)

The Joy-Full Christian Life
What A Fellowship!
The Greatest Need of This Church
If My People Will Humble Themselves
If My People Will Pray and Seek My Face
If My People Will Turn From Their Wicked Ways

Everyone is invited to stay for a fellowship meal following the Sunday morning worship service. Please come and bring a friend!

Call 394-4277 for more information

Nursery Provided

The Institute in Basic Life Principles Seminar

Building a foundation for the future

The Basic Seminar uses real-life stories and practical diagrams to show how every problem in life can be traced to seven non-optional principles. Every person, regardless of culture, background, religion, race, education, or social status, must either follow these principles or experience the consequences of violating them.

Basic Seminar Includes:

- Tracing surface problems to root causes
- Making decisions from God's perspective
- Understanding ten of our "unchangeables"
- How we can experience true freedom
- Transforming sources of irritation
- Understanding why God let it happen
- Finding and using the key to true success
- Discerning the right life partner
- How to develop genuine love
- Principles of effective child training
- Understanding eight life callings

Find lasting answers vs. temporary relief

Over 2.5 million people have now attended the Basic Seminar. Many find lasting answers to questions such as: What are the keys to true happiness? How can I resolve anger and bitterness towards others? How can parents and teens get along?

Using the Seminar as a foundation you can avail yourself of unprecedented opportunities in education and character development that help young and old avoid the destructive pressures of our day.

In Snyder

THE BASIC SEMINAR WILL BE HELD
APRIL 22 THRU APRIL 27, 2002

AT

Calvary Baptist Church

2405 35th Street
Snyder, TX 79549

Monday-Thursday - 7 to 10 p.m.

Friday - 9:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Saturday - 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Instructor: Bill Gothard
Video presentation

For more information contact:
Patrick and Martha Fairchild at (915) 694-7095
Pre-registration is advised

To register please fill out form completely. Include cash or check in the proper amount, and return it to the person or location listed on the left

Steps to Register	Community Basic Seminar Registration Form
1. FILL OUT this form completely, including birthdays.	Please check boxes: <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs. <input type="checkbox"/> Miss <input type="checkbox"/> Dr. <input type="checkbox"/> Rev. <input type="checkbox"/> Pastor <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Doctor <input type="checkbox"/> Other
2. EACH PERSON should fill out a separate form. A married couple should use only one form, unless one spouse is registering for the first time and the other is an alumnus.	Please print clearly: NAME: Last _____ First _____ Initial _____
3. PLEASE ATTACH cash or check, made payable to IBLF	Spouse (if attending) First _____ Initial _____
4. RETURN this form and payment to:	His Birthday: Month _____ Day _____ Her Birthday: Month _____ Day _____
Patrick Fairchild 4209 Ferncliff Hiland, TX 79707 (915) 694-7095	MAILING ADDRESS: _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ COUNTRY: <input type="checkbox"/> USA <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER _____
	TELEPHONE () _____ E-MAIL: _____
	<input type="checkbox"/> First-time registrant <input type="checkbox"/> Basic Seminar Alumnus - first Basic Seminar attended: _____
	City (His) _____ Year _____ City(Hers) _____ Year _____
	I am/We are registering for the Basic Seminar in Snyder, Texas on April 22-27, 2002. This fee should be left blank and separate forms should be filled out if one spouse is registering as a first timer and the other is registering as a Seminar alumnus.
	Registration Fee Enclosed: Please check one below
	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual: \$60 (Includes one Workbook; one Textbook)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Married couple: \$95 (Includes two Workbooks; two Textbooks)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Spouse or family member of an alumnus: \$35 (Includes one Workbook; no Textbook)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Family: For each additional member of a family having at least one Basic Textbook in their home: \$35 (Includes one Workbook; no Textbook)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Alumnus: No Charge (Includes no Workbook; or Textbook)
Note: You may duplicate this form.	

Amanda June J. Robert Glen Wilde announce their engagement and approaching marriage. Amanda is the daughter of Donny and Paul of Big Spring. Her parents are Brothers and the Brothers of Level. Nioma Jones and Lewis W. "Jack" Big Spring.

Robert is the son of Christie Wilde of I and Don Wilde of I.

The couple are an authentic Civilizing to be held in conjunction with a Civil June 1.

HUMAN SOCIETY

Pictured is Pepp Patty. She is a two-year Lab/Shepard mix, very good with other children. Pepp Patty is very energetic, loves to run, jump ball with children. He would make a great companion dog. Also has all her shots spayed.

Come out an Adoption house. Peppermint Patty, other four-legged friends. Howard County Humane Society are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. The shelter is open Mondays.

Special note: A

MILITARY

Marine Corps Pvt. J. Reyes, son of Ros of Coahoma recently completed basic training. Marine Corps Depot, San Diego.

Reyes successfully completed 12 weeks of training. Reyes is a 2001 graduate of Coahoma High School.

Army Pvt. Josh Bolding has graduated basic combat training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C.

Bolding is the son of Michelle Treadgill Wiltshire Drive, Garland.

His grandmother, Whitefield, resides on Farm to Market Road in Big Spring.

In 2001, the private graduated from La Centennial High School in Garland.

Air Force Senior Jacob Flores has deployed to a forward operating base to support the mission of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Flores is a security guard.

Dr. Gene

on the importance of Colonoscopy

Colon cancer is a leading cause of cancer death. But it can be prevented. Colonoscopy is a patient procedure for colon cancer screening. It involves removal of benign polyps and transformation into stool test for blood. Colonoscopy is a patient procedure for colon cancer screening. It involves removal of benign polyps and transformation into stool test for blood.

If you are age 50 or older, colon cancer screening is recommended. Call 1608 W FM 70

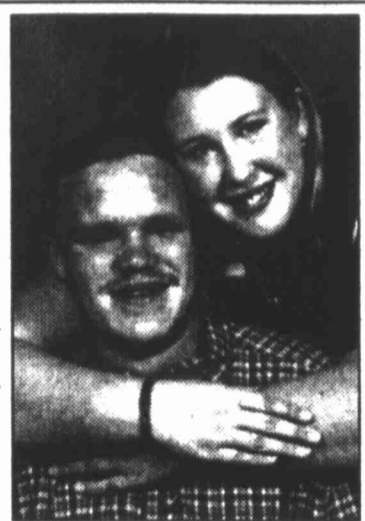
ENGAGEMENTS

Amanda June Jones and Robert Glen Wilde wish to announce their engagement and approaching marriage.

Amanda is the daughter of Donny and Paula Jones of Big Spring. Her grandparents are Geneva Brothers and the late Bill Brothers of Levelland and Nioma Jones and the late Lewis W. "Jack" Jones of Big Spring.

Robert is the son of Christie Wilde of Levelland and Don Wilde of Houston.

The couple are planning an authentic Civil War wedding to be held in conjunction with a Civil War reenactment in Gainesville on June 1.



Barbara Mitchell and Peter Weiler, both of Burleson will exchange wedding vows April 20, 2002, at the Back to Back Ranch in Burleson.

She is the daughter of Glenda Low of Big Spring, and Jeff and Renie Mitchell of Southlake.

He is the son of John Weiler of Burleson and Ron and Julie Scheechele of Houston.



Brazilian sculptor drops use of fragrances for new work

WASHINGTON (AP) — This time sculptor Ernesto Neto may be hurt if anyone says his work smells. Usually he wouldn't mind.

He often puts lavender, clove or turmeric into the big bags of white synthetic fabric that he uses as the basis of his forms. They give out what a museum statement called "a continued process of olfactory stimulation."

Not this time. His newest abstract design is a 45-by-15-foot structure — "The Dangerous Logic of

Wooing." Neto explains that one part is masculine in character and another part feminine. It resembles a group of cow udders or oddly shaped sausage casings.

Neto has spent a week hanging it from a ceiling in the Smithsonian Institution's Hirshhorn Museum, where it opens to the public Thursday. Viewers are encouraged to walk beneath and around the bags, some of which almost reach the floor. Touching them is allowed, an unusual privilege in museums, but guards will be posted to see they are not damaged.

Neto said he originally intended to balance the bags on one side with lavender and on the other with oregano, but found they were too light. He opted instead for nearly a half ton of odorless rice.

"If people want to smell something, they can go home and smell," he said.

Neto's sculpture is what museum people call site-specific, filling the whole of the "Directions" gallery that the Hirshhorn devotes to new, exploratory work. Even the acoustics of the gallery affected how he formed his work, Neto said.

WEDDING

Bethany Maria Johnson and Jason Robert White exchanged wedding vows Feb. 23, 2002, at the home of the bride's grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Amos Johnson in Sand Springs.

The Rev. Elwin Collum, pastor of First Baptist Church of Coahoma, officiated. A reception followed the ceremony.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Kelly Johnson of Clyde. She is employed at Hendricks Medical Center in Abilene.

The groom is the son of Cindy Kitchens of Denton Valley and Greg White of Abilene. He is employed by Hanner Motor Company in Baird.

The bride was given in marriage by her father, Kelly Johnson.

She wore a long, white, sleeveless satin dress with seed pearls.

She carried a bouquet of white roses with blue streamers.

The couple will make their home in Abilene.



HUMANE SOCIETY

Pictured is Peppermint Patty

She is a two-year-old Lab/Shepard mix. She is very good with other dogs and children. Peppermint Patty is very energetic, loves to run, jump and play ball with children. She would make a very good companion dog. She also has all her shots and is spayed.

Come out and see Peppermint Patty all her other four-legged friends.

Adoption hours of Howard County Humane Society are 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

The shelter is closed Mondays.

Special note: All dogs



and cats presently available for adoption at the Howard County Humane Society have received their vaccinations, including rabies.

Current adoption prices are \$18 for dogs and \$9 for cats.

All pets come with a two week trial period.

For more information call executive director, Tim Jones or co-managers, Barbara Carter or Suzi Garza at 267-7832.

MILITARY

Marine Corps Pvt. Arthur J. Reyes, son of Rosie Lain of Coahoma recently completed basic training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego.

Reyes successfully completed 12 weeks of training. Reyes is a 2001 graduate of Coahoma High School.

Army Pvt. Joshua D. Bolding has graduated from basic combat training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C.

Bolding is the son of Michelle Treadgill of 4022 Wiltshire Drive, Garland.

His grandmother, Linda Whitefield, resides at 650 Farm to Market Road 461, Big Spring.

In 2001, the private graduated from Lakeview Centennial High School, Garland.

Air Force Senior Airman Jacob Flores has deployed to a forward operating area to support the mission of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Flores is a security forces

journeyman with two yours of military service.

He is the son of Mary Q. Flores and Marciano Gracia of 1108 E. Fifth St., Big Spring.

Air Force Airman Christopher A. Rodriguez has graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, Antonio.

Rodriguez is the son of Charlie and Marlene Rodriguez of 1413 Wood St., Big Spring.

He is a 2001 graduate of Big Spring High School.

UPCOMING EVENT

Tommy and Mary Louise Vick will celebrate their Golden Wedding Anniversary at a special party hosted by their children and grandchildren.

This event will take place on Saturday afternoon at the 14th and Main Church of Christ in the Fellowship room. All their friends are welcome to come share in this happy event. Please no gifts.

Emergency care with an emphasis on caring.



Introducing ER+

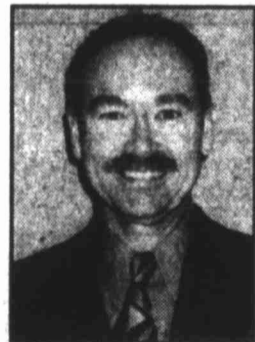
It assures you that 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, you'll find qualified physicians who take the time to listen; nurses who are truly compassionate; and a registration staff that understands that people come before paperwork. It means low wait times,

a thorough and proper examination, and a treatment you'll understand and believe in. ER+ means a quality emergency room plus the comforts of knowing you're in the right place, with the right people, getting quality care. Right here.



QUALITY CARE. RIGHT HERE.

Dr. Gene Stokes
on the importance
of a
Colonoscopy



Colon cancer is the second most common cause of cancer death in the United States.

But it doesn't have to be.

Colon cancer affects 1 in every 20 American women and men. It doesn't discriminate by sex or ethnic origin. But it is preventable. In fact, more than 90 percent of colon cancer cases can be prevented by readily available screening tests.

Colonoscopy is a well-tolerated, 20- to 30-minute outpatient procedure and serves as the gold-standard for colon cancer screening. It can identify and allow removal of benign colon growths (polyps) before they transform in to cancer. Other tests, including a stool test for blood or a sigmoidoscopy, may complement colonoscopy in colon cancer screening.

If you are age 50 or older, be sure to discuss colon cancer screening options with your doctor.

1608 W FM 700 Ste C • Big Spring, Texas

263-1725

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Firm offers to buy SSC site for U.S. anti-terrorism training center

WAXAHACHIE (AP) — A Texas-based firearms training company wants to buy the former Superconducting Supercollider property owned by Ellis County to help fight the war on terrorism. An Ellis County official told the Waxahachie Daily Light that Protac Global bid more than the county's \$5 million asking price for the property, which includes 120 acres and about 213,000 square feet of building space.

"I was told their plans call for training local, state, federal and military personnel in anti-terrorism tactics," Ellis County Judge Al Cornelius said. He declined to reveal the amount, saying the parties are still negotiating, but said the deal could be closed within 30 days. A meeting is scheduled for Monday with the Center for Strategic and International Studies to outline the plan for the Counter Terrorism Training Center, the newspaper reported.

Cornelius said the company was to meet with Secretary of Homeland Security Tom Ridge and other officials in Washington. Protac Global is owned by two former Marines, who will seek contracts from government entities involved in the war on terrorism to provide specialized training to government employees. Cornelius said the county has another offer that involves leasing part of the SSC property to the federal government. He said that deal

hasn't been finalized but would pose no problems for the anti-terrorism training project. The \$4.4 billion Superconducting Supercollider Project was approved by the federal government in the 1980s, with Ellis County being selected as the site Nov. 10, 1988. The project called for building an oval-shaped, 53-mile long, 10-foot wide underground particle accelerator to study the nature of energy and matter.

Congress, however, canceled the project in 1993 after spending more than \$2 billion, completing half the project. The land and buildings were divided and given to state, county and school district entities. The Texas Land Office sold the state's part of the property, with lots mostly being sold for residential or agriculture use. The county has been marketing its share of the property since 1999.

Texas Prison system sees modest gain in workers

DALLAS (AP) — The Texas prison system saw modest improvements in hiring and retention, two persistent problem areas, during a six-month period that ended in February. The Texas Board of Criminal Justice this week said that 3,266 correctional officers were hired between September and February, 603 more officers than were hired over the same period in fiscal 2001. Attrition also was reduced, from 2,677 correctional officers leaving over the six-month period in fiscal 2001 to 2,322 in fiscal 2002.

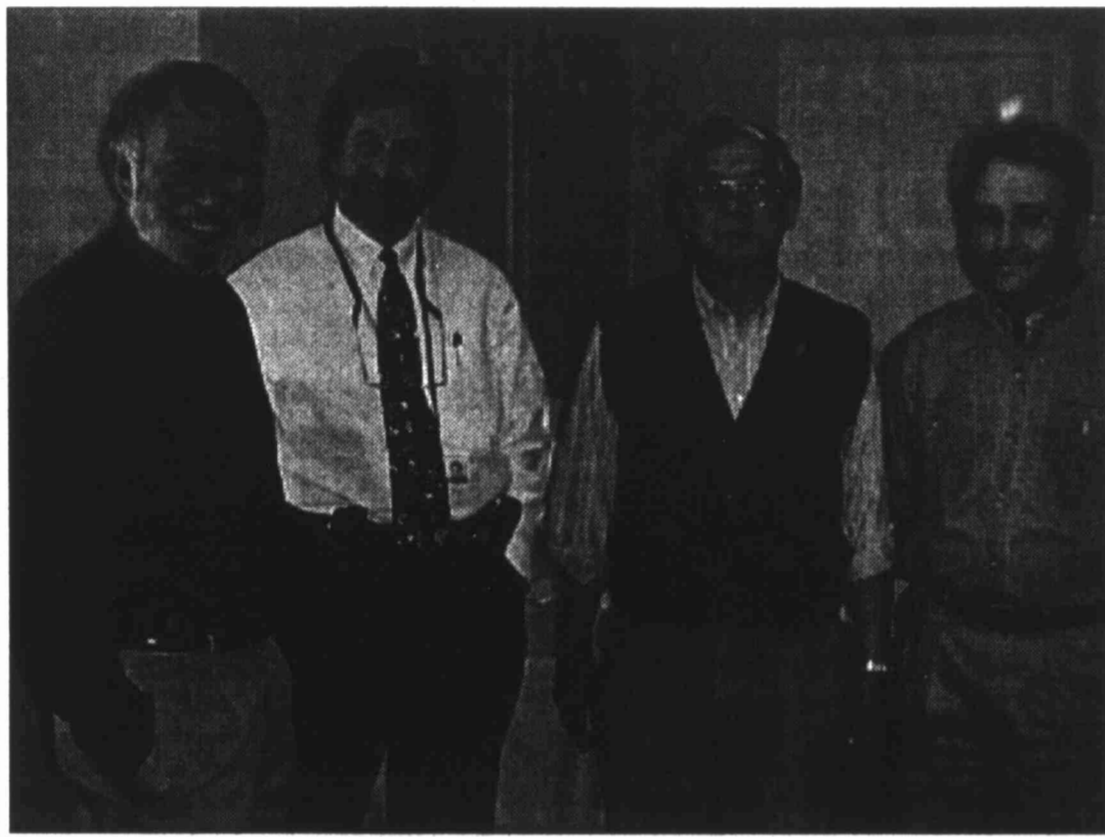
The Texas prison system can hire 25,982 correctional officers, though currently about 23,300 are employed. This gap of nearly 2,700 officers is an improvement from last year, when at one point the shortage exceeded 3,300 correctional officers.

Carol Blair Johnston, deputy director of human resources for the TBCJ, told Saturday's editions of The Dallas Morning News that the statistics indicate the agency is "moving in a new direction ... a very good direction."

A permanent pay raise in the form of a career ladder approved by the Legislature last year, which went into effect in September, is credited for helping to reduce attrition and attract recruits.

In addition to the pay raise, department officials have embarked on an aggressive recruiting campaign and introduced incentives for employees to get others to apply.

DOCTOR'S DAY CELEBRATION



Big Spring State Hospital Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist Dr. Kenneth Dorman, CEO Ed Moughon, Clinical Director Dr. Ba Han and Director of Operations and Marketing Jock Simons visit during the hospital's Doctor's Day celebration. The medical staff was honored with a reception on Tuesday. The national celebration has been held since 1958 on March 30, commemorating the first use of anesthesia by Dr. Clifford W. Long in Jefferson, Ga., on March 30, 1842.

State hospital mental health workers honored as employees of the month

HERALD Staff Report

Three Big Spring State Hospital mental health workers were honored during the past three months as Mental Health Worker of the Month for showing compassion and displaying innovative behavior on the job.

Activities therapy department employees recently introduced the award to recognize one of the most difficult job responsibilities



WILKINS Direct care workers spend the most amount of time with the nearly 200 patients and comprise the largest part of the workforce — nearly 250 of the approximately 700 funded positions. **GONZALEZ** Bryan Wilkins, who has worked as a mental health worker for 10 years. **HILARIO** See HONORED, Page 5B

Airlines

Airports see \$2 billion cost for bomb detection, ask who will pay the bill

WASHINGTON (AP) — The nation's airports face at least \$2 billion in construction costs to make room for machines to detect explosives. Officials say they don't know how many machines they need, where they should be installed or who will pick up the cost.

Renovations for the most part have yet to begin and it's unlikely airports will meet an end-of-year deadline for having all the equipment in place.

"As we sit here, we don't know what to build or where to build it," said Jim Wilding, president of the Washington Metropolitan Airports Authority, which runs Washington Dulles and Reagan National airports and handles 35 million passengers annually.

"There's just a whole host of very complicated, very expensive decisions that need to be made," he said. "You wish they could have been made last week or last month, but they just haven't been."

The new aviation security law requires explosive detection systems at all 429 commercial airports by Dec. 31 to inspect checked baggage. But the airports have to make room for the machines.

Transportation Department Inspector General Kenneth Mead estimated the cost of renovating the airports at more than \$2 billion, to accommodate

"There's just a whole host of very complicated, very expensive decisions that need to be made."

—Jim Wilding, president, Washington Metro Airports Authority

more than 2,000 machines. The government will pay installment costs of \$175,000 per machine, said Transportation Security Administration spokesman Jonathan Thompson. The \$4.7 billion is part of President Bush's supplemental budget proposal.

Because airport executives said there isn't enough time to complete the renovations by year's end, they will need to use other technologies as well, such as handheld equipment to detect traces of explosives, in addition to the explosive detection machines.

"We tend to think in terms of a couple of years to build things rather than a couple of months," Wilding said. "It's increasingly likely that a combination of technologies is going to be necessary rather than going directly to a permanent solution."

See SECURITY, Page 5B

New sheep and goat regulations will go into effect today

Sheep and goat industry folks owning one head or thousands need to remember that beginning today, all sheep and goats must be in compliance with the new USDA state and federal scrapie management regulations. These new regulations require sheep and goats to be wearing a premises identification ear tag before they are removed from your premises. It makes no difference if that place is a ranch or someone's back yard, if the animals fall within the required regulation guidelines, they must be tagged.



DAVID KNIGHT

Information from the Texas Animal Health Commission and other government authorities indicate that scrapie is a fatal degenerative brain disease affecting sheep and goats. It was accidentally introduced into the United States in 1947. Lambs and kids are most susceptible to the disease. The malady develops slowly, and infected animals usually don't show symptoms until they are at least 18 months old. Symptoms include weight loss, tremors, coordination loss, swaying and wool pulling. Past eradication efforts haven't been successful. The new premises identification system will allow diseased animals to be traced back to their point

of origin. Knowing the origin point is a key element in the successful eradication of the disease. Kight describes these five sheep and goat classes that require tagging: (1.) All Sheep 18 months of age and older, (2.) all breeding sheep regardless of age, (3.) sexually intact show or exhibition sheep and goats, (4.) all goats 18 months of age or older that are or have been commingled with sheep and (5.) all breeding goats that are or have been commingled

with sheep. Wethers from either species and commercial goats that have never had contact with sheep are the only two exemptions to the tagging rule. To be absolutely safe and to cut down on confusion, my recommendation is to tag all female sheep and goats regardless of age and all intact males over 18 months old when they leave your place. After today, if you take animals to an auction without tags, the auction will tag them

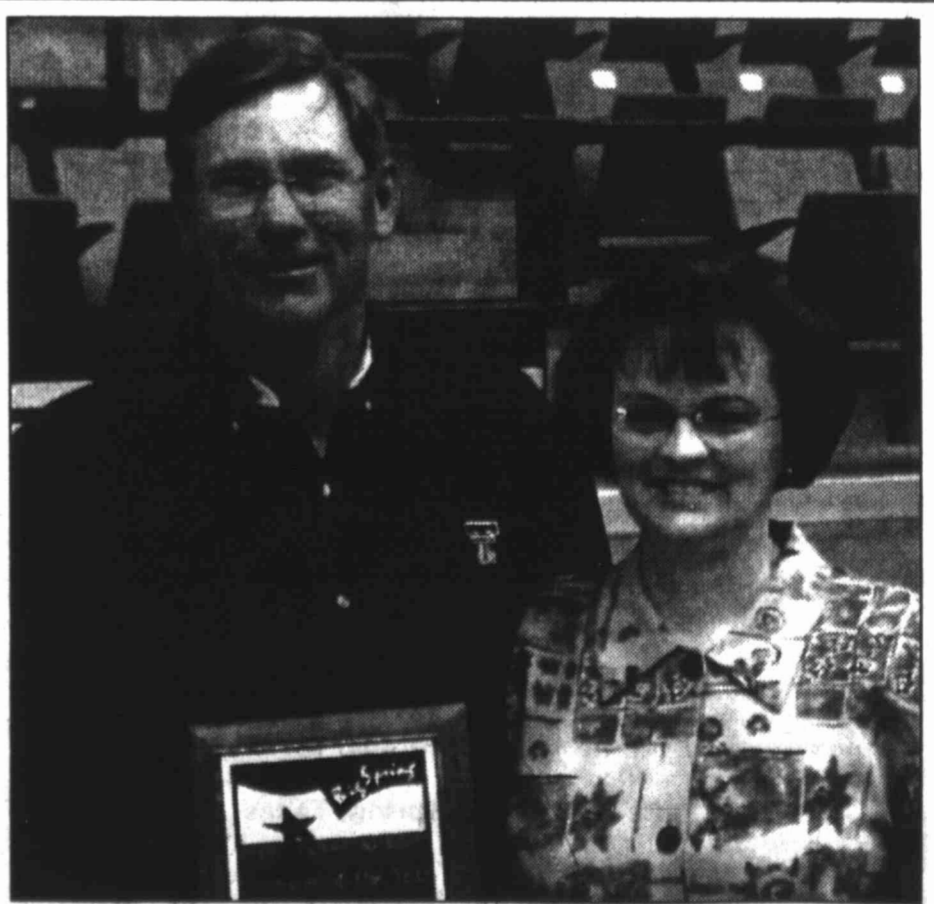
with their premises tags for a fee. Sales transactions must be kept and recorded for five years. This can be as easy as writing the date of sale, the premises number and the sold animals' individual numbers on the side of the tag box. The premises number should also appear on all sales documents, including auction check-in slips, vouchers, canceled checks and bills-of-sale. The ear tags will carry the owner's premises number on one side, along

with their premises tags for a fee. Sales transactions must be kept and recorded for five years. This can be as easy as writing the date of sale, the premises number and the sold animals' individual numbers on the side of the tag box. The premises number should also appear on all sales documents, including auction check-in slips, vouchers, canceled checks and bills-of-sale. The ear tags will carry the owner's premises number on one side, along



The Agri-Business of the Year and the Ag Producer of the Year were honored at the annual Ag Expo Luncheon Thursday. Left, Ronnie and Diane Wood opened Big Spring Farm Supply in 1977 and have been providing fertilizer, chemicals, parts, feed and livestock supplies ever since. At the luncheon, their store was named Agri-Business of the Year. Right, Ag Producer of the Year Frank Long, pictured with his wife, Glenda, started his farm with 320 rented acres in 1980 and has built it to one of the largest in Howard County, with 1,280 owned and 3,000 rented acres of land.

HERALD photos/Roger Cline



Justice of the Peace Bennie Green Precinct 1, Pia Bad Checks/W/ The addresses listed addresses. Names of all lines have been with this list, please Agular, John C., Odesa Allen, Robert E Highway 80 No. 115 Alvear, Ruddy, Lamesa Alvizo, Jessica, P. Arequillin, Griseldi Spring Arredondo, Coni Big Spring Arriaga, Fernando Road, Apt. 44, Big S Avina, Lorie, 901 Balderaz, Bernar Big Spring Barber, Stacie Le Big Spring Barragan, Martina Baraza, Guadalupe Big Spring Batchelor, Dana, Lamesa Beck, Linda, 171 Elk, N.C. Bennett, William Road 6300, Lubbock Benton, Forest Eu Big Spring Botello, Mariene Spring Bowers, Delores 924, Big Spring Brown, Jason, Spring Brown, Robbie D. Browne, Amy Coahoma Bryan, Randy, P. CR 112, Snyder Bullard, James Z Burnett, Bobbie Big Spring Burton, Kasha, Spring Calcutt, Gloria, Spring Cantu, Pete J., 2t Carrisalez, Mary Snyder Carter, Tefy, P.O. Place, Big Spring Cavazos, Antho Express Way South, Chavarria, Pedr Spring Chavera, Arnulfo Spring Chavera, Arnulfo Big Spring Chavez, Angel (Big Spring Chism, John, 41C Cisneros, Ramon Spring Clabaugh, Kenn Drive No. 1801, Mid Clark, Edward, 60 City Clark, Standley L Big Spring Cole, Glen De Coahoma Cole, Tammie C Lubbock Connolly, John Texhoma, Okla Cooper, Melody Coahoma Coots, Shannon Cortez, Gustavo Roswell, N.M. Cortez, Lionel Lamesa Cortez, Matilde Stanton Cox, Donna Ly Spring Cox, Ron, 604 Dr Crick, Don, 186 L City Crossman, Ashle Spring Cruz, Cindy, 131 Cruz, Caesar Sa Horn Daigle, Marvin I Spring Davenport, Russ Amarillo DeBlanc, Roy E Oyska, Miss DeLaon, Jose C Road 3351, Stanton Dickson, Krista A Edgington, Rodg Spring Edmonson, Doyl Big Spring Egan, Lance, 311 Elliott, Amy, 40 Heights Ellis, Samuel Jac No. 48, Big Spring Ellison, Charles I Big Spring England, Julie, 2 Spring Evans, Robert Le Austin Evans, W. Carol Fagan, Chris M. Amarillo Farr, Elizabeth W Ficker, Laura E Texas Fields, Nancy, Spring Flores, Irene, 20k Flores, Isaac Jr., Fowler, Sharon K Spring Fuqua, Terry Ma Big Spring Futrelle, Debora Spring Galindo, Linda, 4 Odesa Garay, Juan D., Mesquite Garcia, Chris, 15, Big Spring Garcia, Petra, t Lamesa Garcia, Ricky, 5k Gariby, Danny, Midland Garrett, Chesley Big Spring Garza, Angel A. Garza, Priscilla Lenora Goad, Elissa, P. Gomez, Cheri Elkhart, Kan. Gonzales, Eunio Big Spring Gonzales, Rubi Lamesa Gonzalez, Carlo Stanton Gonzalez, Luc Keathly, Garden Ci Greco, Benjamin No. 38, Big Spring Guetter, Billy B. 24A, Midland Gutierrez, Ambe Big Spring Gutierrez, Ricard Hallman, Cather St., Big Spring Hamilton, Alfred Big Spring Hamilton, Lou, 1 Harris, Ruby, 90 Harrison, Tiffany Woodlawn, Tenn Hataway, Bobb Ave., Snyder Headrick, James

PUBLIC RECORDS

Justice of the Peace
Bernie Green
Precinct 1, Place 1
Bad Checks/Warrants Issued:
The addresses listed are the last known addresses. Names on this list remain until all fines have been paid. If any problems with this list, please call 264-2226.
Aguilar, John C., 6701 Eastridge Rd., Odessa
Allen, Robert Burris Jr., 2911 W. Highway 80 No. 115, Big Spring
Alvarez, Ruddy, 1106 1/2 N. Main, Lamesa
Alvizo, Jessica, P.O. Box 653, Coahoma
Arequin, Griselda, 2607 Barksdale, Big Spring
Azedondo, Connie, 1323 Madison St., Big Spring
Arlaga, Fernando Kyong, 1905 Wasson Road, Apt. 44, Big Spring
Avina, Lorie, 901 Scurry, Big Spring
Balderaz, Bernard, 3304 W. 80 Apt. 44, Big Spring
Barber, Stacie Leigh Anne, 2613 Carol, Big Spring
Barragan, Martina, 509 N. Fifth, Lamesa
Barraza, Guadalupe, 1501 Wood St., Big Spring
Batchelor, Dana, 2300 S. Eight No. 24, Lamesa
Beck, Linda, 1713 Worley Rd., Banner Elk, N.C.
Bennett, William Brent, 5502 County Road 6300, Lubbock
Benton, Forest Eugene, 111 W. 19th St., Big Spring
Boitelio, Mariene, 2004 Nolan, Big Spring
Bowers, Delores "Juanita", P.O. Box 924, Big Spring
Brown, Jason, 1510 Johnson, Big Spring
Brown, Robbie D., 515 N. 10th, Lamesa
Browne, Amy N., P.O. Box 717, Coahoma
Byran, Randy, P.O. Box 783 or 317 W. CR 112, Snyder
Bullard, James 202 Fourth, Palestine
Burnett, Bobbie S. Kinche, 607 Elgin, Big Spring
Burton, Kasha, 4210 Parkway, Big Spring
Calcutt, Gloria, 1104 N. Bell Drive, Big Spring
Cantu, Pete J., 2605 Ent, Big Spring
Carrisalez, Mary Helen, 903 Ave. O, Snyder
Carter, Telfy, P.O. Box 2771 or 151 11th Place, Big Spring
Cavazos, Anthony, 2435 N. Central Express Way South, Richardson
Chavarria, Pedro, 1210 Marjio, Big Spring
Chavera, Arnulfo Jr., 1810 Mittle, Big Spring
Chavera, Arnulfo Sr., 1111 E. Fourth St., Big Spring
Chavez, Angel (Amber), 508 Ayleford, Big Spring
Chism, John, 4105 Dixon, Big Spring
Cisneros, Ramon, 623 McEwen, Big Spring
Clabaugh, Kennie, 2613 N. Midland Drive No. 1801, Midland
Clark, Edward, 65345 FM 644, Colorado City
Clark, Stanley L., 1901 Eubanks Road, Big Spring
Cole, Glen Dale, P.O. Box 877, Coahoma
Cole, Tammie Colleen, 3608 33rd St., Lubbock
Connolly, John C., P.O. Box 305, Texhoma, Okla.
Cooper, Melody Ann, P.O. Box 391, Coahoma
Coots, Shannon, 200 Circle, Big Spring
Cortez, Gustavo, 206 Carver Drive, Roosevelt, N.M.
Cortez, Liontez Jr., 1610 N. 14th St., Lamesa
Cortez, Matilde Jr., P.O. Box 761, Stanton
Cox, Donna Lynn, 1607 State, Big Spring
Cox, Ron, 604 Drake, Big Spring
Crick, Don, 186 Las Lomas, Rio Grande City
Crossman, Ashley, 634 Tulsa Road, Big Spring
Crow, Cindy, 1310 Tucson, Big Spring
Cruz, Caesar Santa, P.O. Box 344, Van Horn
Daigle, Marvin Keith, 1403 Park, Big Spring
Davenport, Russell E., 1300 S. Taylor, Amarillo
DeBlanc, Roy E., 1066 Cutler Road, Osyka, Miss.
DeLeon, Jose Cruz Jr., 4027 County Road 3351, Stanton
Dickson, Krista A., 6917 Todd, Sachse
Eddington, Rodger, 507 W. Fifth St., Big Spring
Edmonson, Doyle Dee Jr., 1741 Purdue, Big Spring
Egan, Lance, 3109 Peyton Ave., Snyder
Elliott, Amy, 408 Steeple Top, Glenn Heights
Ellis, Samuel Jack, 3304 W. Highway 80 No. 48, Big Spring
Ellison, Charles Wesley, 3906 Connally, Big Spring
England, Julie, 2705 Williams Road, Big Spring
Evans, Robert Lee Jr., P.O. Box 151471, Austin
Evans, W. Carol, 809 E. 33rd, Plainview
Fagan, Chris M., 1305 N. Taylor Apt. A, Amarillo
Farr, Elizabeth Wheat, 2618 Chanute
Fleker, Laura E., 929 Fitzhugh, Paris, Texas
Fields, Nancy, 1204 Lindberg, Big Spring
Flores, Irene, 2000 Johnson, Big Spring
Flores, Isaac Jr., 841 Carver St., Abilene
Fowler, Sharon Kay, 1711 Alabama, Big Spring
Fuqua, Terry Martin, 1409 Park Avenue, Big Spring
Futrelle, Deborah, 2515 Fairchild, Big Spring
Galindo, Linda, 4675 Oakwood No. 332, Odessa
Garay, Juan D., 517 Royal Crest Drive, Mesquite
Garcia, Chris, 1001 Birdwell Lane No. 15, Big Spring
Garcia, Petra, 609 1/2 N. Avenue P, Lamesa
Garcia, Ricky, 500 25th St., Snyder
Garibay, Danny, 1911 Hudson Ave., Midland
Garrett, Chesley Wayne, 2611 E. 24th, Big Spring
Garza, Angel A., 501 E. 15th, Big Spring
Garza, Priscilla Gutierrez, P.O. Box 42, Lenora
Goat, Elissa, P.O. Box 643, Midland
Gomez, Cheri Lee, P.O. Box 1282, Elkhart, Kan.
Gonzales, Eunice Torres, 1607 Tucson, Big Spring
Gonzales, Ruben, 1307 N. 12th St., Lamesa
Gonzalez, Carlos P., 403 N. Boudard, Stanton
Gonzalez, Lucciola (Lucy), 125 N. Keathly, Garden City
Greco, Benjamin, 2609 Wasson Road No. 38, Big Spring
Guelker, Billy B., 3600 N. Midland No. 24A, Midland
Gutierrez, Amber Michelle, 3608 Calvin, Big Spring
Gutierrez, Ricardo, 422 Elm St., Midland
Hallman, Catherine Ann, 1202 E. Third St., Big Spring
Hamilton, Alfred Jr., 1110 1/2 Aylesford, Big Spring
Hamilton, Lou, 108 Brooks, Big Spring
Harris, Ruby, 907 Ave. S, Lubbock
Harrison, Tiffany S., 1935 Dunbar Rd., Woodlawn, Tenn.
Hataway, Bobby G. Jr., 3012 Austin Ave., Snyder
Headrick, James D., 1301 Lindberg, Big

Spring
Helms, Johnny Michael Jr., 538 Westover Road No. 156, Big Spring
Helms, Melissa, 4630 Oakwood Drive, Odessa
Henderson, Melanie, 2911 W. Highway 80 No. 117, Big Spring
Henderson, Wilma, 2114 Carl St., Big Spring
Henry, Nakia, 618 State, Big Spring
Hernandez, Ortenica Chavez, 1404 Park St. St., Big Spring
Herrera, Victoriano, 805 N. Polk, Amarillo
Hill, Johnny R., 704 San Antonio, Big Spring
Hogan, Brandon, 1715 Todd Road, Big Spring
Hojle, Jon, 835 East 11th, Colorado City
Holley, Bobby Lee, 19605 N. Highway 87, Ackerly
Hopper, Teresa, 812 E. 23rd St., Odessa
Howery, Jeanie R., 4700 Polo Parkway No. 149, Midland
Humphrey, Jason, SWCID, Big Spring
Hunt, Terrell, 1509 Wood St., Big Spring
Hunter, Freddie Jr., 308 N. Ave. H, Lamesa
Isidro, Victor, 114 Sleepy Mountain, Kerville
Jackson, Kristie, 2700 N. Midland Drive No. 200
Jackson, Thomas Jeremy, 908 E. 14th, Big Spring
James, Sharon Annette, 400 W. Highway 80 Apt. M, Big Spring
Johnson, Tanya, 8000 Clear Brook Circle, Fort Worth
Jordy, John Jason, 1405 Nolan, Big Spring
Juarez, Benita, 1809 E. Maple, Midland
Juarez, Eric Don, 110 E. 17th St. Apt. A, Big Spring
Keller, Timothy, 3212 W. Wadley Ave., Midland
Kent, Cynthia Lee, Newport News, Virginia
Kirby, Mark, 2600 Crestline No. 3, Big Spring
Koening, Kelly Mack, P.O. Box 212, Blackwell
Lancaster, Somer D., 2600 Crestline No. 11C, Big Spring
Lang, Elvis Eugene, 1409 Mount Vernon or 405 Donley, Big Spring
Lara, Susan M. Freeman, 3203 Hill Ave., Snyder
Limon, Chris M., 4522 Roosevelt, Midland
Limon, Rita, 406 E. Broadway, Brownfield
Lobaton, Mitzi Michelle, 10710 Emmitt Ln., San Angelo
Locke, William Ray Jr., 3205 E. 11 Place, Big Spring
Lopez, Jaime, 1815 Benton, Big Spring
Lopez, Michael, 520 N. Ave. A, Kermit
Lopez, Ruben Jr., 107 Milburn St., Snyder
Lowe, Clifford G., 501 Circle, Big Spring
Lowe, Roberta Lee, 1111 W. 19th St., Odessa
Major, Timothy Joseph Jr., 1203 Harding St., Big Spring
Manuel, Syretta, 1508 N. 13th St., Lamesa
Martinez, Krystle, 2623 Fairchild, Big Spring
Martinez, Theodore, 1610 Owens, Big Spring
Martinez, Victoria Joseph, 323 S. Main, Lorraine
McCaister, Melissa, 1403 Wood, Big Spring
McClain, O'Neal, 1911 Seventh St., Snyder
McCool, Diana, 504 Donley, Big Spring
McCurry, Christy J., 1006 S. K Street, Midland
McCurry, Tracy Ann, 1005 S. K Street, Midland
McDaniel, Jesse, 2670 N. Road 64 or P.O. Box 157, Lorraine
McDaniel, Michael Christopher, 840 E. 11th, Colorado City
Matzek, Conrad L., 1501 Runnels, Big Spring
Mier, Ramiro Sr., HC 63 Box 109, Big Spring
Mills, Jessica Lea, 801 Debra Ln., Big Spring
Molinar, Alvertito, 2006 Ninth St. No. 202, Big Spring
Molinar, Sandra, 811 17th St., Snyder
Montez, Gary Adelaide, 1918 N. 14th St., Lamesa
Moore, Gary, 817 W. 26th St., Odessa
Moreno, Linda Paz, 1002 N. Main No. 6, Big Spring
Morris, Patricia Ann, 803 Lorilla, Big Spring
Morris, Quinton D., P.O. Box 183, Lorraine
Moyers, Russell D., 166 W. Colorado, Amarillo
Munoz, Veronica, 602 E. Estes, Midland
Nail, Gena Gayle, 1120 Will Rogers Dr., Santa Rosa, N.M.
Nirmul, Banu B., 205 Mindy Lane, Piscataway, N.J.
O'Callaghan, Judy Roxan, 907 E. Interstate 20 SP 22 or P.O. Box 2603, Big Spring
Ochoa, Patty, 3222 Auburn, Big Spring
Overa, Mateo, P.O. Box 925, Lamesa
Oyer, Maria, 1016 E. 21st St., Big Spring
Orozco, Juana, P.O. Box 186, Idalou
Orozco, Maria E. Estrada, P.O. Box 1572, Stanton
Ortega, Helen M., 101 N. Carsey (Rear), Big Spring
Ovalle, Ninfa Gonzales, 3001 E. Hwy 80, Midland
Ovalle, Sergio Lee, 1388 Mesquite, Big Spring
Padron, Abram, 927 N. A or HCR 3 Box 76, Brownfield
Padron, Lisa, 2610 Carlton, Big Spring
Palanes, Lisabel Pera, 1600 Camp, Midland
Palmer, Johnny D., P.O. Box 30458, Midland
Palmer, Reeda Castillo, 3735 E. Eighth St. No. 135, Odessa
Pancok, Sanjuana (Janie), Box 42, Ackerly
Perez, Bernardo F. Jr., 3304 W. Highway 80, Big Spring
Perez, Yris, P.O. Box 53314, Lubbock
Perry, Allen, 2600 Dow, Big Spring
Perry, James Odell, 2601 Ent Drive, Big Spring
Picazo, Alanda Lee, 112 Cedar, Big Spring
Pond, Henry C. Jr., 840 Western, Amarillo
Posey, Gregory, 1602 E. 11th Place, Big Spring
Pringle, Toni, 10601 E. County Road 104, Midland
Ragsdale, Sam, 814 N. 12th, Lamesa
Ramirez, Francisco, P.O. Box 217, Lyford
Ramirez, Margarita O., 538 Westover Road, No. 112, Big Spring
Ramirez, Ramon, P.O. Box 1828, Big Spring
Ramsey, Cynthia, 626 Tulane, Big Spring
Ramsey, Robert E., 538 Westover Road No. 134, Big Spring
Ranallo, Jerome E., 711 N. Eighth Street, Lamesa
Rathbun, Dawn M., 6 Sunset Circle, Alpine
Redding, Allison, 1741 Purdue, Big Spring
Redford, William Robert, 1604 Virginia, Big Spring
Redman, Michael David, P.O. Box 1254 or 19th St., Snyder
Renteria, Jennifer, 4233 CRA 3500, Knott
Resendez, Guadalupe, 945 Clifford, Odessa
Reynolds, Elton R., P.O. Box 1142, Colorado City

Riggins, Bella M., P.O. Box 1292, Snyder
Rios, Fidel, 1219 San Felipe, Alice
Ritz, Nathan Alan, 802 Nolan, Big Spring
Rivera, Krishna N., 2020 Mattie Woods La, Colorado City
Roach, Gene D., 1685 W. Mt. Springs Road, Cabot, Ark.
Roberts, Doris P., 3303 Auburn, Big Spring
Rocha, Inez Rodriguez, 1303 Lamar, Big Spring
Rocha, Luis, 2281 Waco St. Apt. 22, Snyder
Rocha, Vicky H. (Virginia), 2208 26th St., Big Spring
Rodriguez, Gloria, 3313 Cuthbert, Midland
Rodriguez, Joel, 1601 E. Third, Big Spring
Rodriguez, Rose Marie, 1503 Robin, Big Spring
Rosales, Chris, P.O. Box 216, O'Donnell
Rudd, Matt A., 17059 Hwy 46, W. Lot, Spring Branch
Salinas, Elizabeth, 1303 N. First St., Lamesa
Sanchez, Debbie Ann, 538 Westover #26, Big Spring
Sanchez, Lisa Marie, 2010 26th St., Lubbock
Sanders, Randolph K. II, 460 Grenway Rd., Kingsford Heights
Sayles, Christopher Shane, 202 W. Sixth St., Forsan
Schenk, Robert Charles, 1303 West Michigan, Midland
Selvera, Joey, 2006 Ave L, Snyder
Sena, Jeaninne, 6 Eagle Pl., Roswell, N.M.
Simpson, Patricia, 3527 102nd St., Lubbock
Smale, Gary Lee Jr., 1705 Alabama, Big Spring
Smith, Allan Lee, 2104 Morrison, Big Spring
Smith, Jeremy Ryan, 4405 N. Garfield No. 613, Midland
Smith, Mary, 303 S. Main, Big Lake
Smith, Ronald Dale, P.O. Box 295, Stanton
Smith, Rosemary, 711 E. 15th, Big Spring
Solis, Reynaldo, 1306 N. Fifth St., Lamesa
Sparks, Jerney, 5115 FM 1205, Cooper
Speights, Wanda, 3601 Andrews Highway, Odessa
Stanhope, Stella, 1315 Mulberry, Big Spring
Stanley, Annette, 1806 Winston or 609 Holbert, Big Spring
Stapp, Katrina, 5509 Longshore, Big Spring
Stone, Marsha A., 820 S. Meridian, Odessa
Stonerook, Enid, 1303 Baylor, Big Spring
Suiter, Kimberly, 43115, Esmond Drive No. 811, Odessa
Sullivan, Cheryl Lynn, 538 Westover No. 253, Big Spring
Sweeney, Timothy A., 538 Westover Road No. 239, Big Spring
Tabor, Tonya, 5103 Chaparral, Big Spring
Taylor, Joshua Eric, P.O. Box 120, Coahoma
Therry, Rebecca Jane, 2206 Nolan St. Thompson, James Patrick, 2106 Forest Oak Lane, Lake Jackson
Timmerman, Angela M., 5280 Professional Drive, Apt. 347, Wichita Falls
Tipton, Christopher Lance, 2609 Wasson Drive No. 25B, Big Spring
Tobias, Christine, 2101 Lakeview Circle, Lewisville
Trevino, Cynthia, Rt. 5 Box 166M, Kilgore
Tyron, Evangaline, 406 E. Cedar, Midland
Uribe, G. Gina, P.O. Box 123, Big Spring
Valdez, Teresa, 2324 10th St., Lubbock
Valenzuela, Maria, 1466 Lillius St., Abilene
Valenzuela, Mary T. L., 3008 E. Rio Grande, Victoria
Valle, Amado Gonzales, 118 Davis Road, Big Spring
Valle, Jose Olger, 1605 Glenwood Drive, Midland
Vek, Eugene, 1007 Wood, Big Spring
Velazquez, Vita L., 2023 W. 6th, Odessa
Viales, Shawn Lee, 1205 N. Lincoln, Odessa
Viera, Meliton, 1303 Lamar Ave., Big Spring
Villa, Manuela L., 1218 W. 3rd, Big Spring
Villafranco, Felisa, 301 E. Peck, Midland
Villarreal, Paul, 206 SW Ave. N, Seminole
Williams, Jason, Lima Co., 3/5 Wpns, Camp Pendleton, Calif.
Williams, Job, 2409 S. Ong, Amarillo
Williams, Melanie Joy, 6412 Wildwood Circle South No. 816, Fort Worth
Willis, Marva Dean, 2802 S. County Road 1082, Midland
Wilson, James A., 201 Tonn Road, Big Spring
Wirges, Joseph A. IV, 53893 Way N., Bloomfield, Nev.
Wixson, Anna E., 2609 Wasson No. 38, Big Spring
Wren, Gregory S., 9532 Desert Hill Lane, El Paso
Ybanez, Lucia C., P.O. Box 1393, Lamesa
Young, Charles T., 3304 W. Highway 80 No. 50, Big Spring
Zellis, Tamika E., 4775 Oakwood No. 509, Odessa

Revocation of Probation: Kimberlie Pineda, Driving While License Invalid, \$250 fine, \$460.25 court costs, 60 days in jail.
Probated Judgment - Deferred Adjudication: Felix Matthew Martinez, Display Fictitious Motor Vehicle Inspection Certificate, \$250 fine, \$235.25 court costs, 74 hours of community service.
Probated Judgment - Deferred Adjudication: James D. Householder, Unlawfully Carrying a Weapon, \$260 fine, \$235.25 court costs.
Probated Judgment: Ann Enola Segundo, Theft \$20 to \$500 by Check, \$100 fine, \$310.25 court costs, 24 hours community service, \$1,730.89 restitution, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, 24 months probation).
Probated Judgment - Deferred Adjudication: Shelley Marie Croll, Possession of Marijuana under two ounces, \$300 fine, \$235.25 court costs, substance abuse evaluation, 24 hours community service, \$46.67 reimbursement for testing of evidence, \$50 reimbursement for defense counsel.
Probated Judgment - Deferred Adjudication: Jeffrey Dean Dearman, Possession of Marijuana under two ounces, \$300 fine, \$235.25 court costs, substance abuse evaluation, 24 hours community service, \$46.67 reimbursement for testing of evidence.
Judgment and Sentence: Bobby Joe Lewis, Driving While Intoxicated, \$1,500 fine, \$275.25 court costs, 180 days license suspension, 60 days in jail.
Probated Judgment: Valentin C. Quintana, Driving While Intoxicated, \$750 fine, \$275.25 court costs, substance abuse evaluation, 90 days license suspension (suspension suspended, six months probation), 24 hours of community service, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, six months probation).
Probated Judgment: Charlie Valverde, Driving While Intoxicated, \$750 fine, \$275.25 court costs, substance abuse evaluation, 90 days license suspension (suspension suspended, six months probation), 24 hours of community service, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, six months probation).
Probated Judgment: Christopher B. Wasson, Driving While License Suspended, \$250 fine, \$261 court costs, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, six months probation).
Probated Judgment: Donald E. Fredenburg, Driving While Intoxicated - Second Offense, \$2,500 fine, \$276 court costs, substance abuse evaluation, 365 days license suspension, 80 hours of community service, 365 days in jail (jail time suspended, 24 months probation).
Probated Judgment: Rudy V. Narro, Driving While Intoxicated, \$1,500 fine, \$276 court costs, 90 days license suspension (suspension suspended, 12 months probation), substance abuse evaluation, 24 hours of community service, victim impact program, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, 12 months probation).
Probated Judgment: Ricardo Rodriguez, Driving While Intoxicated, \$1,500 fine, \$276 court costs, 90 days license suspension (suspension suspended, six months probation), substance abuse evaluation, 24 hours of community service, victim impact program, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, six months probation).
Probated Judgment: Albert Martinez Jr., Driving While Intoxicated, \$1,500 fine, \$276 court costs, 90 days license suspension (suspension suspended, six months probation), substance abuse evaluation, 24 hours of community service, victim impact program, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, six months probation).
Probated Judgment: Angela Denise McMillen, Driving While Intoxicated, \$1,500 fine, \$276 court costs, 90 days license suspension (suspension suspended, six months probation), substance abuse evaluation, 24 hours of community service, victim impact program, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, six months probation).
Probated Judgment: Jaime Renteria, Driving While Intoxicated, \$1,500 fine, \$276 court costs, 90 days license suspension (suspension suspended, six months probation), substance abuse evaluation, 24 hours of community service, victim impact program, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, six months probation).
Probated Judgment: Jeffrey Ralph Murphy, Deadly Conduct, \$2,500 fine, \$261 court costs, 80 hours community service, 365 days in jail (jail time suspended, 24 months community service).
Marriage Licenses
Larry Steen, 60, and Tammy Claudette Brewer, 44, both of Big Spring
Warranty Deeds
Grantor: Augustin and Rosa Maria Zavala
Grantee: Antonio and Maria Louisa Zavala
Property: Lot 1, Blk. G, Moore Heights Addition
Date filed: March 11, 2002
Grantor: Mary Hale, Brenda McKinnon, Kenneth W. Franklin, Douglas Franklin and John E. Franklin
Grantee: Dorothy F. Adkins
Property: Lot 1, Blk. 5, South Haven Addition
Date filed: March 12, 2002
Grantor: Tony R. and Suzette B. Wingo
Grantee: Candant Mobility Services Corporation
Property: Lot 7, Blk. 9, Kentwood (Unit No. 1) Addition
Date filed: March 13, 2002
Grantor: Leslie Lloyd
Grantee: Gloria Galaro and Edward Galaro Jr.
Property: S/40 feet of Lot 5, Porter Addition
Date filed: March 14, 2002
Grantor: Joe Lusk and Debra Lusk
Grantee: Robert C. Wegner and Sherry Wegner
Property: Lots 11 and 12, Blk. 6 (Subdivision C), Fairview Heights Addition
Date filed: March 14, 2002
Warranty Deeds With Vendors Liens
Grantor: A.E. Kelley
Grantee: Erasmo H. Sosa and Linda J. Sosa
Property: Lot 11 except the N/5 feet of the E/55 feet, Blk. 2, Government Heights to Bauer Addition
Date filed: March 11, 2002
Grantor: Michael L. Seal
Grantee: Fred H. Salgado and Linda Salgado
Property: Lot 3, Blk. 4, Ridgelea Terrace Addition
Date filed: March 13, 2002
Grantor: Michael L. Seal
Grantee: Angel Blanco and Tonnie Loera
Property: Lots 17 and 18, Blk. 17, Washington Place Addition

HONORED

Continued from Page 4B

health worker for the past 10 months, was honored as the March ATD Mental Health Worker of the Month. He earned the award for his patience in dealing with a patient in the work training program. Gonzalo Gonzalez, a direct care worker for the past six months, was honored as February's Mental Health Worker of the Month. He earned the recognition for working well with the adolescent population. He is known for praising the patients but setting limits. Ruben Hilario, a direct care worker for the past two years on medical psychiatric services, was nominated for the manner in which he treats the patients on his unit. Hilario is able to soothe some of the sickest patients on campus with his calm demeanor. The three recipients received an Employee of the Month pin, a writing pen, a letter of commendation and a certificate along with a snack.

SECURITY

Continued from Page 4B

At Salt Lake City Airport, which handles 19 million passengers a year, checked bags are first inspected with the handheld equipment, for instance. They are sent through explosive detection machines only if there is something suspicious. "A system such as ours is the only way that all airports can comply with the law," said Tim Campbell, the airport's executive director. "There's no way the manufacturers can even manufacture enough machines, let alone have the airports in a position to install and retrofit their terminals." Others in the airport management field want to be able to use alternatives to

explosive detection machines.

George Doughty, executive director of the Lehigh-Northampton Airport Authority, said smaller airports should be allowed to search bags by hand. The authority runs Lehigh Valley International Airport in Allentown, Pa., which handles 1 million passengers a year.

"The law specifically states EDS machines," Doughty said. "If you can accomplish the same mission with another technique, I'm sure Congress would be happy with that."

Sen. Richard Durbin, a member of the Senate Appropriations transportation subcommittee, acknowledged there may not be enough machines in place by Dec. 31. "As long as we're making a good-faith effort — and I think we are — I'm not going to be critical," said Durbin, D-Ill.

Also to be decided is where the explosive detection machines should go. Transportation Secretary Norman Y. Mineta and many airport executives say they want them in baggage handling areas rather than in airport lobbies.

"It's going to be difficult to meet any kind of customer service requirements if these machines are in front of the ticket counters," said Gina Marie Lindsay, managing director of Seattle-Tacoma International Airport, which handles 27 million passengers a year.

Failure to install machines currently available before the deadline might have a positive effect, some officials said, insofar as the government might over the next year be able to help them find more modern equipment.

"I don't want them to spend billions of dollars on equipment that may be outdated in a year or two," said House aviation subcommittee chairman John Mica, R-Fla.

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The Colorado River Municipal Water District has an opening for an Accountant in the Big Spring office. Bachelor's Degree in Accounting preferred with 2 years experience in accounting-related field. Must have thorough understanding of GAAP and governmental methods of accounting. District benefits include paid vacation, sick leave and holidays, retirement plan, and group insurance. The District is an equal opportunity employer.

Applications are available at the District's office located at 400 East 24th St., Big Spring, TX (915) 267-6341

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If you desire a challenge, please send your resume to Beckie Hinz, P.O. Box 50006, Denton, TX 76206, or call 1-800-213-4732 extension 232
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HELP WANTED

MOUNTAIN VIEW LODGE now hiring Nurse Aides for 6-2 and 2-10 shifts. Excellent working conditions, bonuses, benefits and incentive programs. Excellent starting pay. Apply in person at 2009 Virginia.
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HELP WANTED

Christian workers needed for nurse. Must be 18 or old. 4-10 hours weekly. P up application at Colla Baptist Church 11 Birdwell, M-F 8-4 p.m.

COME GROW WITH US

Texaco Star Stops are now taking application for full-time & part-time positions. Apply in person at the following locations: Manager position available. Star Stop #4 2501 S. Gregg. Star Stop #5 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.



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HELP WANTED

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We are a Drug Free Work force
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Experienced help wanted in the Garden City area. Pumper must have plunger lift experience. Fax resume to 915-652-3158

RN NEEDED
MDS COORDINATOR & STAFF DEVELOPMENT

Must Be Self Motivated
Excellent starting Salary
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Responsible for providing generic child protective services for a large rural area and to work with various child welfare boards. Travel required up to 60% of time. On call 24 hours as designated. Minimum Qualifications:
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The Texas Department of Protective & Regulatory Services Human Resources Office, Suite 450 8100 Cameron Road, Austin, TX, 78754

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SEED - COTTON
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5690, 26, 186, 1919
After 6pm 268-1888

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ER
SURGERY
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Big Spring, TX 79720
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Fax: (915) 268-4959
e-mail: robby_banks@hq.chs.net
website: www.smmccares.com
Equal Opportunity Employer

Newsday Crossword

ACROSS

1 Won them all
6 Remove, as a bowler
10 Satisfied sounds
14 Shilly-shally
15 Stressed type: Abbr.
16 Mental flash
17 Computer-game name
18 Kid
20 Present, e.g.
21 Spiny stuff
22 Homophone for "air"
23 Beatty, in *Reds*
24 Have a tab
25 Weightless one's wear
27 Two Uners
28 Tried-and-true
30 What some marchers carry
33 Pac-10 athlete
37 *Green Acres* cow
38 Animal life
39 New South Wales capital
40 Baseball ancestor
41 Film set on a sub
43 Shoebox letters
44 Father's Day gift
47 PIN needer
48 Barter alternative

DOWN

1 "Big blow"
2 Pond floater
3 Faded away
4 By itself
5 Didn't quit
6 Taint
7 Iroquois enemies
8 Some plays
9 Dart
10 Bother
11 Parting word
12 French royal name
13 *Full House* star
19 Steel source
26 Rebuker
27 Sounds like
28 Becomes boring
29 Pub serving
31 Enthusiastic
32 Here
34 Sinatra, in *The Joker Is Wild*
35 Contract occupant
36 11 Wall St. attachment
38 Camera
40 Type of muscle
42 Yogurt flavor
44 Role for Errol
45 Oscar role for Ellen
46 Plenty of nothing
48 Third-stringer
49 Stood
52 history
54 Joule fractions
56 Blast maker

STUMPER by Anna Stiga
Edited by Stanley Newman

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Extension 250

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For Sale 2 AKC Chocolate Labs. 1 male, 1 female. Call 264-7487

FREE A full blood Collie and a half Collie. If you would like one or both of these dogs call 267-7513

GARAGE SALES

Big Spring State Hospital Surplus & Consignment Sale, Wednesday, April 3rd. Entertainment centers, lawn mowers, conference table, wing back chairs, fire extinguishers, TV's, table & chairs & more. Silent bidding from 8:30am-1:30pm. For more information call 263-0618

J Large Garage Sale. 25 years Everything must go! Furniture, antiques, children clothes all sizes, men jeans 1/2 Ex. Salem Road stay on Service Road to Vikki Rd. South 1/2 mile sign's. Sat. 8-7, Mon. 8-7.

MISCELLANEOUS

Bedroom suite- Full bed & head board, night stand, dresser/mirror & chest. Call 268-9574 after 6 or 555-0073

NOW TAKING BIDS UNTIL 4-08-02 FOR 94 & 92 VAN, 01 JEEP 98 & 97 NEON 93 MAZDA, 98 LINC. CALL 915-267-6468

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FRANCO'S CATERING Will Be Serving Fresh Donuts, Cinnamon Rolls & Coffee 5 AM Daily Tamales Sale Tortillas 99c Doz FRI-SAT Franco's Catering 270-2542 1604 E. 4th

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

WEDDING CAKES!!! Silk florals, arches, candleabras The Grishams 267-8191.

ACREAGE FOR RENT

Pasture for rent in CISD, 1.5 acres, good grass, water, shed & shelter, fence 267-1802.

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FOR LEASE- 2310 HWY 350-2 OFFICE, LARGE WAREHOUSE WITH 3 OVERHEAD DOORS-FENCED YARD, \$450.00 MO. PLUS DEPOSIT. CALL WESTEX AUTO PARTS, INC. 263-5000

Sweet "C" Available: Gary Bldg. 1512 Scurry. Coffee bar with refrigerator, spacious. Call 806-794-7064.

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3 bdr/1 bath, 2 Living areas, 2 Dining areas, New air conditioner, New carpet, New gas lines. Near college \$30,000. Phone 267-1402

#4 Indian Ridge 3BDR/2 bath. Newly remodeled & Scenic view \$80's Call 267-8054

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Doublewide Mobile Home 3bdr/2bath with deck, to be moved. No equity take over payment Call 263-0260.

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1981 Mobile Home 3bdr/2bath 14x80 in Sand Spring area \$11,000. Call 263-3352

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Medical Fresenius Medical Care, a vertically integrated dialysis company, has the following open opportunities at West Texas Dialysis Center: Patient Care Technician

Ideal career change for CNA, MA or Phlebotomist looking for more hands on experience. This position requires a genuine concern for our patients and providing good quality, safe patient care.

Ward Clerk Assist medical staff with data entry and answering phones. Must have good organizational and typing skills. This is a 32-hour per week position.

Apply in person Monday, Wednesday or Friday from 8-10am or 1-3pm at 501 Birdwell, Big Spring, TX 79720 or fax resume to (915) 267-1756.

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

2 Bedroom central heat and air, no pets. Call 263-5818

2 BR, 100 1/2 Lockhart. Stove & refrigerator furnished. 267-7895

3 bdr, 1 bath, \$425 mo. fenced yard. On 2605 Ent. St. Call 267-7380.

310 East 21st Street. Available April 1, corner lot. 3bdr. 2 bath rock home. CH/A, fenced yard, 1 yr. lease required. No indoor pets. \$550/mo. plus security deposit. Owner/Broker. Call 263-6514

3Bdr/1 bath, CH/A, Carport, Storage, Huge Fenced yard, \$350/mo. \$150 deposit. Call 915-967-0207 ask for Keith.

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3/2 Doublewide Mobil home. All electric in Sand Springs area. Call 267-3841 or 270-7309

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TOO LATES Cherry Wood Baby Cradle w/bedding \$80. Infant car seat w/base \$25. Call 354-2485

FREE to a good home. Full blood male German Shepherd. Call 354-2485

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HOROSCOPE

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Sunday, March 31:

Often, friends disappoint you. Promises might sound nice, but you demand follow-through. You can count on a partner to stand behind you no matter what. You might opt to spend a considerable amount of money on making a long-term desire a reality. Make sure the timing is right. Discussions reveal what others think. Ask questions. If you are single, you might find it difficult to maintain that status, as you inevitably are drawn to someone in the second half of the year. If you are attached, you will need to come to an agreement with your partner about spending and investments. SCORPIO reads you cold.

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

ARIES (March 21-April 19) **** Don't get upset with someone, especially since you feel that this person could be a bit wasteful or not thoughtful. Resist losing your temper, remembering the nature of the day. Accept a loved one's suggestion and go along with the program! Tonight: Early to bed.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) **** Use caution with your temper. You might want to think before you express your rage. Another doesn't have to agree with you, so don't look for a consensus right now. Let go of problems and enjoy those around you. Tonight: Enjoy the one you're with.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) *** Nurture those in your day-to-day environment. News from a distance could toss you into chaos. Understand your limits within a particular situation. Get into the moment, realizing that soon you will need to have a talk! Tonight: Take your leave as soon as possible.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) **** Play along with another's request. You might know a secret that could run interference with this person's wish. Express your fun side with a child or loved one. Others surround you. Join your friends. Catch up on news. Tonight: Play rabbit.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) **** Deal with family head-on. You might not be able to make the change you want, as someone, "in power" might oppose you. Deal with different issues, but be prepared for someone to act as stubborn as a bull! Don't lose sight of priorities in the middle of a tizzy. Tonight: Happy to be at home.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) **** Don't stand on ceremony; instead, make calls and reach out for another. How you feel in the company of someone else could change considerably, as this person

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could make an unanticipated move. Curb your temper when dealing with another who could upset your plans. Tonight: Dinner with the family.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) **** You might be tempted to spend money on someone in order to hush him or her up. You cannot sit on an impending confrontation, though you might buy yourself a little time. Be reasonable with your requests. A child or key relationship could be at the center of this controversy. Tonight: Make dinner easy.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) **** Though you might be sparkling and full of fun, another seems destined to put on his or her war paint and let you know how very upset he or she is. Acknowledge this person and, if you can, frame a needed discussion in a key slot. Don't have turmoil all day long. Tonight: What's your pleasure?

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) **** If you're not careful, carelessness could get you into trouble. Stay even when dealing with another who sometimes gets your ire. Getting angry here might not be helpful. Cut off a difficult conversation, for now. Let this person know that you will make time for this talk soon. Tonight: Vanish as fast as you can.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) **** Make the most of this family day by bringing friends and family together. You might enjoy making a meal or inviting others over for an Easter-egg hunt. In any case, do what works for you. Allow more sunshine into your life. Tonight: Assume a devil-may-care attitude.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) **** You might decide to do your own thing and head in a direction that feels comfortable for you. If you have a much-needed discussion, what might be a problem right now could change. Choose a calm atmosphere. Be ready to say that you might be a little wrong! Tonight: Visit a loved one.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) **** Though you understand another clearly, something within says information could be incorrect. With a smile and a touch of diplomacy, check out plans and facts. You don't want to look for the Easter Bunny in the wrong place. Tonight: Take a drive in the country.

BORN TODAY Politician and former vice president Al Gore (1948), crusader Cesar Chavez (1927), actor Richard Chamberlain (1935)

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at http://www.jacquelinebigar.com.

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Table with 7 columns for line lengths (1-7 lines) and 4 columns for ad durations (1-3 Days, 5 Days, 7 Days). Prices range from \$16.30 to \$41.75.

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Discover Another World, Read! You never know what you might find.

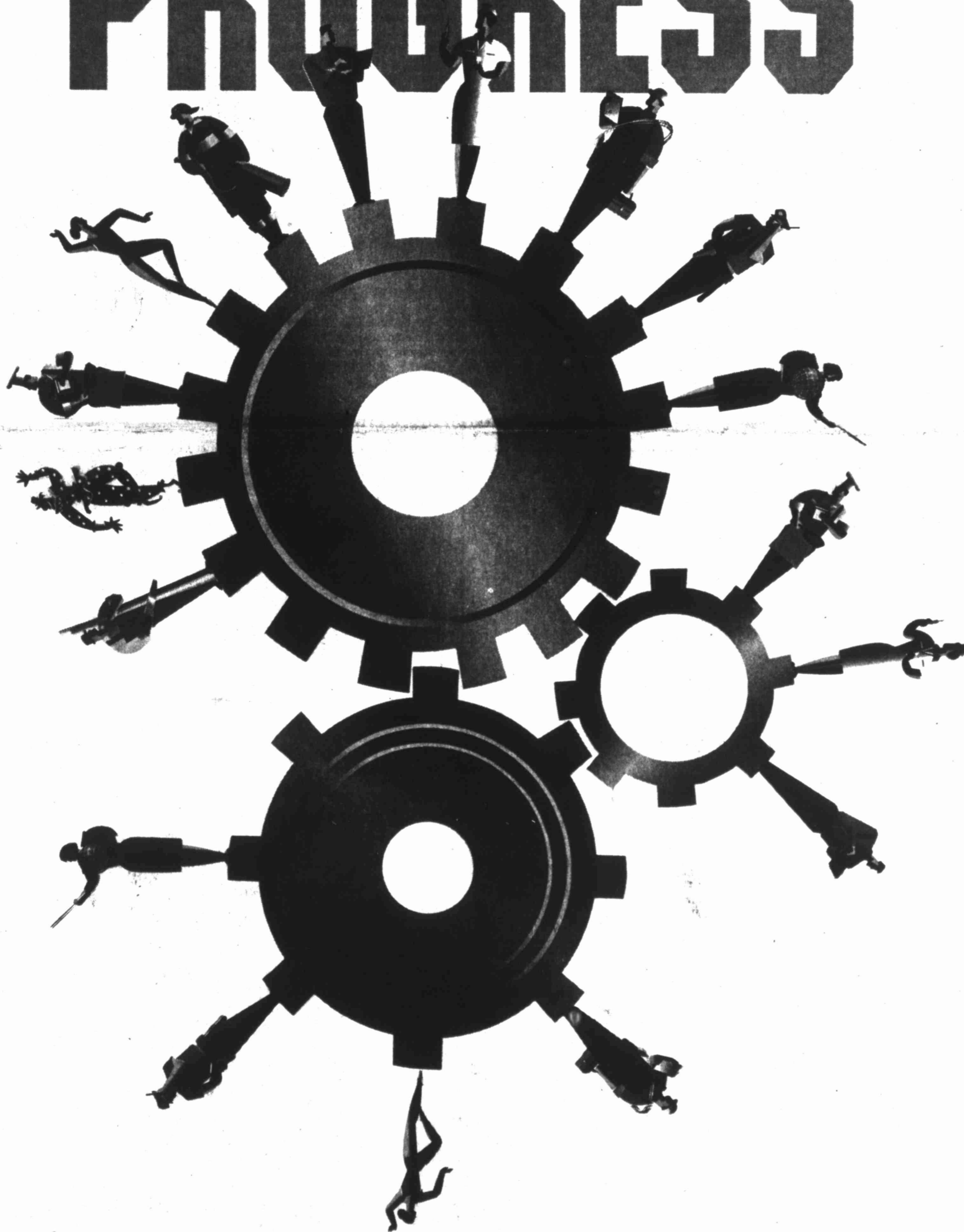
ANN LANDERS Dear Ann Landers: Last year, I was involved in an automobile accident that took the life of a respected man in our community. I use the word "accident," but the truth is, I was drunk. I am currently serving 18 months in prison and have lost my driver's license for the next 10 years.

ANN LANDERS You cannot imagine how depressed I am about what I did. I apologized to the man's family in court, and they were gracious about it, but I do not feel it is enough. They are kind and forgiving people, which only makes me feel worse. The man I killed must have been quite special.

Please, Ann, tell me what I can do to make amends for the misery I have caused. — Still Serving Time on the East Coast Dear Serving Time: There are several things you can do to ease your guilt. First, get acquainted with Alcoholics Anonymous

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TEAMWORK TURNS THE WHEELS OF PROGRESS



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Section C Sunday, March 31st, 2002

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Big Spring State Hospital founded in '38

Facility serves 79-county area; boasts employee base of nearly 650 people

Special to the Herald

Big Spring State Hospital is an integral component of Howard County's burgeoning health care industry and is Big Spring's largest employer with an employee base of nearly 650 people.

The employee workforce earns an annual \$17.9 million payroll and receives generous state of Texas benefits eligible for all state employees.

The Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation owns and operates Big Spring State Hospital and seven other state hospitals and 11 state schools for people with mental retardation. The hospital's annual operating budget is \$21.5 million.

Physicians, nurses, mental health care workers and administrative support specialists provide medical care and therapy for patients with psychiatric illnesses in the 187-bed hospital. Patients range in age from 10 years old to senior citizens.

Inpatient services include a 75-bed acute care program, 24-bed rehabilitative program, 24-bed seniors program, 30-bed medical program, 18-bed youth program, and a 16-bed multiple disabilities program.

Big Spring State Hospital serves people with mental illness in a 79-county area in West Texas, including



Courtesy photo

Big Spring State Hospital is owned and operated by the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation. In addition to being the county's largest employer, the hospital relies on more than 200 volunteers.

populated areas, such as Midland, Odessa, El Paso, San Angelo, Abilene, Lubbock and Amarillo.

Stephens County, east of Abilene with a county seat of Breckenridge, was added to Big Spring State Hospital's service area March 1. The Betty Hardwick Center in Abilene assumed responsibility on March 1 for Stephens County. The center will now refer patients who need psychiatric care to Big Spring State Hospital.

Local mental health authorities work as a referral source for state hospitals deciding which patients would be best served by intensive psychiatric hospitalization.

The hospital was founded in 1938 and many of the campus' buildings receive updating through funds appropriated by the state.

Voters passed Proposition 8 in November allowing \$850 million in bond money to repair state buildings.

Less than \$2 million in state bond money will be used by Big Spring State Hospital to make necessary repairs to the hospital's electrical, and heating and air conditioning systems during the next year.

Big Spring State Hospital contributes many volunteer hours to a variety of worthwhile projects in the community, including the Howard County Health Fair, the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life and providing free depression screenings for area residents.

Psychologists and social workers from Big Spring State Hospital provided free depression screenings during National Depression Screening Day and identi-

fied many people who needed assistance.

Hospital CEO Ed Moughon received the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation's highest award this past year when he was named the recipient of the 2001 Preston E. Harrison award.

Big Spring State Hospital holds a contract with the Veteran's Administration for psychiatric services for its patients. The state hospital provides facilities and staff for patients in a three-state region — West Texas, Arizona and New Mexico.

Volunteer programs continue to be an important presence at Big Spring State Hospital.

Last year, 224 volunteers worked 11,040. Total contributions to the hospital in gifts or in-kind man-hours totaled \$102,469.

Holidays celebrated through traditional and unique activities

HERALD Staff Report

Big Spring residents make Christmas a month-long season, usually beginning with a colorful community parade on the first weekend in December and rolling on until the last display is turned off at Comanche Trail Park after the first of the new year.

The Christmas season is kicked off each year with the annual Big Spring Herald-sponsored Community Christmas Parade along Gregg Street to the downtown area. Last year marked the 15th such event and included more than 60 entries. Each year, thousands of people line the streets to delight in the colorful floats going by.

The parade is one of the largest in Texas, and

requires not only volunteer help from Herald employees, but from many other groups as well.

Also for the past 15 years, the First Church of the Nazarene, located at 1400 Lancaster, has sponsored a drive-through nativity which attracts thousands of people. About 150 actors in costume act out the story of Christ's birth, complete with live animals that help make the scenes more realistic.

The event usually has a four-day run about a week or two prior to Christmas. There is no charge to go through the drive-through nativity but donations are accepted to help offset costs.

Also each year, First See HOLIDAYS, Page 3C



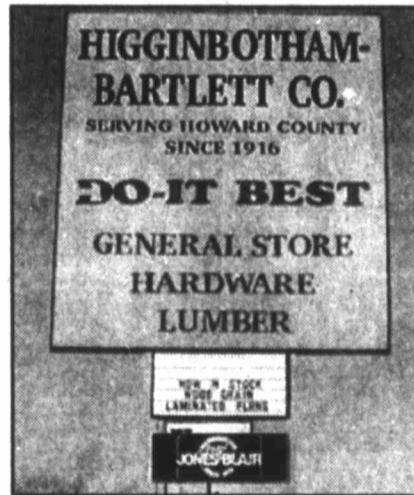
HERALD file photo

Members of Baker's Chapel AME and other churches join annually to sing carols at various locations in the community just before Christmas.

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HERALD file photo
Young children enjoy visiting with Santa at the Big Spring Mall during the holiday season.

HOLIDAYS

Continued from Page 2C

United Methodist Church puts on its Living Christmas Tree program. Choir members from several different churches in the area combine to form a large ensemble that is formed in the shape of a Christmas tree.

This event has become a family tradition, not only for local residents, but it also draws visitors throughout the Crossroads area.

Another Christmas event that brings visitors from all over the United States and several foreign countries is the Festival of Lights at Comanche Trail Park.

Last year, more than 17,000 people made their way through the park during the event. The year before, 14,000 visitors were registered from 33 states and seven countries. This was despite the fact that on four nights that year, poor weather caused the event to be shut down.

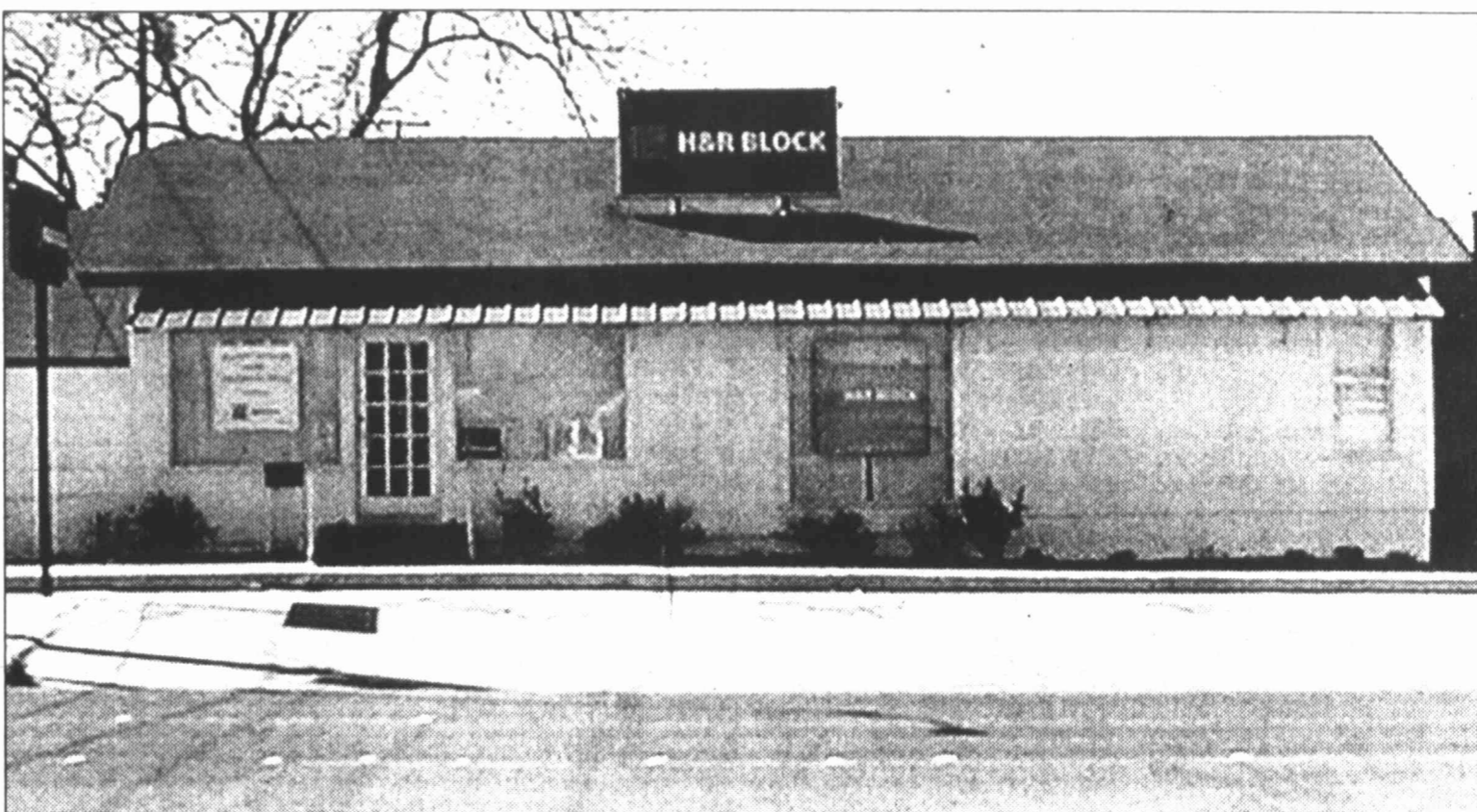
Like so many other holi-

day activities, access to the Festival of Lights is free, though donations are accepted to keep the project going.

More than a quarter-million lights are lit up each night during the event, and new displays are added annually. Chairperson Pat Simmons has set a goal of having a million lights in the not-too-distant future.

An activity that began two years ago was community caroling, started by members of Baker's Chapel AME. The informal group performs at local nursing homes, then takes its caroling "to the streets," singing at the HEB parking lot, Wal-Mart and the Big Spring Mall, among other locations. It is an activity open to the entire community.

Other traditions are Christmas programs at the VA Medical Center and Big Spring State Hospital and the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce-sponsored decorating contest for residents and businesses.



HERALD file photo
H&R Block, located at 1512 S. Gregg, offers tax preparation and electronic filing of tax returns. Founded 47 years ago, the company now handles about 14 percent of all individual tax returns filed in the United States each year.

H&R Block understands tax preparation

Special to the Herald

H&R Block was founded 47 years ago by brothers Henry and Richard Bloch, and today handles about 14 percent of all individual tax returns filed in the United States each year.

The Bloch brothers went into business together in 1946, operating the United Business Company which offered bookkeeping services for small businesses in Kansas City, Mo.

Among the services UBC offered was preparation of individual tax returns for its clients' executives. Word soon spread, and soon the brothers were being asked to prepare individual tax returns by the score.

The brothers soon got the idea to concentrate on tax preparation services, and H&R Block Inc. was formed in 1955.

From an initial annual volume of \$25,000, the company's gross revenues have climbed to \$2.4 billion in 2000.

In addition to tax preparation, H&R Block offers electronic filing of tax returns. Each year the company files about half of all electronically filed tax returns in the country.

H&R Block customers can also get their return in advance through the company's Refund Anticipation Loan program, cutting the time between filing and receiving their money to a few days rather than weeks or months.

For those who prefer to prepare their own tax returns, H&R Block offers "Kiplinger TaxCut" computer software. In addition, 1.8 million taxpayers used the company's online tax preparation and electronic filing

programs through the company's hrblock.com Web site in 2000.

Today, H&R Block Financial Advisors operate several financial centers across the United States. The financial centers offer tax preparation, brokerage services, financial planning, investment advice and, in some locations, home mortgages, all under one roof.

Through 1-800-HRBLOCK and hrblock.com, H&R Block clients now have instant access to information about the company's tax, mortgage, financial and software services. Both the toll-free phone number and the Web site allow customers and potential customers to find nearby offices with office locator services.

The company holds tax training schools in the fall of each year to teach income

tax preparation to the general public. Most tax preparers employed by Block are graduates of the company's schools and returning associates attend advanced seminars which cover some of the more complex portions of the tax code as well as recent changes in tax laws.

The years 1999 and 2000 held few changes to federal income tax laws, but with the refund of 2001 and the tax cuts associated with it, even people who have been preparing their own tax returns for years have had difficulty with the process this year.

Block's tax preparers have been trained to deal with the new changes and can answer questions about them.

For more information check the H&R Block Web site at hrblock.com or call 1-800-HRBLOCK.

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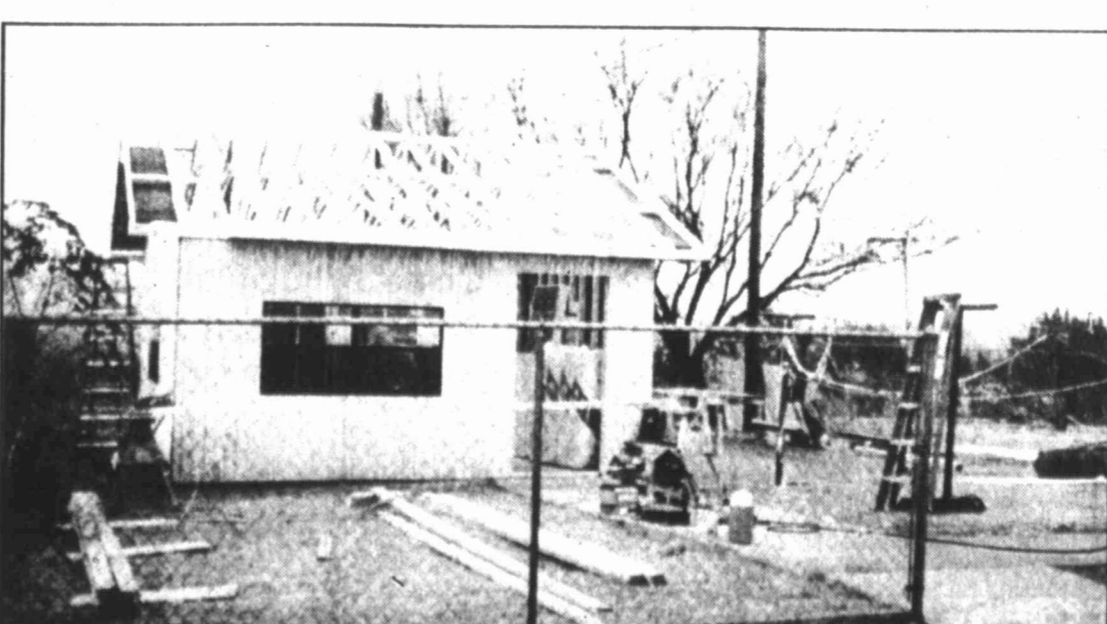
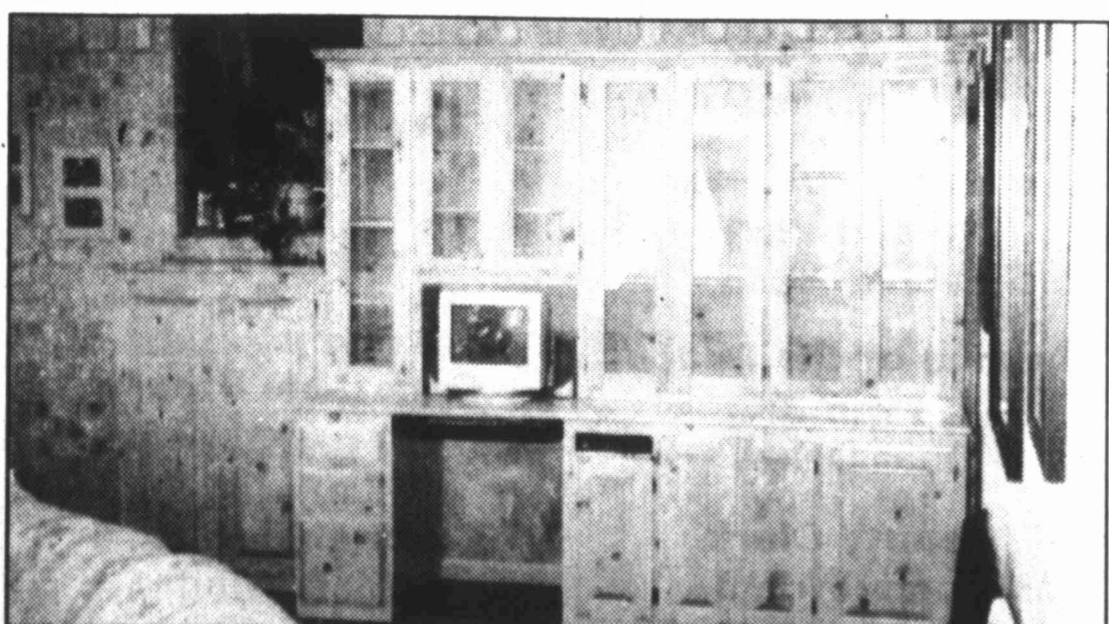
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Wells Fargo steeped in history, customer satisfaction

Special to the Herald

Wells Fargo (1852) is a \$300 billion diversified financial services company that provides banking, mortgages, consumer credit, investment, corporate funding and international finance throughout the United States and abroad.

It serves 20 million households through 5,400 offices, staffed by 120,000 employees, while Wells Fargo's on-line offerings dominate cyberspace.

Banking covers 23 states with 3,000 branches and 7,000 automated teller machines.

In 1848, the cry of "gold!" reverberated from California around the world. On March 18, 1852, New Yorkers Harry Wells and William George Fargo organized Wells, Fargo & Co. to offer innovative banking, express and letter delivery on the Pacific coast. Reliability, honesty and good management allowed their firm to shine during an 1855 financial panic that crushed California's two largest banks.

Wells Fargo became a universal business agent demanding fair treatment to all. It delivered express packages by the fastest means of transportation available, and small businesses especially patronized Wells Fargo's Letter Express, which consistently beat government mail delivery.

Pleased customers entrusted so much bullion to it, that from 1858 until 1900 Wells Fargo compiled western mining statistics from British Columbia through Mexico.

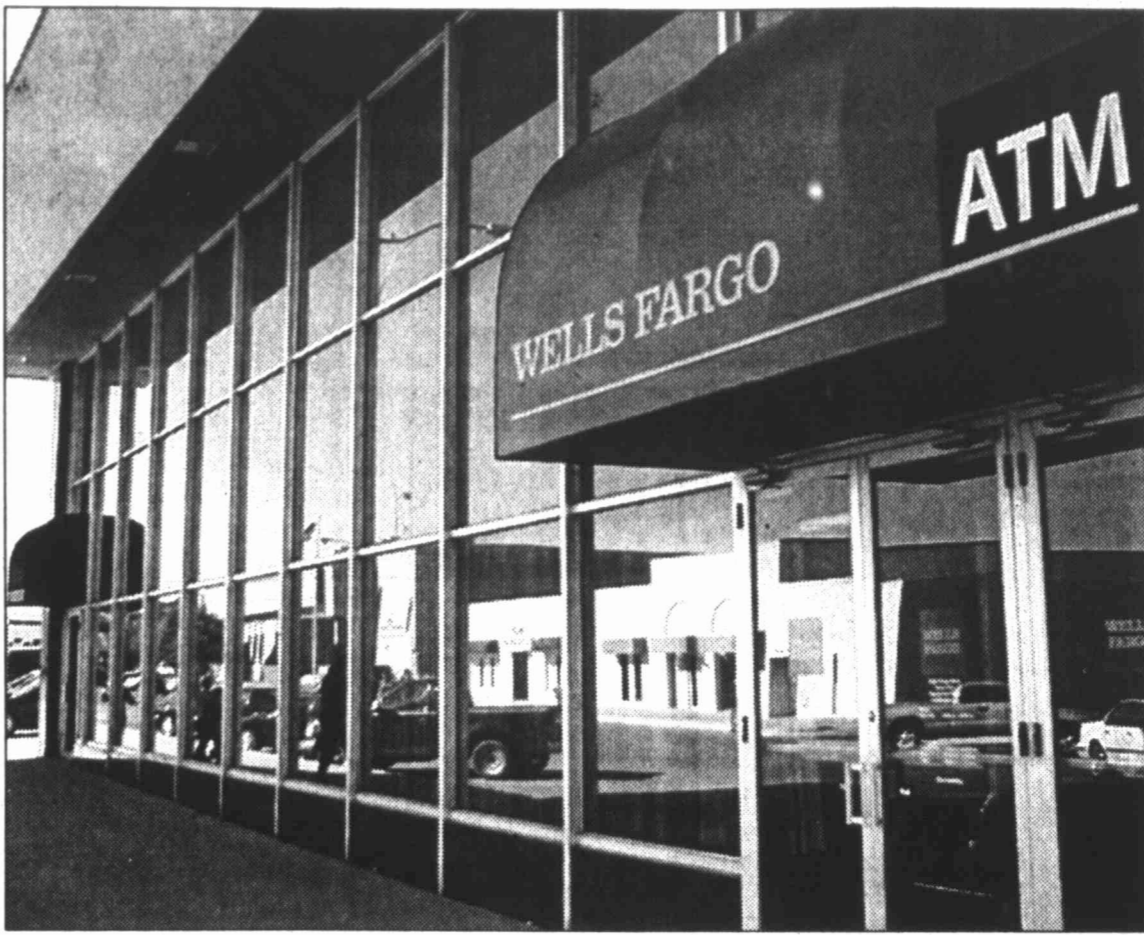
In 1858, Wells Fargo helped inaugurate the Overland Mail Company, whose stagecoaches sped letters and passengers across the Southwest in 24 days, three-fourths the time by steamship. In 1861, the first year of the Civil War, Wells Fargo ran the western end of the Pony Express and Overland Mail coaches on a central route through Salt Lake City.

Through the 1860s additional gold rushes expanded Wells Fargo's banking from California, New York, and

Boston into Oregon, British Columbia, Nevada, Utah and Idaho. By the late 19th Century, the bank contributed one-third of Wells Fargo & Company's earnings, and since 1871, Wells Fargo has paid regular dividends.

In 1866, Wells Fargo added Ben Holladay's stage lines to its own and ran stagecoaches between California and Nebraska railheads and north into Idaho and Montana. Though stagecoaching led to heavy losses, it cemented Wells Fargo's claim to service all land west of the Missouri river and gave the company a timeless logo.

The future, though, lay with the iron horse. In 1869, the Central Pacific Railroad gained control of Wells Fargo and the express went nationwide on iron rails. In the early 1880s, contracts with railroads brought Wells Fargo into the interior of Mexico, and in 1888, across the continent to New York. In 1918, Wells Fargo operated 10,000 express offices nationwide, but a government-sponsored



Wells Fargo Bank, 400 Main, offers call-automated 24-hour phone support as well as drive-through and walk-in services. HERALD photo/Roger Cline



Wells Fargo serves 20 million households through 5,400 offices, staffed by 120,000 employees and also has Internet banking services. HERALD photo/Roger Cline

wartime consolidation of this business left Wells Fargo with only a bank in San Francisco.

Meantime, a 1905 merger with the Nevada National Bank (1875) became the first of many to double Wells Fargo's size. In 1924, Hellman's Union Trust Company, California's first (1893) joined Wells Fargo, and through the 1930s and 40s, it practiced correspondent banking that was the best in the west. A new consumer economy emerged after World War II, and in 1960, Wells Fargo entered branch banking grandly through merger with American trust Company (1854). A 1967

foray into Southern California made Wells Fargo a statewide bank.

The 1980s, under Carl Reichardt, saw banking deregulation, automated teller machines, 24-hour customer telephone service and longer branch hours. A 1986 marriage with Crocker Bank (1870) again doubled Wells Fargo's size. Customer convenience grew with supermarket banks in 1990, and pioneering on-line banking in 1995. The next year, Wells Fargo acquired First Interstate Bank, which grew from the Transamerica Corporation, A.P. Gianinni's 1928 holding company.

With banks in 10 states, customers from Seattle to Houston could access accounts anywhere, anytime.

November 1, 1998, brought new opportunity when Wells Fargo joined Norwest; Wells Fargo founder Fargo in 1872 helped organize the Northwestern National Bank of Minneapolis. A 1929 holding company formed to block Gianinni's expansion into Minnesota laid foundations for Norwest's aggressive but decentralized interstate growth in the 1990s. It proved visionary in other financial markets, too. In 1969, Norwest acquired Iowa Securities Company (1906) or Waterloo, which offered home mortgages and in 1982, added Dial Finance Corporation (1897) of Des Moines. Under CEO Dick Kovacevich, adaptable Wells Fargo celebrated its sesquicentennial in 2002.

— Wells Fargo Historical Services

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Hardy Wilkerson

County Attorney
C. E. "Mike" Thomas

County Judge
Ben Lockhart

District Clerk
Glenda Brasel

County Commissioner Prec. 1
Emma Puga Brown

County Commissioner Prec. 2
Jerry Kilgore

County Commissioner Prec. 3
W.B. "Bill" Crooker

County Commissioner Prec. 4
Gary Simer

County Treasurer
Teresa Thomas

Justice of the Peace Prec. 1. Pl. 2
Marilyn Carson

Justice of the Peace Prec. 1 Pl. 1
Bennie Green

Justice of the Peace Prec. 2
Quail Dobbs

County Clerk
Donna Wright

Sheriff
Dale Walker

Tax Assessor Collector
Kathy Sayles

Constable Prec. 1
Boyce Hale

Constable Prec. 2
J.B. Hall

Constable Prec. 3
Larry Witkowski

Constable Prec. 4
Mark Winn

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Special to the

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There are functions of commerce: 1) spokesman fo and profession ty and transla the group th members; and specific servi that can be m rendered by organization

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By LYNDEL M
Staff Writer

Since its fou the Big Spr continues to sional enter classical musi "To be able musical perf our students door to a lifet ing and appre types of music ing arts," Pam vice presiden Spring Symp said. "Who kno next Copland Gershwin n from."

Through the efforts of the Symphony bo symphony ass city is treated

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Chamber of commerce assists, promotes local businesses

Special to the Herald

What is a chamber of commerce?

Your chamber of commerce is a voluntary organization of citizens who are investing their time and money in a community development program — working together to improve the economic, civic and cultural well-being of the area.

There are two primary functions of a chamber of commerce: 1) it acts as a spokesman for the business and professional community and translates into action the group thinking of its members; and 2) it renders specific services of a type that can be most effectively rendered by a community organization both to its

members and to the area as a whole.

How does it function?

Your chamber functions through the working committees of the organization. Money, planning, inspiration and guidance are useless unless the members work vigorously on the committee of their choice.

The goal of the program of work is always to create more dollars for more people and to improve the economic welfare of the community.

Every member has a voice in determining the policies and projects and every member is needed to work on active committees to get the job done.

Who is the chamber?

Members — Businesses,



organizations, professionals and individuals working together for the betterment of the community.

Board of directors — Elected by the membership, these individuals are charged with determining the policies which direct the affairs of the chamber. Directors do not implement policy; they employ an administrator to carry out board decisions.

Officers — The executive committee ordinarily includes the president of the board, president elect, one

or more vice presidents, treasurer and past president. The officers provide direction and leadership to the board.

Staff — The executive vice president is hired by the board to be responsible for the daily management of the chamber and for employing and managing the staff.

Committees — The organization's objectives are best achieved by small groups of the membership engaged in common effort.

What are the benefits?

— Refers businesses to visitors and callers,
— Helps promote a business of the chamber,

— Maintains awareness of key issues at the local, state and federal level by coordinating with the Texas Chamber and U.S. Chamber,

— Provides businesses with education through seminars and increases awareness of the importance of buying locally,

— Hosts quarterly luncheons, Ag Expo and Health Fair to provide programs, business information and networking,

— Offers support and awareness of all areas of art,

— Works to increase growth of tourism in Howard County and support local attractions and events,
— Advertises businesses

in the membership directory,

— Works with city, county Moore Development and other entities for the betterment of the community,

— Publishes a monthly newsletter to keep the community aware of happenings,

— Offers promotion and links to business through a Web site.

Membership investment

Membership investment for small businesses is \$200 per year.

For more information

The chamber office is located at 215 W. Third. Or, to learn more about the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, contact Debbye ValVerde at (915) 263-7641 or write P.O. Box 1319.

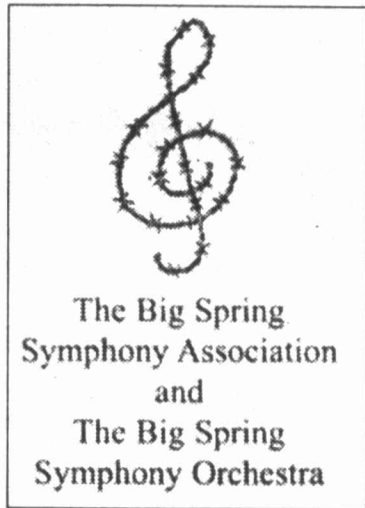
Big Spring Symphony opens a lifetime of music appreciation for Howard County residents, guests

By LYNDEL MOODY
Staff Writer

Since its founding in 1981, the Big Spring Symphony continues to bring professional entertainment in classical music to the city.

"To be able to offer live musical performances to our students can open the door to a lifetime of learning and appreciation of all types of music and performing arts," Pam Brewer, first vice president of the Big Spring Symphony board, said. "Who knows where the next Copland, Rossini or Gershwin might come from."

Through the cooperative efforts of the Big Spring Symphony board and the symphony association, the city is treated to four to five



symphony concerts a year featuring professional artists from around the nation.

The Big Spring Symphony itself consists of professional musicians from around the West Texas area and the state including several home-grown members.

"We have quite a number of talented musicians in Big Spring including all the band directors," said Dr. Keith D. Graumann, second vice president of the symphony board.

"It's a fully professional organization," he said. "I would compare it to like organizations in the country. The symphony brings a little bit of culture to a small town that might otherwise not have as much."

A community symphony offers more than just an evening of entertainment.

"Having the symphony in Big Spring contributes to the quality of life in our community," Brewer said.

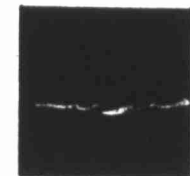
"Offering an amenity commonly found in larger cities helps convince business owners to consider our community as a home."

The symphony board searches to bring a variety of music each season from the powerful orchestra pieces of Czech composer Anton Dvorak to American jazz and classical artist George Gershwin and choral music featuring local and state-wide talent.

Everyone is welcome to enjoy the variety of melodic entertainment flowing from the Big Spring Auditorium on a Saturday night, whether dressing in evening clothes or casually.

"If you can't travel to the Fort Worth Symphony, we can bring someone from the Fort Worth Symphony here," Graumann said.

Season and individual performance tickets can be purchased at the symphony office, 808 Scurry, and local businesses.



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Dr. Shroff has enjoyed practice in Big Spring for nine years now

Special to the Herald

Dr. Manish H. Shroff traveled a number of miles before he found a home in the Crossroads area but nine years later he continues offer his services to the community.

"The reason I chose Big Spring to practice is because Big Spring did not have a full-time cardiologist," Shroff said. "The local hospital and clinic were looking for one. I felt the people of Big Spring would benefit from my services so they would not have to travel far to receive these services."

Specializing in cardiology and internal medicine, Shroff treats diabetes, emphysema, a variety of heart problems from high blood pressure, irregular heart beat, high cholesterol and hardening of the arteries, along with internal medicine.

His office is located on the third floor of Covenant Malone and Hogan Clinic and he regularly sees

patients at Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

A native of India, Shroff spent three years training at Bronx Lebanon Hospital, a hospital affiliated with Albert Einstein College of Medicine in Bronx, N.Y. He also performed two years of fellowship as a cardiologist at that same hospital.

Shroff's wife Pragna works with her husband in his office and the couple have three children, Jay, Vishal and Roshan, who all attend Big Spring schools.

The doctor has become fond of Big Spring.

"We have been here for nine years and we like and love Big Spring and the people here," he said.

Dr. Manish H. Shroff, cardiology and internal medicine, examines long-time patient Claud Robertson. Robertson has been a patient of Shroff's since the doctor established his practice in Big Spring nine years ago.

HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody



Important phone numbers

Emergency
Call 911

Big Spring

Fire 263-7311
Police 263-7311
Ambulance 263-2310

Howard County

Sheriff 264-2244
Fire 264-2416

Other

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Abuse (800) 252-5400
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Mental Health ((915) 267-8216



HERALD file photo

The local Relay for Life effort ranked No. 1 in Texas and No. 10 in the nation when comparing cities the size of Big Spring

Relay for Life brings dedicated people together in the battle to defeat cancer

DEBBIE L. JENSEN

Special to the Herald

Big Spring has many community activities that foster pride, but among the top is the American Cancer Society Relay for Life. The event, one of the activities of the ACS Howard-Glasscock Unit, was ranked first in the state and 10th in the nation for money raised in 2001.

That means, among communities of similar size across the state, Big Spring's event — with its \$140,000 gross — brought in the most money. Nationally, only nine communities of similar size generated more.

Diane Wood, chairperson of Relay for Life, said the honor belongs to many people, not even just those who participated in the 24-hour community camp-out.

"In a community of this small size, with such a large Relay, that means just about everyone in the community participated in some way," Wood said. "Whether they bought baked goods or had their car washed at a fundraiser for a Relay team, or they gave a donation of some other kind. It took all of us to make this happen."

It's the commitment of dozens of hard-working teams, she added, that keep bringing the Relay totals over the top.

"Relay is about teams," she said. "Without teams, there would literally be no Relay."

Last year's top fund-rais-

ing team was the "Men in Black" of Sid Richardson, which brought in \$12,883. The team was followed by the second and third place honorees, "Meagan's

Angels," with \$7,225, and Covenant Malone Hogan's Cancer Warriors with \$6,489.

See RELAY, Page 7C



Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce

215 W. 3rd 915-263-7641

www.bigspringtx.com

Yes! I Want to be Involved

Your Chamber's strength and success is measured by its members involvement. The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce recognizes the importance of personal marketing with fellow business people and volunteering of time to make a difference in the community. If you are interested in volunteering your time on one of the following committees or task forces, fill out the following clip, and return to the Chamber.

Choose the Committee you would be interested in serving on:

- Business Development
- Cultural Affairs
- Health Fair
- Seminars
- Education Committee
- Transportation
- Leadership Programs
- Beautification Committee
- Community Events
- Governmental
- Membership Development
- Tourism

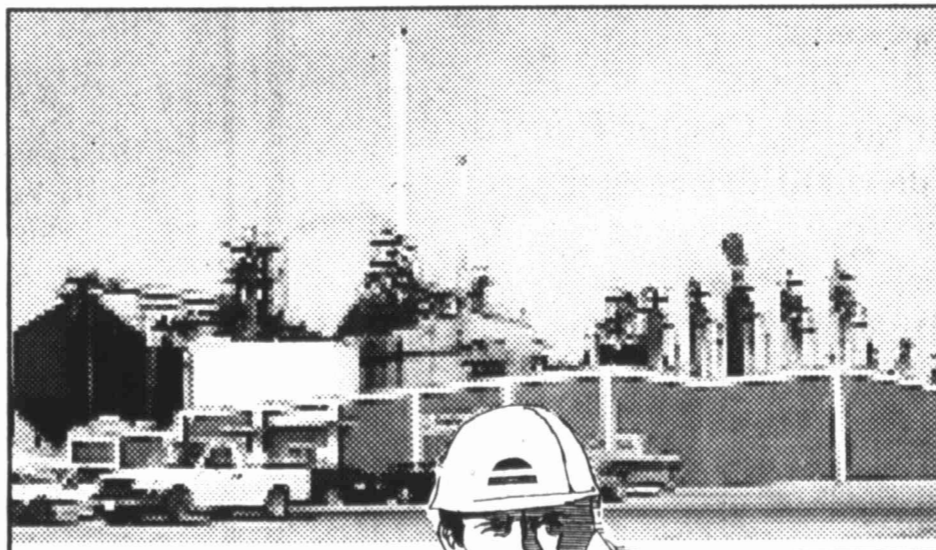
Ideals or Suggestions:

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____ Email: _____

Clip and Return to:
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P.O. Box 1391 Big Spring, TX 79721
915-263-7641 Fax: 915-264-9111
debbyev@bigspringtx.com

We Thank You For Allowing Us The Opportunity To Help You - Help Us!

We are here to help you support and contribute to Big Spring and surrounding communities in Howard County. From providing employment to purchasing many of



our needed supplies from the area - We take pride in supporting our community. And we appreciate the community being there for us as well.

SID RICHARDSON CARBON COMPANY

South

By ROGER CLIN

Staff Writer

Southwestern Control is a section business more, is the based pest control in Big Spring.

Max Moore, company, said founded it 48 y

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call 915-2

Southwestern A-1 Pest Control is a second-generation business

By ROGER CLINE
Staff Writer

Southwestern A-1 Pest Control is a second-generation business and, what's more, is the only locally-based pest control company in Big Spring.

Max Moore, owner of the company, said his father founded it 48 years ago.

"My father, Mack Moore, started the company in 1954," he said. "I went into business with him when I was in college and we incorporated in 1979 and my father retired in 1980 and I took over the company then."

The company has grown to the point where it has business not only in Big Spring, but all over the

area. "We service not only Big Spring but all the surrounding areas including most of the Permian Basin, Midland/Odessa areas," Moore said. "We do a lot of commercial work in that market over there."

Southwestern A-1 is truly a full-service pest control company, Moore said.

"We do all types of pest control work: Termites, scorpions, ticks, fleas, spiders, any type of rodent control. Termites control, we have subterranean termites in this area so that's a big part of our business. We don't have dry wood or damp wood termites here, but subterranean termites make up for that. This being

a dry climate the damp wood or dry wood termites don't thrive in this environment. It's just too arid for that."

Weed control is also within the company's capability, Moore said.

"We do a lot of industrial and commercial weed control, like bare-ground weed control for industrial sites, oil well sites, rights-of-way, that kind of thing," he said.

"And here in the last year we started doing residential weed control. We do weed control, fertilize, spray for plant disease and fungicide, and of course the insecticide treatments."

All Southwestern A-1's applicators are required to pass a background check

before they start work, Moore said.

"When we hire someone, first of all we do a thorough background check because they're in people's homes," he said. "A background check, police records and all that kind of thing."

Prospective employees that pass the background check begin their pest control careers as an apprentice applicator, where they train for six months.

"After six months then they go into a technician training," he said. "That's 40 hours of training per category that they have either in classroom or on-the-job training. We do business in four different classifications or categories, so they have

to have quite a bit of training."

To become a technician, they have to have even more training and pass tests in each category of pest control.

"Then after they've been a

technician for at least one year, they can take the test to become a certified applicator," Moore said. "Most of our applicators are certified. I think we have one technician, but the rest are certified applicators."

RELAY

Continued from Page 6C

Each year more and more teams sign up to participate in the event, which takes place at Blankenship Field next to Big Spring High School. The Relay for 2002 has already been set for May 10-11, and organizers are hard at work.

Team members will start to gather in the late afternoon on Friday, May 10, setting up tents, canopies, chairs and barbecue pits. Then they will walk around the track, visit, participate in games and entertainment and - of course - eat, until the wee hours of Saturday morning. Each team should have at least one person circling the track at all times during the event. Then many will sleep or rest to be energized for an early morning of continued entertainment, door prizes and games.

This year between 65-70 teams are expected to sign on for the event, estimated

Gloria McDonald, chair of team recruitment.

"Anyone who wants to have a team can pick up a packet at my office (McDonald Realty)," McDonald said. "Or they can call me at 263-4835 for information."

Two highlights of the Relay each year are the Survivor's Walk, which starts the Relay, and the luminaria ceremony, which takes place as darkness falls. Survivors of cancer are invited to walk the first lap around the track as their names are read on the loudspeaker. Other team members form a tight circle around the inside of the track as the survivors pass, cheering each hard-fought step.

Later, hundreds of tiny candles will be lighted in luminarias that have been placed around the track, lighting up the night with tributes to both survivors and victims of cancer. In the stands, more luminarias



spell out, "Hope." This moving ceremony is often cited among participants' favorites.

Wood said each year that she has been involved, the turnout for Relay and its related events has surprised and pleased her.

"It just shows the support the American Cancer Society has in this community," she said.

At a rally in November 2001, supporters and committee members worked to get a jump-start on the 2002 Relay. Already, teams have banked several thousand dollars in contributions,

and underwriting companies and organizations have pledged or committed thousands more.

"You know this money is going to a disease that touches everyone in Big Spring at one point, probably sooner than later," said McDonald. "When you are circling that track and you see those (luminaria) sacks, with the names of children, grandmothers and grandfathers, young mothers and young fathers, you can't help but be pulled in."

"Relay grabs your heartstrings," she said, "and it doesn't let go for 24 hours."

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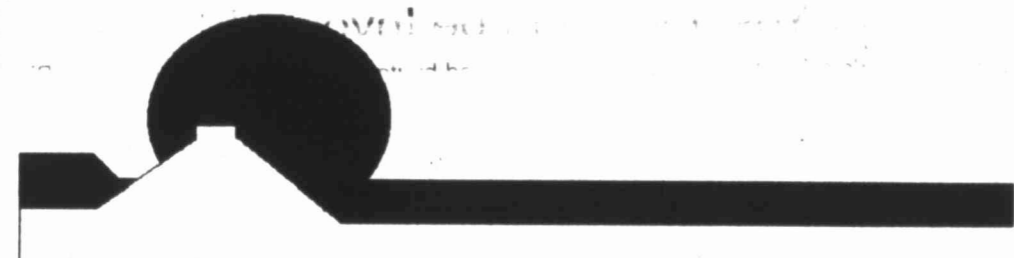
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- ★ Rehabilitation of the Comanche Trail Park Swimming Pool.
- ★ Implementation of a double seal coat program to eliminate dirt streets within five years.
- ★ Implementation of a Master Composting Program.
- ★ Increased animal adoptions through the Animal Control Department by 133% over the previous year.
- ★ Continued capital improvements at the Water Treatment and Wastewater Treatment Plants to meet and exceed regulations.
- ★ Installation of a bagging system for the sale of compost products funded through a grant from the TNRCC.
- ★ Restructured funding for the EMS service leading to the elimination of the deficit for this fund.
- ★ Implementation of a program for rehabilitation of the Roy Anderson Ballfield, and installation of playground equipment at Dr. Morgan Park and the Comanche Trail Swimming Pool.

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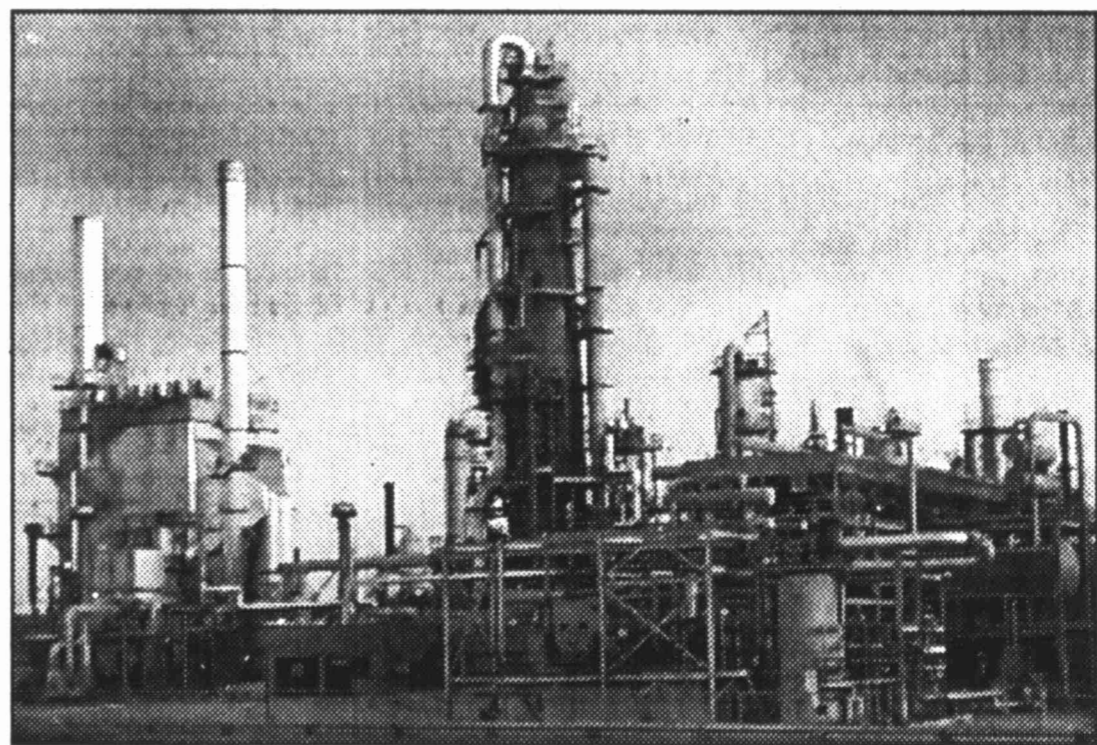
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Clubs
&
organizations

- BENEVOLENT**
- AMBUCS meets at noon every Friday at the Brandin Iron.
 - Big Spring Shrine Club Contact Bob Hitch at 263-7056. Meets 6:30 p.m. the third Saturday at the Shrine Building, First & Goliad.
 - Big Spring Shrine Club (Suez) Contact Verlin Knous at 267-6426.
 - Gideons International U42060 Contact Carl Johnson at 267-5275. Meets 7 a.m. every Thursday at Hermans Restaurant, 1601 Gregg.
 - Howard County Scottish Rite Meets 7 a.m. the second Saturday at 2101 Lancaster.
 - Staked Plains Lodge 598 Meets 7:30 a.m. the second and fourth Thursday at 219 Main.
- CIVIC**
- Big Spring Assembly No. 211, Social Order of the Beaucent. Meets at 7:30 p.m. at the Masonic Temple at 221 1/2 Main St.
 - American Business Club Meets at noon every Friday at the Brandin Iron.
 - American Red Cross meets at 7 p.m., Canterbury South, 1600 Lancaster.
 - Big Spring Chapter and Council RAM, meets at 7:30 p.m. the first Monday at the Masonic building, 221 1/2 Main St.
 - Big Spring Commandery No. 31 meets at 7:30 p.m. at the Masonic Temple, 221 1/2 Main.
 - Big Spring Downtown Lion's Club Meets at noon every Tuesday at the Senior Center in the Whipkey Room.
 - Big Spring Lone Star District Committee, meets at 610 Scurry at noon on the first Monday of the month.
 - Christmas in April Meets at noon the second Thursday at Bob's Custom Woodwork.
 - Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association meets at 5:30 p.m. every third Thursday at the RSVP office, 501 Runnels.
 - Fraternal Order of Eagles and the Ladies Auxiliary Meets 7 p.m. the first and third Wednesday at the Eagles Lodge, 703 W. Third. The ladies meet every second and fourth Wednesday, 7 p.m. at the Eagles Lodge.
 - Friends of the Library of Howard County Contact Hollis McCright at 264-2260 Meets at noon the third Thursday of the month at the Howard County Library, 500 Main.
 - Howard County Sheriff's Posse Meets 7:00 p.m. the first Tuesday at the Sheriff's Posse Club, Andrews Hwy.
 - Kiwanis Club meets at noon every Thursday in the Howard College Cactus Room.
 - Big Spring Shrine Club meets at 6:30 p.m. every



The Big Spring Shrine Club is an example of the many groups and organizations who raise funds for worthy causes in the Crossroads area.

- third Saturday for meal and meeting to follow, Goliad and First Street.
- Masonic Lodge No. 598 meets the second and fourth Thursday at 7:30 p.m., 219 Main.
 - Optimist Club meets at 7 a.m. every Wednesday in the Howard College Cactus Room.
 - Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room every Tuesday.
 - Big Spring Main Street Inc. meets at noon at the Railroad Museum, Second and Main St.
 - Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association meets at 5:30 p.m. at the RSVP offices, 501 Runnels.
- CULTURAL**
- Big Spring Art Association Meets 7 p.m. the third Tuesday in the basement at the Howard County Library.
 - Coffee Club meets at 10 a.m. at Gales Sweet Shoppe every Thursday.
 - Friends of the Library meet at noon at the Howard County Library every second Thursday of the month.
- EDUCATIONAL**
- Big Spring-Howard County Retired Teachers Association meets at 11:30 a.m. for lunch at the Howard College Cactus Room.
- HEALTH**
- Take Off Pounds Sensibly TOPS 21 weigh-in at 5:30 p.m. and meeting at 6 p.m., Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center, 396 West Third.
 - TOPS 1756 weigh-in at 5:30 p.m. and meeting at 6 p.m., College Heights Christian Church, 21st and Goliad.
 - Alzheimer's Association Greater West Texas Chapter meets at 2 p.m. at the Howard County Library conference room, 500 S. Main.
- HOBBIES**
- Big Spring Country Club Duplicate Bridge Contact Joyce Weaver at 267-5934. Meets 1 p.m. Wednesday and Friday at the Big Spring Country Club.
 - Big Spring Model Aircraft Association Contact Donald McKinny at 399-4793. Meets 3 p.m. the first Sunday at the Airpark.
 - Big Spring Order of the Eastern Star Chapter No. 67 meet every first and third Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. at the Masonic Lodge, 219 Main St.
 - Comanche Trail Ladies Golf Association Contact Mary Ruth Robertson at 267-2713. Meets 5 p.m. every Monday at the golf course in Comanche Trail Park.
 - Big Spring Prospector's Club Contact Jerald Wilson at 263-4662. Meets 7:30 p.m. the second Thursday at 606 E.
- Third.**
- Big Spring Squares meet the first and third Saturday every month. Call 267-7043 or 263-6305 for more information.
 - Genealogical Society of Big Spring Contact Richard Reagan, 510 Douglas. Meets 7:15 a.m. the first Thursday at the Howard County Library, 500 Main.
 - Permian Basin Hunter

- Retriever Club
Contact Melanie Gambrel at 267-7387.
- Signal Mountain Quilting Guild Meets from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. the second and fourth Friday at St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 1005 Goliad.
 - Senior Circle meets at 4 p.m. at Scenic Mountain Medical Center every Monday.
 - Western Sportsman Club Contact Art Dillinger at 267-1816. Meets every-other month on Tuesday. Matches every Sunday at 1:30 p.m.
- PATRIOTIC**
- American Ex-Prisoners of War Contact Ernest Boyd at 267-6871. Meets 3 p.m. the fourth Saturday at Michael's in Midland.
 - American Legion Auxiliary Contact Erellyn Redman at 267-2239. Meets 7 p.m. the second Thursday at the American Legion Post 506.
 - DAV Chapter 47 meets at 6:30 p.m. at 610 Abrams.
 - Military Support Group meets at 6 p.m. at Hillcrest Baptist Church the first
- Monday of the month.
- Rackley - Swords Chapter 379 Vietnam Veterans of America meet at 7 p.m., 124 Jonesboro Road.
 - Veterans of the Foreign Wars Post No. 2013 meets at 500 Driver Rd. at 7 p.m. every second Tuesday.
- RELIGIOUS**
- Christian Singles Fellowship meets at 7 - 9 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church
- SENIOR CITIZENS**
- Senior 4H Club Contact the County Extension Office. Time and place varies.
 - Spring City Senior Citizens Center Contact Bobby Leonard at 267-1628. Meets daily at the Senior Citizens Center on Simler Road.
 - Retired Senior Volunteers Contact Nancy Jones at 264-2397. Meets 3 p.m. the third Tuesday at RSVP office.
- STUDY & SOCIAL**
- 1930 Hyperion Club Contact Melinda Hunter at 263-7503. Meets 1:30 p.m. the third Thursday in the member's homes.
- See **CLUBS**, Page 9C

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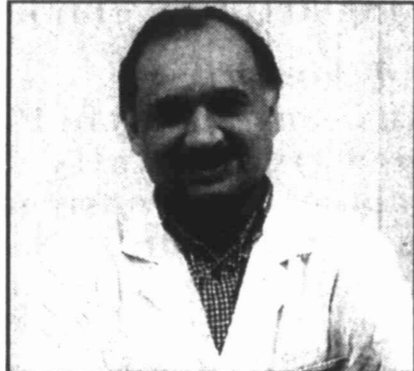
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Lydia Perez an
Workforce Netw

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By **BILL McCLE**
News Editor

Seeking your looking for a ca Maybe you hav and you need qualified work you are looking looking for w Workforce Net Spring is the pl "The core is o area, where j access" to a fr copier, teleph ers, typewriter tools," said L assistant are r The comput helpful softwa Microsoft Powerpoint, T and resume Access to the I nects potential the Workforce Web site and o employment sites such as T Through these can look up descriptions an look, salary i labor statistics more. They can fill resumes and searches in t Basin area, or the state. The center a newspapers.

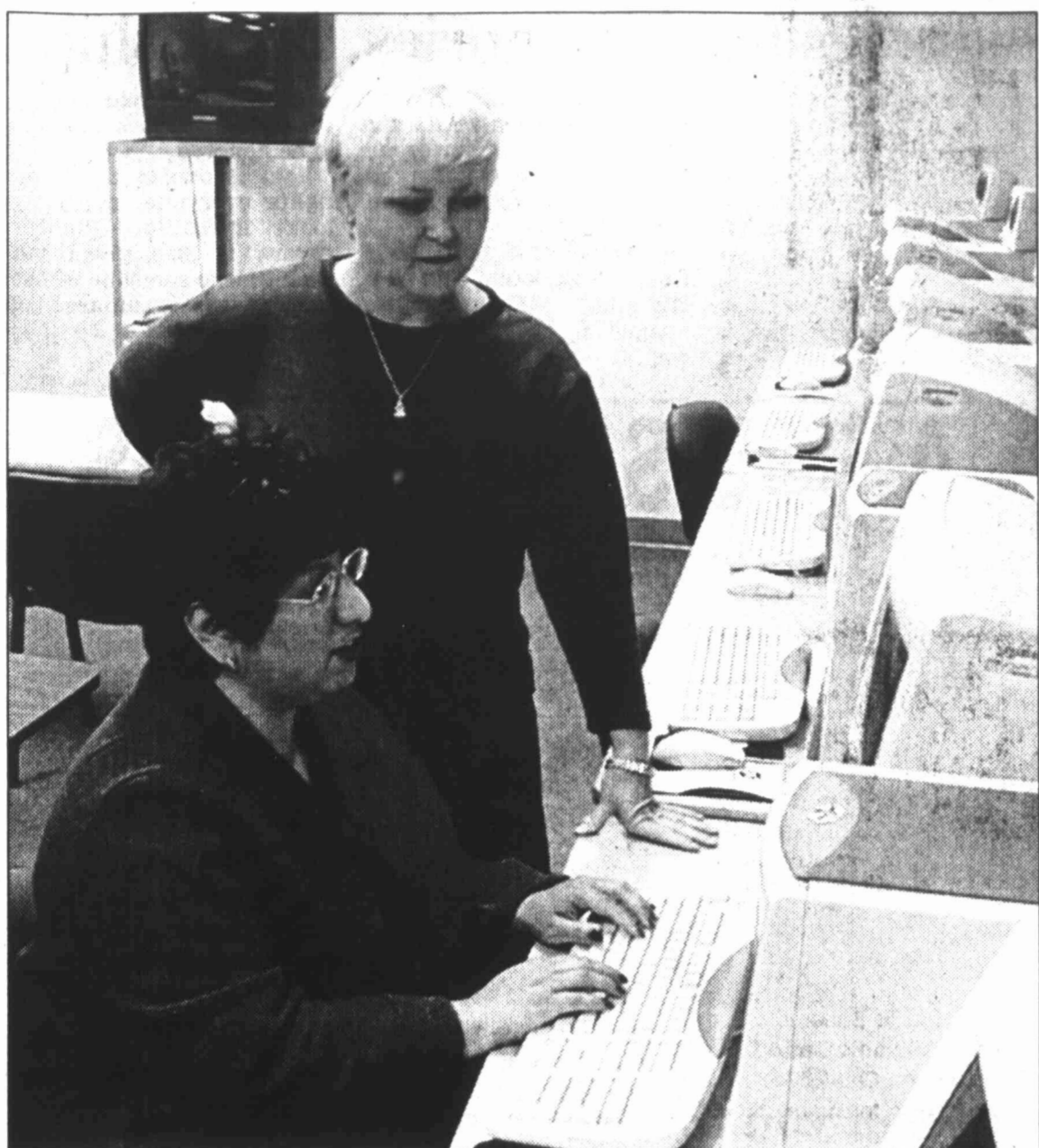
We



Jimmy L.



Silvia C. (seated) Wri



HERALD photo/Roger Cline
Lydia Perez and Mary Thomas, workforce development personnel for the Big Spring's Workforce Network are responsible for interacting with employers.

Workforce Network serves employees and employers

By **BILL McCLELLAN**
News Editor

Seeking your first job or looking for a career change? Maybe you have a business and you need help finding qualified workers. Whether you are looking for work or looking for workers, the Workforce Network of Big Spring is the place to start.

The core is our resources area, where people have access to a fax machine, copier, telephone, computers, typewriters and other tools," said Lydia Perez, assistant area manager.

The computers contain helpful software such as Microsoft Office, Powerpoint, Typing Tutor and resume templates. Access to the Internet connects potential employees to the Workforce Network's Web site and other job and employment information sites such as Texas CARES. Through these, applicants can look up occupation descriptions and future outlook, salary information, labor statistics and much more.

They can fill out on-line resumes and conduct job searches in the Permian Basin area, or throughout the state.

The center also has area newspapers, reference

books and materials, college catalogues and financial aid materials and other resources.

"We have a variety of people accessing our information," said Perez, who noted that more than 1,550 people passed through the Workforce Network Center in January.

The center also provides a full array of services for businesses.

"Our businesses services unit works specifically with businesses. We provide interview space, meeting space, we do wage surveys, pre-employment testing and hold workshops," explained Perez.

The center also provides job restructuring assistance, education and training for new and current workers, information on federal and state employment laws and labor market analysis.

Programs are in place to comply with the Workforce Investment Act for adult/dislocated and youth, temporary assistance for needy families, food stamps employment and training, welfare-to-work, child care and more.

"We work closely with HUD, the North Side Community Center, Texas

Department of Human Services and the college," Perez said.

An example is the Fresh Start program, which trains youth in basic carpentry skills while reconstructing housing for low-income people on fixed incomes. The youth will go through a 26-week, internship-style program. Fresh Start is a partnership between the Workforce Network, Howard College and the Crossroads Housing Development Corporation.

The Big Spring and Lamesa Workforce Network centers service Howard, Glasscock, Dawson and Borden counties.

The center staff also works closely with Moore Development For Big Spring, the local economic development corporation. The two have been on several joint recruiting efforts in Texas to attract employees to Big Spring. The Workforce Network also helps to set up employee training programs for new and existing businesses.

Locally, the center is located at 310 Owens and is open from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

For more information, call 263-8373.

CLUBS

Continued from Page 8C

- 1946 Hyperion Club
Contact Pat Rutledge at 263-3436.

Meets at noon the first Wednesday in the member's homes.

- 1948 Hyperion Club
Contact Pete Barrow at 267-2947.

Meets 2 p.m. the third Thursday at the Dora Roberts Community Center or in the member's homes.

- 1953 Hyperion Club
Contact Sarah Tipton at

263-2274.

Meets 1 p.m. the first Wednesday at varying places.

- 1970 Hyperion Club
Contact Carolyn Freeman at 263-6806.

Meets 9:30 a.m. the second Friday in the member's homes.

YOUTH

- Big Spring Band Boosters

Contact Roxie McDaniel at 267-7646. Meets at 6 p.m. in the high school band hall every third Tuesday.

- Boy Scouts of America
Contact Warren Wallace at 394-4310.

Meets at noon the first Monday District Committee at the First Presbyterian Church.

- Girl Scouts Big Spring Service
Contact Laurie Petersen at 267-9773.

Time and place varies.

- Howard County Youth Horseman Club
Contact Dianne Hofacket at 267-6251.

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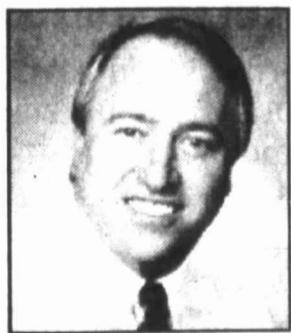
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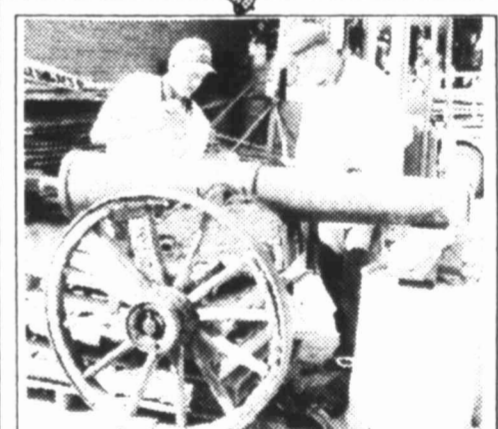
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Silvia Cisneros, (seated) Glenda Wright

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Martin County Old Settlers Reunion rekindles fond memories, friendships

HERALD Staff Report

Martin County is steeped in history, and there's no better time or place to find it than the Old Settlers Reunion in July.

Each year, those who live in the county get together and welcome back former

residents. It's a time for reuniting, rekindling memories and catching up on what is going on after all these years.

It's a tradition that dates back to 1930.

It's a time when some folks see each other for the first time in years or perhaps since the last reunion.

The Old Settlers Reunion arrives with a parade through downtown Stanton. The parade has floats, antique cars, marching bands, the Martin County Sheriff's Posse, bicycle riders, horseback riders and lots more — just about everyone can participate, and lots of them do.

Following the parade, there's always plenty of entertainment.

There are games for all ages such as the egg toss, cow chip throwing, bubble gum blowing and Jello eating.

There are lots of class reunions, visitation, gospel music and an old fiddler's

contest. The reunion would not be a reunion without a good old-fashioned barbecue meal, which is usually followed by a country and western dance.

Over the years, the Martin County Museum and the Old Jail Museum have opened up to visitors as well.

Each year, the old settlers committee chooses a family to be honored.

That is one of the highlights everyone anxiously looks forward to. A Pioneer Award is also given out each year to someone whose family was a pioneer of Martin County.



HERALD photo/Roger Cline

Bob Noyes of Bob's Custom Woodwork and The Company Store, 409 E. Third St., spends most of his time these days in the business and supervisory end of the job. Noyes started his business while stationed at Web Air Force Base more than 20 years ago.

Bob's Custom Woodwork was started to supplement Webb servicemen's income

By ROGER CLINE
Staff Writer

Bob's Custom Woodwork, 409 E. Third St., started simply as a way for Bob Noyes and a few of his Webb Air Force Base buddies to supplement their servicemen's incomes.

"We had a family, we had to support our family," Noyes said. "Military salary isn't anything to brag about."

Noyes said Webb provided a steady supply of willing employees.

"The guys that worked with me," he said. "We did cabinets and countertops. We had a little shop out on West Highway 80 when they were building Malone and Hogan Hospital. We did some nursing stations and desks, and we did partitions along the serving line, between the dining area and the serving line in the cafeteria. That was our first business out of the home, and we just kind of grew from there."

When Webb Air Force Base close, Noyes continued his carpentry work while stationed in Mississippi, while one of his co-workers continued the business in Big Spring.

"For a large part of the time while I was gone, he kept the business going," Noyes said. "So when I came back we just opened the building out at the air park and went right into business. We were still in business."

The McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark building was the first non-residential location for Bob's Custom Woodwork.

"We were out there for 18 years," Noyes said, adding that they opened their current Third Street location in 1997.

"We had leased for 18 years because we couldn't buy anything in town at a reasonable price," he said. "We had looked. (My wife) and I had made several trips for four or five years, several trips down every street east and west and every street and alley north and south looking for something."

The couple finally found the building on Third Street which had belonged to Walker Auto Parts, and

after a short delay managed to purchase it.

Bob's is a primarily a remodeling shop, Noyes said.

"First we've always explained that we're a full-service remodeler," he said. "Remodelers take things apart and put them back together, either to repair or expand."

Bob's also strips and refinishes furniture and operates The Company Store, a full-service hardware store.

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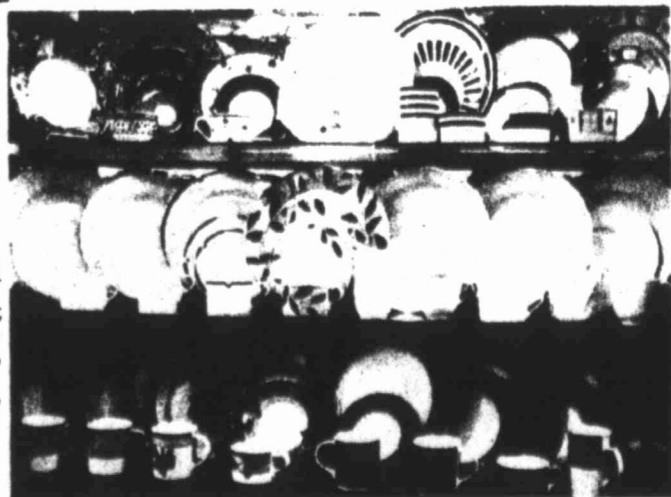
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Helping others

United Way contributions benefit 14 local agencies that impact many lives

HERALD Staff Report

Perhaps no other charitable effort touches as many lives as does the United Way of Big Spring and Howard County.



MICHAELIS

Whether it be providing direction for young boys and girls, assisting the elderly, comforting the victim of a violent crime, feeding the destitute or helping someone recover from an injury, the 14 agencies supported by United Way reach a diverse group of people.

"United Way exists to build the community from a needs-based perspective — organizations that provide basic needs for people," said Cindy Michaelis, executive director.

The original purpose for United Way organizations was to raise funds for human service organizations that didn't have the size staff or resources necessary to do so. That hasn't changed in 50 years.

"There are still many human resource organizations that operate with just a few people. They don't have the time or the expertise to go out and raise funds — though those funds are vital to them," Michaelis said.

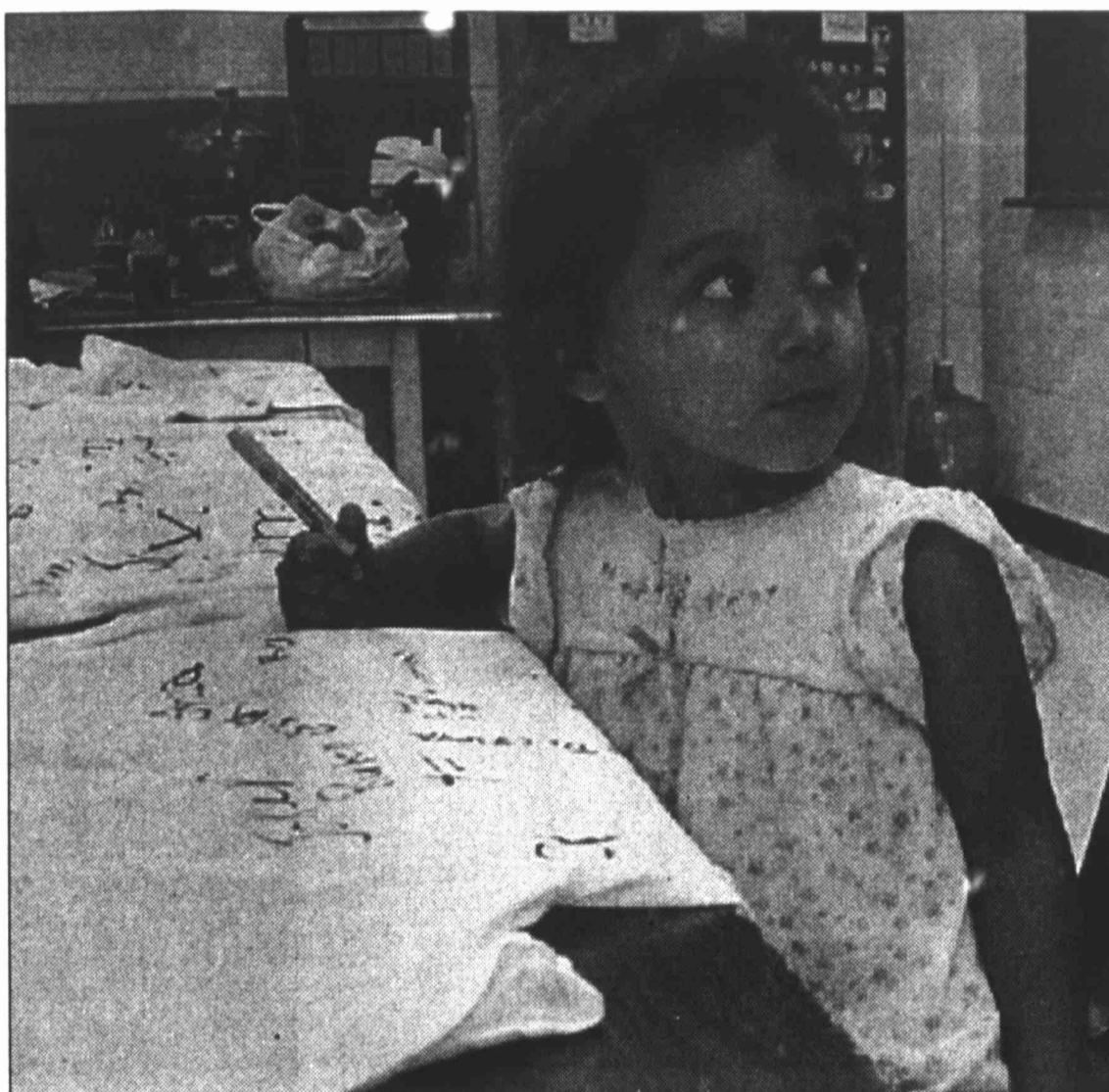
Since it was formed in

1953, the local United Way has raised \$7,242,326. The most recent campaign generated \$240,155 — funds which are being allocated to the agencies throughout the year. Those agencies are the Boys Club of Big Spring, Northside Community Center, Salvation Army, Victim Services, Westside Day Care Center, Westside Community Center, YMCA of Big Spring, Buffalo Trail Council, American Red Cross, Dora Roberts Rehab Center, Council on Aging, Big Spring Humane Society, West Texas Girl Scouts and Isaiah 58.

Many of those agencies deal with youth or helping individuals get "back up on their feet" after a tragedy.

"If we don't invest in the people, the community does not have a future. So we have invested heavily in child care, child rearing, child development through agencies like the Westside Day Care Center, Westside Community Center, Northside Community Center, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts and the Boys Club," said Michaelis.

The United Way of Big Spring and Howard County is overseen by a volunteer board of directors. The president is Sue Bagwell. Campaign chair is Rory Worthan, who is also first vice president. Second vice president is Charles Myers. He will be assisting with the allocations process this year. Treasurer is Don



Four-year-old Angelica Rogers signs her name on a T-shirt during the last day of YMCA summer camp in Big Spring. The YMCA is one of 14 local agencies served by United Way of Big Spring and Howard County. Some \$240,000 was raised by volunteers in the last campaign.

Ferguson. Silvia Casas is the corporate secretary.

New board members are Kenny Davis, Tammy Grabert, Bonnie Miller, Scott Nelson, Billie Russworm and Michelle Worthy. Returning members of the board are Jerry Baker, Vic Flournoy, Glenn Fillingim, Terry Hansen, Gladys King, John Scott.

United Way is also the representative agency responsible for Federal Emergency Management Agency allocations and the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC).

The CFC, comprised of entities such as the federal prison and post office, had one of its best years in the previous campaign.

"We had some great sup-

port from those folks this campaign," said Michaelis, who noted the group raised \$28,825.

Michaelis said the relationship between United Way and the community is strong.

"There is no United Way in communities that don't care. It's a real testament how the citizens in Howard County care about each other."

For information about the United Way of Big Spring and Howard County, contact Cindy Michaelis at 267-5201.

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Member F.D.I.C.

Harris Lumber and Hardware Inc. was organized November 17, 1965 by Bert Harris, Don Smith, and Don McKee. Each person owned 1/3 of the business, the Company opened for business January 1, 1966 with Bert Harris and two employee hired locally.

As the years passed, the business continued to grow in spite of the odds, Big Spring had many vacant homes and construction was nil the first few years. With seven other lumber yards in town, competition was keen. One by one the other yards closed, leaving only two of the seven plus Harris Lumber & Hardware.

On June 1, 1972 Bert Harris bought the shares of the two stockholders and became sole owner.

In 1976, construction began on an addition to the west end of the store building, the new warehouse building adjoining the stores building.

In 1978, a large expansion and remodeling project was done. All the open area was paved, including land acquired on third street and new warehouses were erected.

In 1988, a new location was acquired on FM 700 and the present building was erected and operated as a separate business until January 1, 1989. At that time, all the inventory, from the old location along with lumber sheds and other buildings were moved to the new location and has been in operation at this location since that time.

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*Note: Not a medical test</small></p> |
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OR INNER EAR?</p> | <p>FREE
Bone Conduction Test*
We'll check to see if your middle and inner ears are functioning properly. If they're not, we'll refer you to a doctor for further advice.
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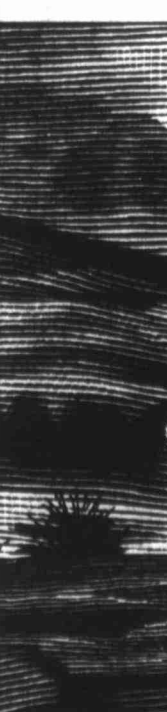
By DEBBIE L.
Special to the

The Heritage several old fa ing in 2002, plenty of new programs to explore the area.

What's new While Marce exhibit on Na games. Ap another on posters creat World War I traveling e posters can t museum's which was ne ed and renov Coming mor new exhibit



A young boy k cial event spo one of many a



From 'digs' to 'bites,' Heritage Museum explores our world

By DEBBIE L. JENSEN
Special to the Herald

The Heritage Museum has several old favorites returning in 2002, but it also has plenty of new exhibits and programs to celebrate and explore the history of our area.

What's new and different? While March brought an exhibit on Native American games, April promises another on the unique posters created during the World War II era. Like all traveling exhibits, the posters can be seen on the museum's lower level, which was newly redecorated and renovated last fall. Coming months will see new exhibits filling that

space frequently, said Beth Purcell, curator of the museum.

"That's our area set aside for traveling exhibits, and we have several planned in the near future," she said.

A drive is under way now for new members to join the museum. Membership costs \$20 for an individual or \$50 for a family, but it comes with many benefits.

"Members receive the museum newsletter (and) special invitations to events and receptions," said Purcell. "They also receive discounts on workshops and classes, and free admission to exhibits."

The support of members helps keep the museum operating, and it also generates interest in the pro-

grams and exhibits. Special rates are available for students and educators, while membership levels go all the way up to the \$1,000 founder rate.

Heritage Museum members will be the toast of the town on April 4 as they gather at Big Spring Country Club for their annual meeting and dinner.

"We have a business meeting," said Purcell. "And then we'll enjoy entertainment by the Howard College Jazz Band."

It's still not too late to sign up to be a chef for an old favorite event at the museum, "Around the World in 80 Bites." The giant food tasting festival has been set for April 27, when volunteer chefs will offer a taste of foods from across the globe to hundreds of museum visitors.

Booths offering everything from French crepes to Norwegian cookies to North Carolina barbecue will line the halls of the museum as visitors gather to try something new.

Want to show off your culinary skills or share the flavor of your ancestral homeland?

Call 267-8255 or stop by the museum at 510 Scurry to sign up as a chef for the evening.

Chefs get two free tickets for their friends or family in addition to a chef's pass for the event.

Each booth needs to prepare about 350 "bites" of the dish, each about a table-spoon-sized taste.

Some old "friends" have returned to the museum this month with the re-release of Shine Phillips' celebrated book, "Big Spring: Casual Biography of a West Texas Town," and also "Getting' Started" by Joe Pickle, noted local histo-



HERALD file photo
One of the key events put on by the Heritage Museum is "Around the World in 80 Bites," a giant food tasting festival featuring the culinary offerings of volunteer chefs. Above, two young girls take part in the event. This year's "Bites" has been set for April 27.



HERALD file photo
A young boy learns about archeological digs during a special event sponsored last year by the Heritage Museum. It's one of many activities the museum plans each year.

rian. Those two tomes will be joined by a new classic Big Spring book this summer when a pictorial history of the community is released.

Written and compiled by Tammy Schrecengost, registrar for the museum, the book is due out in a few weeks. It includes rare photographs from the museum's collection that most people have never seen, Purcell pointed out.

Those are just a few of the books available at the museum gift shop, though, which

also has recordings, postcards, T-shirts, cowboy memorabilia, toys and more.

As summer arrives, the Heritage Museum plans to offer special children's classes similar to those that were so popular last fall. Dozens of children took part in an archeological dig near the museum, while still more attended an art class titled, "Art Smart."

Purcell said the popularity of those child-sized offerings means there surely will be more, timed to add interest

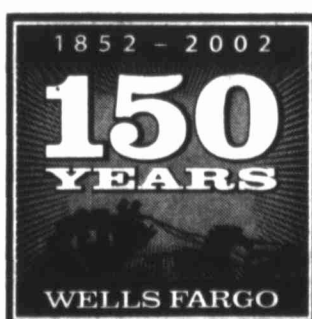
to exhibits that the museum will host in coming months.

For additional information about any of the projects, exhibits or programs of the Heritage Museum, call 267-8255 or stop by 510 Scurry.

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Suggs Hallmark features wide variety of gift items

By **LYNDEL MOODY**
Staff Writer

Offering a one-stop shopping experience, Suggs Hallmark, 1801 E. FM-700, will be expanding to offer even more gift selections to its customers.

"We are expanding home decor such as pictures and decorative items by June of this year," Deborah Suggs, owner and manager, said. "We work hard to bring new and innovative gifts to Big Spring."

Since purchasing the business more than 20 years ago, Suggs, a former nurse, has already expanded the store not only in terms of space but also in merchandise since adding new gift ideas and home decorating items. The store has been located in the Big Spring Mall since the mall opened.

"You can find a gift for almost anyone or any occasion, get the card and have it wrapped or mailed all in one location," she said.

Seeing a need in Big Spring, Suggs added a bridal and baby registry service, selections of crystal, house wares and more.

"We try to give the consumer a one stop shopping experience for all his or her gift needs."

—Deborah Suggs

"You can call in and purchase a gift for a bride without leaving your home and we'll wrap it and see that it gets to the shower," she said.

Customer service is a priority, Suggs said, and the friendly staff is always around to help someone find that one special gift. Her staff includes long-time assistant manager Dora Hernandez, who has worked at the store for the past 13 years.

"We have so many items in the store that the customer may not know of everything," she said. Suggs said helping her

customers on a daily basis pick gifts for that special someone gives her a feeling of satisfaction.

After years of experience helping people select gifts, Suggs offers a hint for men buying gifts for their wives — make sure there are no electrical cords attached.

For those repeat customers, the store offers the gold crown card, a membership that gives customers points for their purchases. Customers are paid back for their points through gift certificates.

And don't forget about the most well known Hallmark product — greeting cards. The store has a large selection of greeting cards for all occasions and carries a number of Hallmark items such as movies and Christmas ornaments.

From cards, to gifts, purchasing bridal and baby shower presents or decorating a home, Suggs Hallmark offers everything a customer may need.

"We try to give the consumer a one stop shopping experience for all his or her gift needs," Suggs said.



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody
Deborah Suggs, left, owner of Suggs Hallmark, shows Dora Hernandez, assistant manager, a wedding guest registrar. Since Suggs bought the business more than 20 years ago, she has doubled the amount of merchandise, adding a bridal registrar service, house and some kitchen ware selections.



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody
Manuel Holguin, left, and Mike Claxton, employees of Don's Tire and Truck Service Inc. work on a trailer. After 20 years of business, the company has grown from a two-person operation to 10 employees.

Don's Tire & Truck proud of customer satisfaction, strong growth of business during the past 20 years

By **LYNDEL MOODY**
Staff Writer

Don and Betty Taylor founded Don's Tire & Truck Service in 1982, providing 23-1/2-hour road side service with just one used service truck, one used tire and the couple's tireless dedication to their business.

Twenty years later, the operation has grown to include six service trucks, 10 employees, an extremely

large selection of inventory and still the same 23-1/2-hour road side service.

"We pick when we take that half-hour," Betty joked.

The company sells and services all types of tires, from regular vehicles to full-line passenger to large trucks and farm and implement.

"If it has rubber, we will work with it," Betty said.

Receiving 90 to 100 calls a day for assistance, the com-

pany's road side service includes fixing mechanical problems as well as flat tires to help stranded motorists get back on the road.

Located on the South Service Road I-20 Exit 178, the company also provides in-house mechanical work and will soon be adding a state-of-the-art computer alignment to its services.

And motorists don't have to be on the highway to receive assistance. The com-

pany will respond to calls in town for those stuck with a flat tire at affordable prices, Betty said.

The company staff includes Clarence Brown, Manuel Holguin, James Perez, Don Ray Henson, Mike Claxton, Jim Sanders and Jesse Mier.

"We are fortunate," Betty said.

"We have some great people who work for us."



Hall Bennett Hospital served Big Spring and West Texas for many, many years

HERALD Staff Report

It was in 1928 when two physicians — Dr. G.T. Hall and Dr. M.H. Bennett — formed a partnership and built a red brick, two-story, 20-bed hospital at 409 E. Ninth.

Today, it is known as the former Hall Bennett Memorial Hospital. However, back then, it was named simply Big Spring Hospital.

The site was selected by Dr. Hall, so the story goes, for two reasons. One was its commanding view of the city. The second was because the winds which swept over the hill made it one of the coolest spots in town.

For many years it was the only hospital between Big Spring and El Paso to the west, and San Angelo and Lubbock to the south and north. For at least 40 years, it was "the" hospital used by Texas and Pacific Railroad employees from Toya to Texarkana.

Other doctors would later become affiliated with the clinic. Among them were Dr. Hardin Wood, Dr. Preston Sanders, Dr. T.J. Williamson, Dr. Broadway Broderwick and Dr. Garland Lang.

Big Spring State Hospital was built in the late 1930s, which posed a problem with two medical facilities so similar in name. At that time, Big Spring Hospital's name was changed to the Howard County Hospital and Clinic. That also was confusing and would lead to

a second name change.

In the late 1940s, Dr. Hall curtailed his practice in semi-retirement and Dr. Bennett and Dr. Clyde Thomas purchased the facility. Dr. Thomas had become a partner in the facility after completing his medical education in 1940.

In 1964, two wings were added to the building — one serving as a nurses' residence. Later, an additional room was needed for clinic offices and the residence was converted into offices and patient rooms. Also

near this time, Dr. Louise Worthy, the daughter of Dr. Bennett, joined the firm as a pediatrician.

In 1966, the hospital took on a new name — this time to honor Drs. Hall and Bennett.

In the early 1980s, the hospital consisted of 50 beds and six bassinets. The facility employed between 130 and 140 employees and had its own laboratory, X-ray and diagnostic facilities.

Hall Bennett Memorial See **HALL BENNETT**, Page 3D

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St. Mary's Edu

By **DEBBIE**

Special to the Herald
Ask Beverly about what St. Mary's E and you're likely to there for while.

Just struggling the half of the camp at 118 Cedar Road, the head of school is likely to remind quickly what makes ferent. Take teachers, for have at least experience c

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Crossroads area features more than 70 houses of worship

ADVENTIST Seventh Day Adventist 4319 Parkway	First Baptist 705 Marcy Drive	Iglesia Bautista La Fe 408 State Street
ASSEMBLY OF GOD First Assembly of God Fourth and Lancaster	First Baptist Church of Garden City 200 North Main St.	Luther Bethel Baptist Gail Rt.
BAPTIST Baptist Temple 400 11th Place	First Baptist Knott	Midway Baptist East Interstate 20
Berea Baptist 4204 Wasson Road	First Baptist 201 South Avenue Coahoma	Morning Star Baptist 403 Trades
Birdwell Lane Baptist 1512 Birdwell Lane	First Baptist Sand Springs	Mount Bethel Baptist 630 Sgt. Paredes
Calvary Baptist 1204 West Fourth	First Mexican Baptist 701 Northwest Fifth	Northside Baptist Mission 1011 North Scurry
College Baptist 1105 Birdwell Lane	Forsan Baptist Church 201 West Main	Prairie View Baptist Farm Market Road 2230
East Fourth Baptist 401 East Fourth	Hillcrest Baptist 2000 West FM 700	Primera Bautista Mission 701 Northwest Fifth
East Side Baptist 1108 East Sixth	Iglesia Bautista Central 2105 Lancaster	Primitive Baptist 201 East 24th

See **CHURCHES**, Page 5D



More than 70 churches, representing many denominations, are located in the Crossroads area. When tragedy strikes, however, such as the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, residents frequently pray together, as pictured above.

Herald file photo



One of the newest outdoor attractions is the umbrella or mushroom fountain located in the city pool at Comanche Trail Park. The city made many improvements to the pool last year, including the addition of two tube slides. The park also features tennis courts, a golf course, ball fields, playground equipment and a hiking trail for outdoor enthusiasts.

Herald file photo

PARKS

Continued from Page 3D

umbrella fountain. Dora Roberts Community Center is a large civic center with multipurpose rooms for meetings, seminars, luncheons and parties. An outdoor gazebo behind the center has been the scene of several weddings and other events.

The park also features an amphitheater where, among other events, the annual Pops in the Park celebration is held. Last summer, the city began showing movies at the amphitheater one night a month. The park is also the site for a large Easter egg hunt each year and is used by model car as well as reenactment enthusiasts keeping alive the dress and color of the middle ages and the Civil War era.

Comanche Trail Lake provides an array of activities like fishing, boating and swimming. It is also the scene for a number of events, including the local model airplane club's Float Fly-In.

If different scenery is

what you're looking for, Moss Creek Lake is a great spot for camping, canoeing and fishing. Campers can pitch a tent or bring a recreational vehicle and enjoy sites with full hook-ups. The lake is located some seven miles east of Big Spring.

The YMCA is always a favorite as it services a number of activities for the community. There are seasonal sports for youths and adults to get involved in like basketball, volleyball, indoor soccer, roller hockey and flag football. The prices vary based on membership.

The YMCA is open on Monday and Wednesday from 5:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday from 8 a.m. to 8:30 p.m., Friday from 5:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

There are also gymnastics, swimming and martial arts classes that meet twice a week for four-week sessions. There is also a gymnastics team, the Sidewinders, for girls on the advanced level. They meet daily and the fees for the team differ from the class

fees. A swim team meets throughout the week in the evenings.

Other small parks with playground equipment, softball and baseball fields, a flying disc golf park and much more are available for residents and visitors to "stretch their legs" and get

some exercise.

Add Big Spring Country Club and Comanche Trail Golf Course, and most people will agree that you don't have to look farther than Big Spring to find something to do.

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Wind Turbines Come To Big Spring **1999**

Greg Brooks joins Blum's Jewelers **1979**

Ralph and Lynette join Blum's Jewelers **1973**

Betty Gamboa joins Blum's Jewelers **1971**

Man Landed On The Moon **1969**

Blum's Jewelers is founded **1961**

Jewelry Business brings Pauline & Joe Blum to Big Spring **1942**

Electric Service began in Big Spring **1900**

First Telephone Operation comes to Big Spring **1899**

First Post Office comes to Big Spring **1882**

Howard County and Big Spring formally organized. **1882**

Railroad comes to Big Spring **1881**

Historic Big Spring discovered by Capt. R. B. Marcy **1849**

Myer

By ROGER C. STAFF WRITER
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Myers & Smith arranges services to fit the needs of each family

By **ROGER CLINE**
Staff Writer

Myers & Smith Funeral Home and Chapel, 301 E. 24th St., has been serving Big Spring for more than 16 years.

Established in 1985 by Bill and Charisa Myers and Floyd C. (Smitty) and Gay Smith, the funeral home offers a complete range of options, including services in all cemeteries, monument service and pre-need and pre-arrangement programs. The pre-need programs have no age restrictions and can include pre-planning for children and grandchildren.

All services can be tailored to fit the needs of each

family and include burial or cremation and traditional or contemporary services held in a church, the funeral home chapel or at the graveside. Myers and Smith itemizes its charges, so families pay only for the services they receive.

Myers & Smith is easily accessible to three major thoroughfares, Gregg, Goliad and FM 700, without being actually caught up in the heavy traffic found on those roads.

"A great deal of effort went into finding the right location," Bill Myers said. "It had to be in a quiet neighborhood setting, away from heavy traffic."

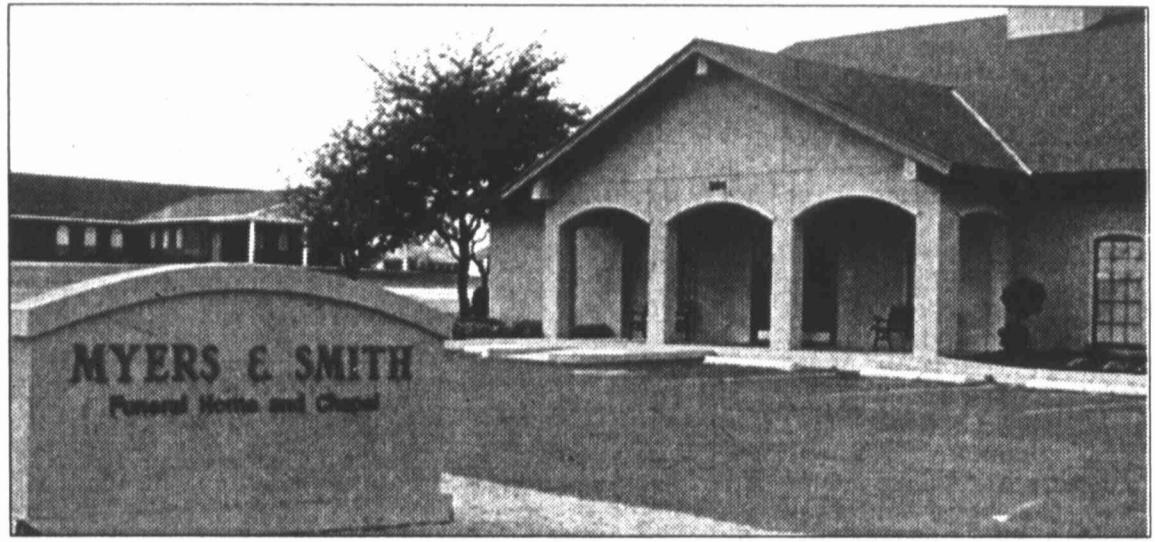
The location on the corner

at 24th and Johnson streets allows easy access to Trinity Memorial Park and Mount Olive Memorial Park with a minimum amount of traffic, he said.

"This provides a safe funeral procession as well as safe entrance and exit to the funeral home," he added.

The funeral home itself features a large chapel, large comfortable visitation areas and an ample parking area. The facility complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Bill and Charisa Myers are still active members of the funeral home staff. Other staff members include Peggy Sherrill, Herb



Myers & Smith Funeral Home and Chapel is conveniently located at 301 E. 24th St.

McPherson, Scot Greenfield, Dale Pittman, Bonnie Whitworth are pre-need counselors. Doug Shelley and Dorothy Jeffcoat, Amilee Cantu, Phyliss Hogan and Dwayne Wilborn.

CHURCHES

Continued from Page 4D

Salem Baptist
Interstate 20

Trinity Baptist
810 11th Place

Victory Baptist
Corner of FM 700 and
11th Place

NON-DENOMINATIONAL
Christ's Community Church
1909 Gregg

Templo L. Biblia Abierta
604 East 13th

CATHOLIC
Immaculate Heart of Mary
Catholic
1009 Hearn

Sacred Heart Catholic
508 North Aylford

St. Thomas Catholic
605 North Main

CHURCHES OF CHRIST
Anderson Street Church of
Christ
Green and Anderson

Birdwell Lane Church of
Christ
11th Place and Birdwell
Lane

Cedar Ridge Church of
Christ
2110 Birdwell

Church of Christ
14th and Main

Coahoma Church of Christ
311 North Second

Sand Springs Church of
Christ
Nine miles East of Big
Spring on Thomas Road

West Highway 80 Church
of Christ
3900 West Highway 80

CHURCHES OF GOD

College Park Church of
God
603 Tulane Avenue

First Church of God
2009 Main

CHRISTIAN CHURCH
College Heights Christian
Church
400 East 21st

CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DIS-
CIPLES OF CHRIST)
First Christian Church
911 Goliad

GOSPEL
Amazing Grace Ministries
Days Inn Patio Room

Big Spring Gospel
Tabernacle
1905 Scurry

Cornerstone Church
309 Benton

Living Water Ministries
1008 Birdwell Lane

Miracle Revival Center
600 East FM 700

Spring Tabernacle
1209 Wright St.

Church of the Harvest
1311 Goliad

CHURCH OF JESUS
CHRIST OF LATTER DAY
SAINTS
Church of Jesus Christ of
Latter Day Saints
1803 Wasson Road

EPISCOPAL
St. Mary's Episcopal
1001 Goliad

JEHOVAH WITNESS
Kingdom Hall Jehovah
Witness
1500 Wasson

LUTHERAN
St. Paul Lutheran
810 Scurry

METHODIST

Bakers Chapel AME
911 North Lancaster

Coahoma United
Methodist
Main at Central

First United Methodist
400 Scurry

Iglesia Metodista Unida
Northside
Goliad and Northeast Sixth
Street

North Birdwell Lane United
Methodist
2702 North Birdwell

NAZARENE
First Church of the
Nazarene
1400 Lancaster

PENTECOSTAL
Jesus Name Pentecostal
Church
1004 Locust

PRESBYTERIAN
First Presbyterian

701 Runnels

First Presbyterian
205 North First
Coahoma

OTHER
Good Shepherd Fellowship
Abrams and Seventh St.

Powerhouse of God in
Christ
711 Cherry

The Salvation Army
811 West Fifth

Tollett All Faith Chapel
Big Spring State Hospital

Friends of Unity
303 East Fifth Street

Church of God of Prophecy
15th and Dixie

McGee Memorial Church
of God in Christ
1000 Northwest Third

CORNELL CORRECTIONS

A Private Correctional Management Corporation

1701 Apron Drive • Big Spring, Texas 79720 • 915-264-0060

Cornell Manages The

Big Spring Correctional Center

Interstate Unit • Airpark Unit • Flightline Unit • Cedar Hill Unit

Cornell Companies, Inc. is the third largest private prison management company in the United States. It was founded in 1990 to take advantage of a national trend toward prison privatization. Cornell contracts with state and federal agencies to house and provide development programs for a growing number of convicted felons and juvenile offenders. In 1994, Cornell incorporated and currently manages three nationwide divisions: Cornell Pre-Release (consisting of halfway houses and other pre-release programs); Cornell-Abraxas (juvenile detention facilities) and Cornell Corrections (the secure institutions division). In addition to the four in Big Spring, Cornell currently manages other secure institutions in California, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Georgia and Rhode Island.

The Big Spring Correctional Center operation is a unique arrangement between the City of Big Spring, the Federal Bureau of Prisons and Cornell. Through an intergovernmental agreement, the City contracts with the Federal Bureau of Prisons to incarcerate federal offenders. The City, in turn, subcontracts with Cornell to manage and operate the facilities. All offenders housed at the Big Spring Correctional Center are illegal aliens; therefore, the Immigration and Naturalization Service also contracts with the City to conduct appropriate investigations and deportation proceedings at the facilities. Deportation hearings are conducted on site or via video teleconferencing by the Executive Offices of Immigration Review in Dallas, Texas.

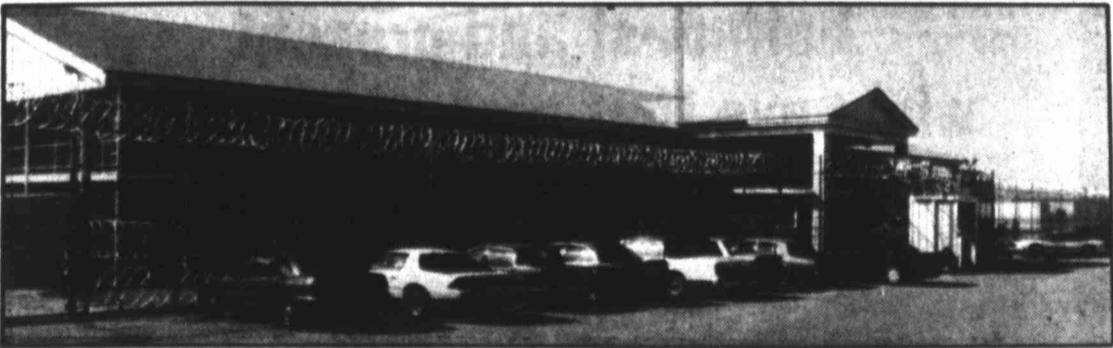
Johnny Rutherford and Chuck Haugh, founders of MidTex Detentions (a former private prison management company based in Big Spring), first approached the City in 1988 to present the idea of renovating an abandoned hotel into a detention facility and contracting to house approximately 350 inmates. With the financial backing of Entrepreneur Ed Davenport, the project was completed in 1989, and contracts were secured. The combined talents of Rutherford's financial management knowledge and Haugh's prison management experience, from his 25-year tenure with the Federal Bureau of Prisons, made the once new concept a resounding success that has set a template others strive to emulate. With success came expansion, and the operation has grown from one facility with 350 beds to a four-facility complex with 2,600+ total beds. Cornell now has 420 employee positions in Big Spring.

Cornell acquired the Big Spring operation from MidTex in 1996. Rutherford left the business at that time, and Haugh served as Cornell's Vice President of Secure Institutions Division until his retirement in 1999. Since this acquisition, Cornell has more than tripled its size. In 1996, Cornell contracted to operate 20 detention and pre-release facilities with a total bed capacity of 3,349 beds. Today, Cornell contracts to operate over 70 facilities, located in 13 states and the District of Columbia, with a total bed capacity in excess of 14,400.

Since inception, the Big Spring Correctional Center operation has contributed positively to the local economy. Aside from the four facilities, Cornell leases other buildings from the City for warehouse operations, executive offices and a staff training center. In 2001, Cornell will pay the City of Big Spring in excess of \$1,000,000 for contract maintenance and lease fees.

BSCC-Interstate Unit
915-263-8532

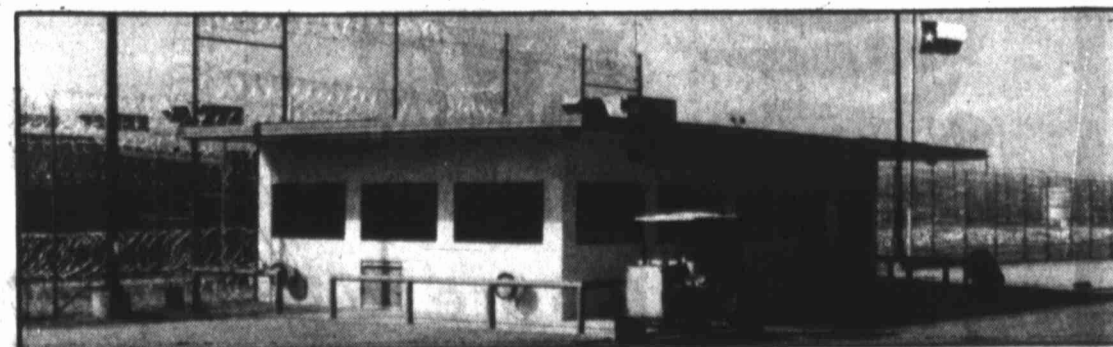
1801 West Interstate 20
Big Spring, Texas 79720



Established in June, 1989, the Interstate Unit is located at Interstate 20 and Highway 176. It provides 386 prisoner beds and is managed by approximately 75 employees.

BSCC-Flightline Unit
915-267-7911

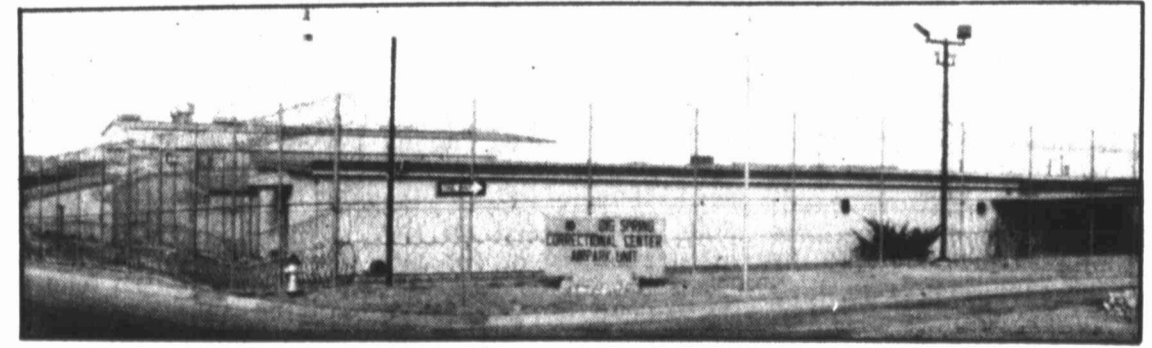
2001 Rickabaugh Drive
Big Spring, Texas 79720



Established in February, 1995, the Flightline Unit is located on the west side of the McMahon-Wrinkle Air field near the main runway. It provides 864 prisoner beds and is managed by approximately 130 employees.

BSCC-Airpark Unit
915-263-8806

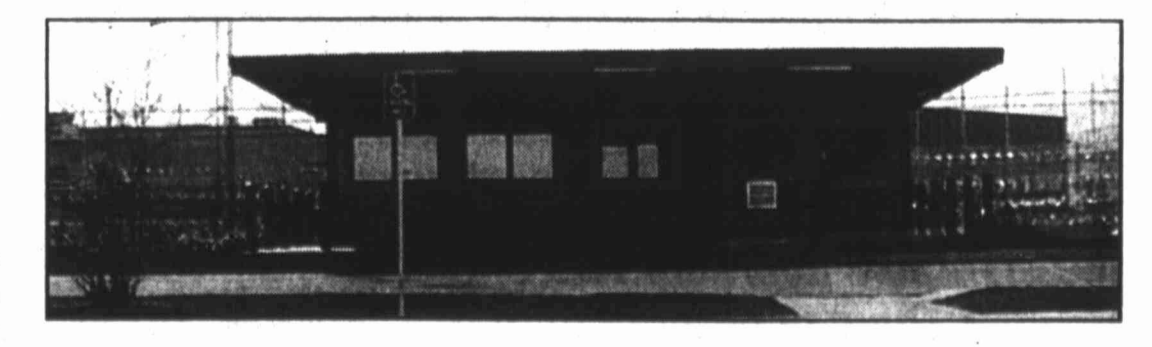
3700 Wright Avenue
Big Spring, Texas 79720



Established in February, 1991 the Airpark Unit is located near the former Webb AFB housing. It provides 524 prisoner beds and is managed by approximately 90 employees.

BSCC-Cedar Hill Unit
915-268-1227

3711 Wright Avenue
Big Spring, Texas 79720



Established in June, 1998, the Cedar Hill Unit is located near the former Webb AFB housing. It provides 832 prisoner beds and is managed by approximately 125 employees.

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Foresight of a few men assures Crossroads has water today

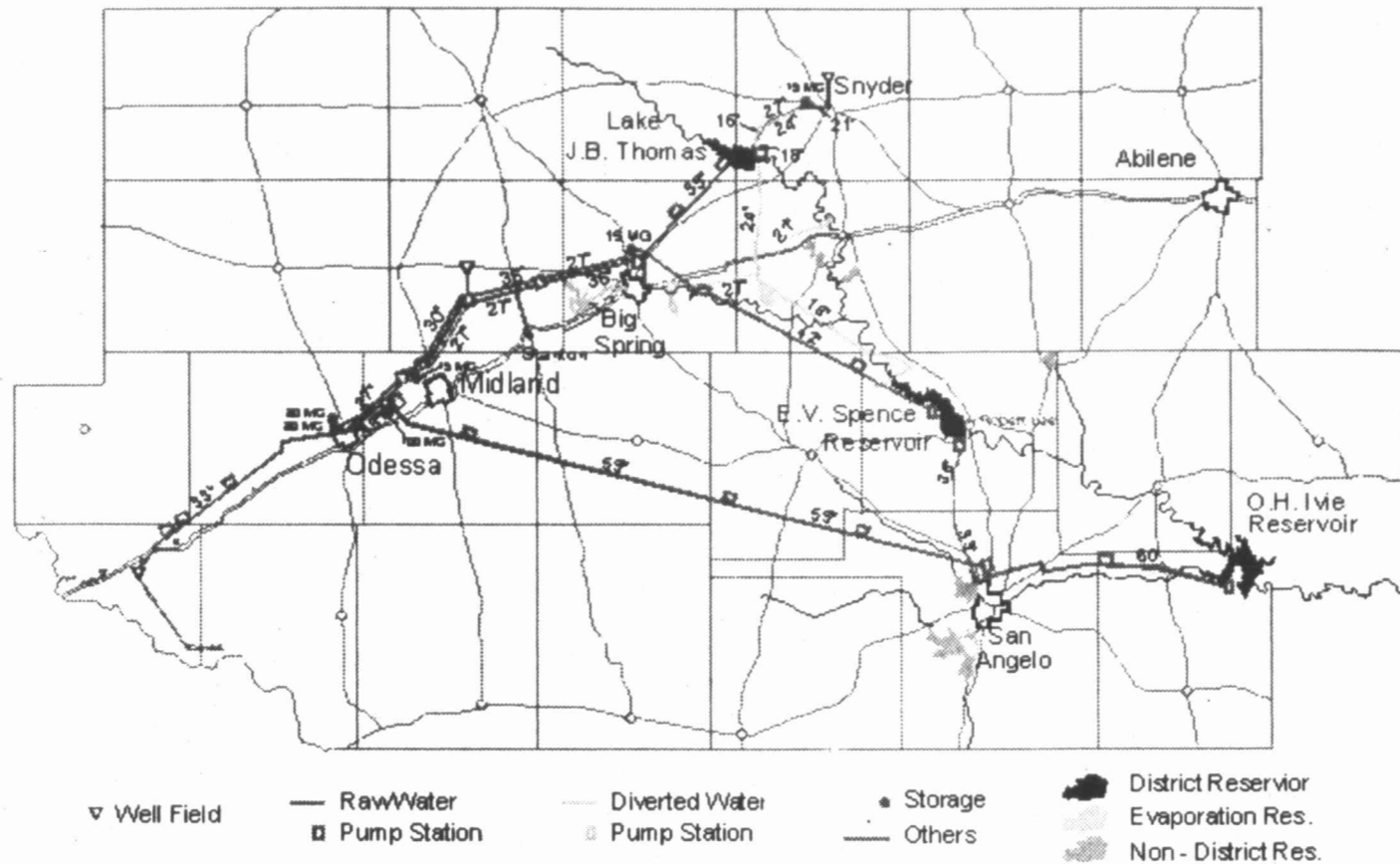
Special to the Herald

Thanks to a few men who planned for a future they could hardly have imagined, one of the drier regions of Texas has water to sustain a growing population and economy.

In the early 1940s, an electric company official named J.B. Thomas realized that without water, this region would never survive. Water in West Texas was supplied from wells, and shortages were common. He sought out state water board engineers to look for sources of water and once they identified the Colorado River as a possibility, he began to share his dream with leaders of the local communities.

His vision of a reservoir and a pipeline with its price tag of more than \$11 million must have been unimaginable to some in those communities where bond issues of even \$1 million had never been attempted. However, the far-sighted group Thomas assembled never faltered, and worked feverishly to set the legal and financial structure in place. And though they couldn't have known, there was hardly a moment to spare, as West Texas was about to face the worst drought on record.

The Colorado River Municipal Water District was authorized in 1949 by an Act of the 51st Legislature for the purpose of providing water to the member cities of Odessa and Big Spring. By the time the citizens of those communities were asked to vote their approval of the project, water was beginning to be in short supply. They approved the District and the bonds by overwhelming majorities rarely seen on any issue involving that amount of money. Before any water supplies sources were completed, Snyder



petitioned to become a member. Then, as now, the city councils of each of the three member cities appointed four directors to serve on the 12-member board. The directors were reimbursed only for their expenses. The first 12 faced the daunting task of simultaneously building a lake, a well field, and a pipeline to move the water to residents facing rationing in the three cities.

The first water supplied by the District was from the Martin County Well Field, completed in 1952. CRMWD soon completed construction of Lake Thomas, located in Borden and Scurry Counties, and began pumping water to Snyder early in 1953. By the time the drought of the 1950s eased and the fledgling organization completed pipelines to all its member cities, the board had already begun the

legal steps necessary to impound a second reservoir on the Colorado River. Following a lengthy battle for the permit, the construction began on the E.V. Spence Reservoir located in Coke County, and it was completed in 1969.

West Texas population was growing dramatically and the drought-prone region needed more water. Other cities and communities such as Midland were looking to the District for water.

However, stiffer opposition to a third reservoir and changes in federal law placed even more obstacles in the way of building the O.H. Ivie Reservoir. Finally, after endless hearings over permits, and millions of dollars spent to mitigate potential damage to water snakes and artifacts, construction began in May of 1987. The

reservoir, located near the communities of Leaday and Stacy, was completed in March of 1990, capable of impounding 554,340 acre-feet of water. In the largest single undertaking of its kind in Texas, CRMWD constructed a massive pipeline to lift water 158 miles and 1,400 vertical feet from the reservoir to junction with the District pipeline between Midland and Odessa.

Together, all three reservoirs are capable of impounding 1.247 million acre-feet of water, and most of the municipal water delivered by the District comes from these sources.

In addition to the three reservoirs, CRMWD operates a total of four well fields. The first field built by the District was the Martin County Field. Two more had been developed

independently by the member cities prior to 1949, and were taken over by the District as part of early agreements. The fourth well field, located in Ward County, was developed in 1971. That field, with capacity to provide up to 24 million gallons per day, is used to supplement the surface water and other groundwater supplies to the City of Odessa.

Today, the District provides water on a contractual basis to customer cities Midland, San Angelo, Stanton, Robert Lee, Pyote, Grandfalls and Abilene (through the West Central Texas Municipal Water District).

CRMWD operates a diverted water supply system, which serves a dual purpose. Its primary function is to prevent the non-potable "normal flow" of the

Colorado River and Beals Creek (a tributary of the Colorado River) from reaching the E. V. Spence Reservoir. However, in this dry region, even water high in chlorides has value. CRMWD delivers a portion of this highly mineralized water to oil companies for use in oil field secondary recovery operations, and revenues generated from the sale of diverted water help to defray the cost of water to our municipal customers.

Since the fall of 1992, drought has persisted across the District, with sporadic rain events bringing just enough inflow to prevent critical shortages. In spite of decreasing supplies and increasing demands, the District continues to provide water to a thirsty West Texas region at rates that compare favorably with wetter regions of the state. The Ivie Reservoir and the flexibility of the District's system of more than 600 miles of pipelines across West Texas have provided water security for CRMWD's members and customers.

Without the dedication, foresight and perseverance of these men who have served their communities as CRMWD directors over the organization's 53-year history, West Texas would, today, be facing certain rationing. Efforts are under way to locate and develop new sources of water and to reclaim waste and highly mineralized water sources that will be required to meet the needs of the region in the next 25 to 50 years.

Additional information may be found on the District's Internet Web page at www.crmwd.org, or in the book "Water in a Dry and Thirsty Land, The First Fifty Years of the Colorado River Municipal Water District," written by Joe Pickle and available in the Howard County Library.

Texas RV Park's new owners excited about being in Big Spring

By DEBBIE L. JENSEN

Special to the Herald

The new year brought big changes for the Texas RV Park. Bonnie and David Lambert became park hosts on Jan. 30, and they saw incredible potential.

"This community has got so much going for it, and we want to be part of that," said Bonnie. She said the park has many amenities that attract RVers, but tops among them is the attitude of the people of Big Spring.

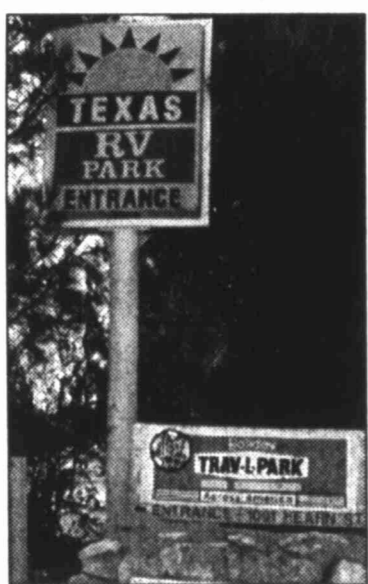
"One of the biggest pluses here is our community's friendliness," said Bonnie. "People are willing to go out of their way to help an outsider feel at home."

Among the changes for Texas RV this year will be a new sign with a logo, "New in 2002." The couple also plans to use the phrase they hear most often, "It's a good time to stop and a great place to stay."

While their visitors run the gamut, from people seeking treatment at the West Texas VA Health Care System to travelers just passing through to family members of local residents making a longer-term visit.

"I think what a lot of people don't realize is that RVers don't eat in their RVs anymore," Bonnie said. "They eat out. Sometimes they need medical care, or to go shopping, or to have their dog groomed."

In many ways, she said,



the RV park brings visitors and their spending money to the community.

Among the local park's best assets is its location, which provides trees for shade and shelter, a country atmosphere and a nearby golf course. Among its many amenities is a large multi-purpose hall that was an old railroad building. Remodeled inside and out, it is now called The Gathering Place and boasts all the necessities for a party, reunion or meeting and it available for rent during the week and on weekends.

To boost rentals during the week, the park offers a reduced rate. They also offer rates based on the number of people involved in a function.

Similarly, the park offers different rates for RVers

based on how long they intend to stay; the longer they stay, the less the daily rate becomes, Bonnie said.

It offers a heated, indoor pool that the Lamberts plan to keep open year-round. They plan to build a hot tub room and workout area. Bonnie said Texas RV has some of the main attributes people look for in a park — cleanliness and quiet, followed closely by a friendly staff.

People also want modem connections and cable hook-ups, along with parts available in case their rig breaks down, which they can find at the local park.

But one of its main attractions, she added, is the size of its spaces; as RVs get larger, they need more space to park, and Texas RV was originally built as a mobile home park.

"Believe it or not, today's RVs are about the size mobile homes were in the 1960s," she said. "Our spaces range from 65 to 90 feet long, and 18-30 feet wide." Texas RV also offers pull-through convenience, another plus, she added.

The Lamberts said they hear so many good things about the park from its visitors, they have high hopes for the future.

"So many people enjoy the park so much, and the community, that they end up staying another night," Bonnie said.

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Pipel

By ROGER CLIF

Staff Writer

At ALON Spring refine means expansion.

The company has announced several expansion projects for the refinery since it acquired the facility last year, including a pipeline linking the re Dallas/Fort W new tire rub plant and increase in out

The refinery able to pump fu the North Te pipeline.

"We plan to pipeline into the end of 2002. President and Morris. "Ac pipeline is key term strategy. sumers clean-b at low prices."

The plan is a 150-mile pip stretches from Fort Worth fr

Corn to be

HERALD Staff R

Cornell Corr be the third-lar prison man- agement com- pany in the United States, but that does- n't keep one of Big Spring's largest employers from being community-minded.

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The history of ly-run prison sy an interesting Rutherford a

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Pipeline acquisition, asphalt plant propel ALON into the future

By ROGER CLINE

Staff Writer

At ALON USA's Big Spring refinery, progress means expansion.

The company has announced several expansion projects for the refinery since it acquired the facility last year, including a pipeline purchase linking the refinery to the Dallas/Fort Worth area, a new tire rubber asphalt plant and a planned increase in output.

The refinery will soon be able to pump fuel directly to the North Texas area by pipeline.

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

The plan is to purchase a 150-mile pipeline that stretches from Abilene to Fort Worth from Abilene-

based Pride Companies LP. The new pipeline will be connected to ALON's Big Spring-to-Abilene pipeline, already in place.

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

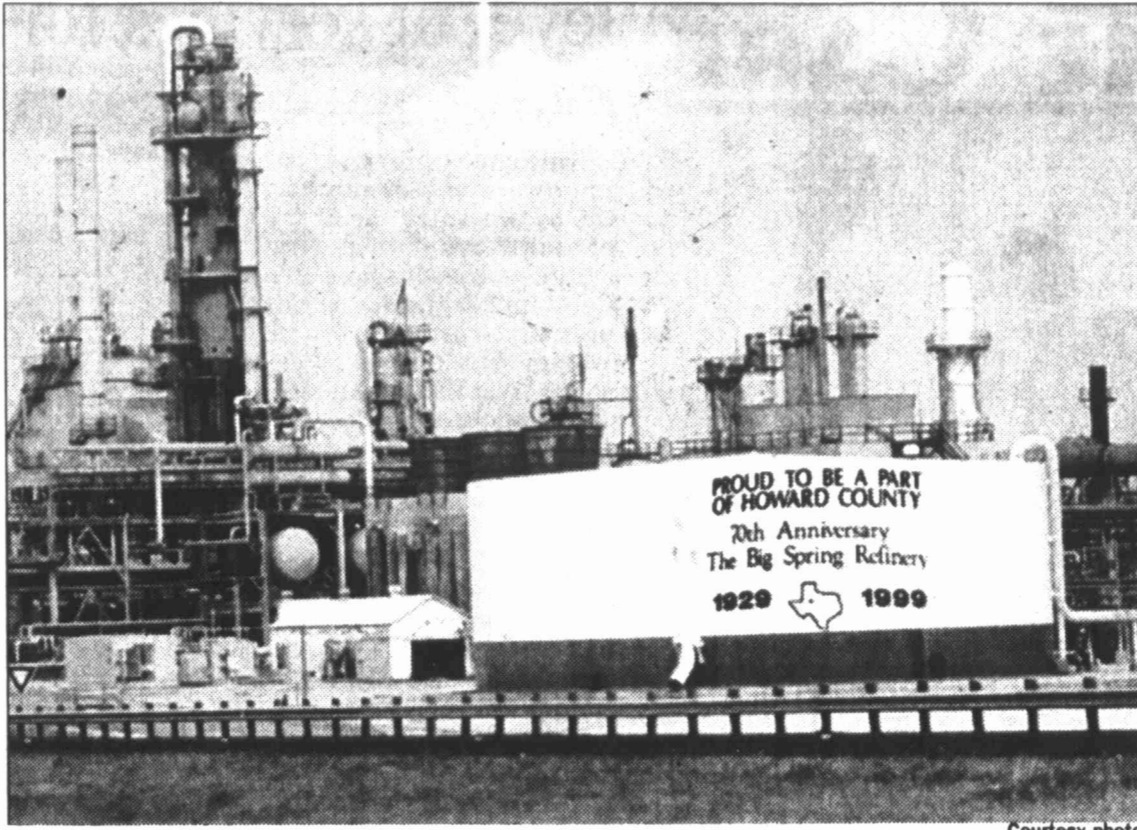
Crosby added that in the past, ALON has used third party common-carrier pipelines to Dallas/Fort Worth.

"This will be much cheaper because we'll operate the line and not pay a third party," he said. "We'll ship Big Spring's barrels to the Metroplex instead of Gulf Coast barrels."

The Big Spring refinery currently produces about 58,000 barrels of fuel each day, which are distributed under the FINA name as far east as Fort Smith, Ark., and as far west as Phoenix.

An asphalt plant currently under construction at the Big Spring refinery will use recycled tire rubber to make road asphalt.

Morris said the project, a joint venture with Channelview-based Wright Asphalt, began construction in January and should be



The refinery outside of Big Spring has been in existence for a long time. A pipeline acquisition to link the refinery with the North Texas area, plus construction of an asphalt plant ensure ALON will be a strong competitor for many more years to come.

online by May. The plant won't create any new permanent positions, instead will use existing ALON employees, but the construction phase of the project will employ 50 people, Morris added. Morris said he didn't have

an exact price figure for the new plant, but said it would be "in the millions of dollars."

"This will be the first significant investment ALON has made in the Big Spring plant," he said. "We hope it will be the first of many."

Morris said the plant will use rubber from tires ground at another location and Wright's "Tire Rubber Modified Asphalt Cement" and "Liquefied Tire Rubber" technologies to make premium grade asphalts.

"It's really an interesting technology," he said. "I like it because it uses old tires. We blend the ground tires with asphalt, and the rubber from the tires chemically bonds with the asphalt. It makes a very tough road surface."

Morris said the plant is expected to produce about 1,000 barrels of asphalt a day.

"About 20 to 25 percent of the asphalt we make will use the ground tires," he said.

According to the Asphalt Rubber Technology Service, 270 million waste tires weighing a total of 2.2 million tons are discarded each year.

"Building a new tire rubber modified asphalt plant is one way corporate America is turning a negative into a positive," Morris said.

"Companies realize the advantages of taking waste material and recycling it into a viable product. It not only makes good sense, it makes good business sense."

In the near future, a See ALON, Page 8D

Cornell Corrections proud to be a community partner

HERALD Staff Report

Cornell Corrections may be the third-largest private prison management company in the United States, but that doesn't keep one of Big Spring's largest employers from being community-minded.



BROWN

"Big Spring has been real good to us," said Warden Dale Brown. "We try to be a good neighbor in the community. I think we've done that."

He'd get no argument from the city. When Big Spring was having trouble obtaining enough funding to tear down the Permian Building and the Howard House, Cornell Corrections stepped up and wrote checks to cover the amount. In 2001 inmates at the Airpark Unit built the frames for the poinsettias that illuminated the Big Spring Dam at Christmas during the annual Festival of Lights.

"We have historically had an outstanding relationship with the city of Big Spring," said Brown. "They support us and our operation daily."

Brown was familiar with Big Spring before he took the job as senior warden for Cornell. He had previously served as warden at FCI Big Spring. He was transferred to help open a new facility in Beaumont and then retired. But when he got a call one day asking him to return to Big Spring as warden for Cornell, it didn't take a lot of convincing.

"I was already aware of how much the city and area offer their support from having lived in Big Spring before. That's what brought me back. The people of Big Spring are good people," Brown said.

The Big Spring Correctional Center operation is a unique arrangement between the city of Big Spring, the Federal Bureau of Prisons and Cornell. Through an intergovernment agreement, the city contracts with the Federal Bureau of Prisons to incarcerate federal offenders. The city subcontracts with Cornell to manage and operate the facilities.

The history of the privately-run prison system here is an interesting one. Johnny Rutherford and Chuck

Haugh, founders of MidTex Detentions (a former private prison management company based in Big Spring), first approached the city in 1988 to present the idea of renovating an abandoned hotel into a detention facility. With financial backing from Ed Davenport, the project was completed in 1989, and contracts were secured.

Since then, the operation has grown from one facility with 350 beds to a four-facility complex with 2,600 plus beds. Cornell now has 450 employee positions in Big Spring.

The four facilities include the Interstate Unit, established in June, 1989 at Interstate 20 and Highway 176. It provides 386 prisoner beds and is managed by approximately 75 employees.

The second was the Airpark Unit, located at 3700 Wright Avenue, and opened in February of 1991. It provides 524 prisoner

beds and is managed by some 90 employees.

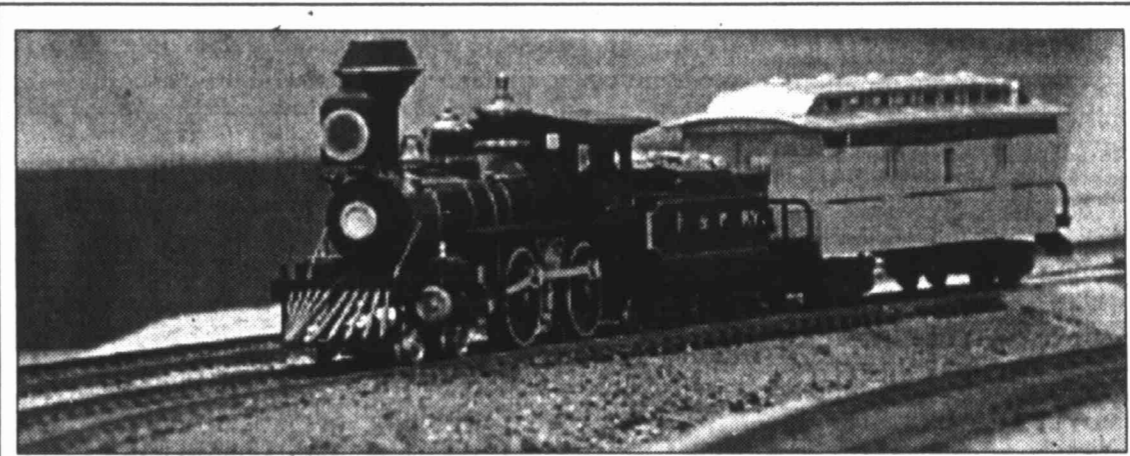
Next was the Flightline Unit, established in February of 1995. The unit is located on the west side of the McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark near the main runway. It provides 864 prisoner beds and is managed by about 110 employees.

The latest to be established is the Cedar Hill Unit, opened in June of 1998. It is located near former Webb Air Force Base housing. It provides 832 prisoner beds and is managed by some 125 employees.

Cornell acquired the Big Spring operation from MidTex in 1996.

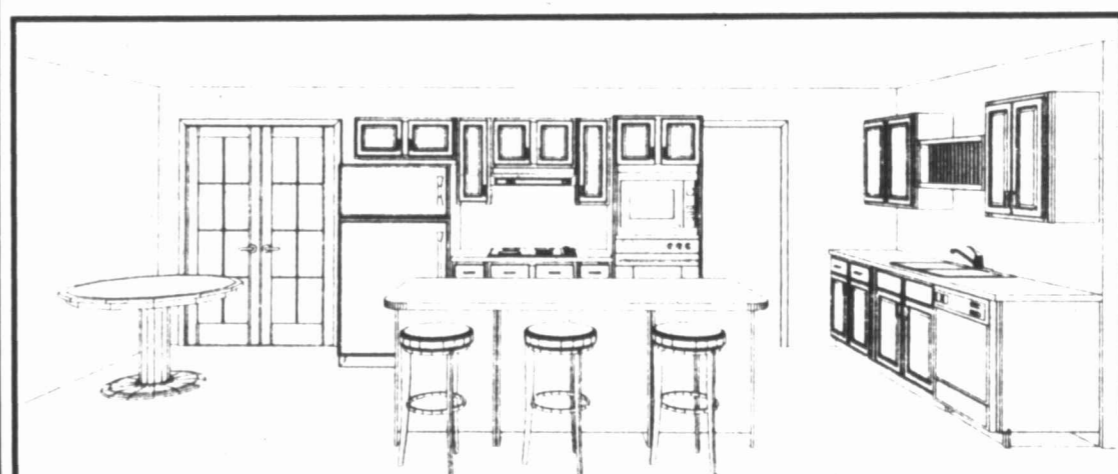
Since the acquisition, Cornell has more than tripled its size. In 1996, Cornell contracted to operate 20 detention and pre-release facilities with a total bed capacity of 3,349 beds.

See CORNELL, Page 8D



Steam engines of yesteryear are brought back to life in miniature at the Doc Hardy Memorial Railroad Museum in downtown Big Spring.

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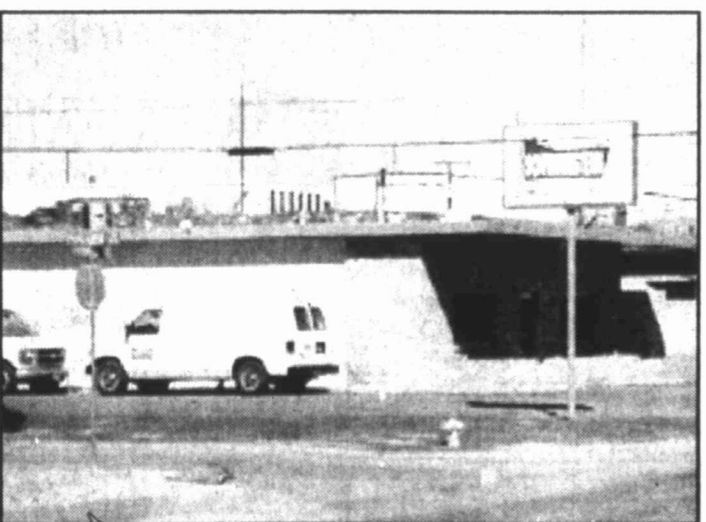
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INHOME CARE

InHome Care staff, from left, Maxine Stockton, Diana Renteria, Melissa Sanchez and McConnell Olivier.

InHome Care seeks to provide highest level of services for each individual patient

HERALD Staff Report

"InHome Care Inc. seeks to improve our patient's quality of life by providing the highest level of health care services."

This is the mission of InHome Care Inc., a health care service provider owned by Michael Waters with its main office located at 808 West Indiana in Midland.

A branch office located at 212 Owens in Big Spring opened its doors for the first time in 1996 and has outlasted most of the competition.

"It was only one room then," remembers McConnell Olivier, DON. The present location now has four offices and currently employs two RNs, two LVNs, four

CNAs and an office manager.

"I think a lot of people don't know that we are still in business. I just want them to know that we're not gone, we're still here," said Maxine Stockton, RN and branch manager.

InHome Care provides skilled nursing services which include but are not limited to restorative nursing, teaching the family to administer medications, dressing changes and wound care, monitoring blood pressure and vital signs, dietary instruction to patient and family, catheterization and irrigations, ostomy care, obtaining lab work, oxygen therapy and medical equipment.

Physical and occupational therapy are also provided through Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center.

Speech therapy is available and contracted independently.

Payment for these services is provided with the approval of Medicare, Medicaid, private insurance or private arrangements.

In addition to Big Spring, InHome Care also provides services to the surrounding areas including Lenorah, Coahoma, Knott, Ackerly and Stanton.

However, according to Stockton, "We're not limited to these areas. We'll go where we're needed."

"Provider services are also available and cover Fort Worth, El Paso, Dallas, San Angelo as well as Big Spring with offices in each location," added Olivier.

For more information on InHome Care Inc., call 1-800-551-6451 or the local office at 263-3065.

Howard-Glasscock County settlers reunite for one weekend in August

HERALD Staff Report

It's as traditional as cooking barbecue on July 4 or serving turkey on Thanksgiving Day.

The Howard-Glasscock Old Settlers Reunion had its beginning in 1924 when a group of men were talking about not having enough time to visit and someone suggested having an all-day gathering.

It was decided to meet once a year on the third Friday of July. That was more than 76 years ago and though there have been times like in 1995 where, due to lack of funding, the event had to be canceled, doing away with it would be like not having Christmas.

Last year, the event drew about 165 people to the Dora Roberts Community Center where a lot of visiting, good eating and awards were presented. In past reunions, upwards of 700 or more have been in attendance.

Coahoma area peace justice and world-renowned rodeo clown Quail Dobbs is the president this year.

An award that always highlights the event is the annual Pioneer Award. That award recognizes people whose families have been in Howard and Glasscock counties more than one generation and who are major contributors in their chosen profession and to the community as a whole. Several winners of this award are able to date their family tree in one or both counties back to the late 1800s and early 1900s.

Last year, the Thomas family of Howard County and Hillger family of Glasscock County were honored.

At past reunions, awards have been given out to the oldest woman in attendance, oldest man in attendance, person traveling the farthest, person with most children, person with most

grandchildren.

Games of bingo, a 42 tournament, horseshoe tournament sometimes even a fiddler's contest keep folks busy throughout the day.

After the cancellation of the 1995 reunion, the late Mack Underwood, who was a past vice-president of the Old Settlers Association, took on the job of making sure that the reunion would continue to go on for years to come.

When the first Saturday in August rolls around, the 78th annual reunion will once again come to Big Spring.

Neely sits on mother Letta's lap near Jo Ann Hillger during the 2001 Howard-Glasscock County Old Settlers Reunion at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. The Hillger family was one of those honored during the annual festivities.

HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

**ALON**

Continued from Page 7D

planned expansion project will raise the refinery's output from 58,000 barrels to 65,000 daily, said Technical Manager Gordon Leaman.

"We're expanding the crude unit to produce 65,000 barrels a day from 58,000 we do today," Leaman said. "That picks up the capacity in the rest of the plant to make more product as our market is expanding and growing. We're trying to grow the refinery along with it."

Leaman said the planned expansion should be online by the end of 2003. As with the asphalt plant, the expansion will provide construction jobs while it is being built, but ALON plans to use the current refinery staff to man the upgraded unit.

"We don't anticipate the plant staff having to grow any," he said. "It's the same equipment, just bigger."

Along with producing more fuel, under a federal mandate the plant must also begin producing cleaner fuel by 2004, Leaman said.

"The Environmental Protection Agency is requiring refineries to make low-sulfur gasoline by 2004," he said. "We will be putting in equipment to do that as well."

The EPA is requiring that all gasoline meet the low sulfur guidelines to help reduce air pollution from automobile exhaust, he said.

"Just like they took diesel down in sulfur, now they're requiring gasoline to go down in sulfur," he said. "This is actually being driven by the auto industry wanting to have better cat-

alytic converters, because sulfur is actually a contaminant for the material in the catalytic converters."

CORNELL

Continued from Page 7D

Today, Cornell contracts to operate over 90 facilities with a total bed capacity of approximately 12,000.

Since inception, the Big Spring Correctional Center operation has contributed positively to the local economy. Aside from the four facilities, Cornell leases other buildings from the city for warehouse operations, executive offices and a staff training center. In 2001, Cornell paid the city of Big Spring more than \$1 million for contract maintenance and lease fees.

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Faye's in add

By LYNDEL MOODY
Staff Writer

Sweet smells customer that Faye's Flowers, as the business wide selection plants and gifts.

Faye's Flowerly owned by who purchased business in 1989 but has served the area for numerous years.

Working with flowers was Lusk, who has nursery before the business.

Under Lusk's the building has remodeling several and a variety of products have been the way.

Gartman

By LYNDEL MOODY
Staff Writer

Buster Gartman learned how to sheet metal work in high school.

Since his initial experience as a welder, Gartman has used to build Gartr Metal, Refrigeration and Conditioning and that has seen Crossroads area.

The company, 3206 E. FM 700, efficiency air-conditioning systems and he performs all kind metal work.

"We give quality and installations."



Clown Dakota a professional helper Tasha M. Rodeo. At top with the Best in the photo at and Jake Brown action. The Condition for 23 years.

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1013 Gregg St. • Big Spring



Faye's Flowers features fresh flowers and plants in addition to a wide assortment of other gift ideas

By **LYNDEL MOODY**
Staff Writer

Sweet smells greet every customer that steps into Faye's Flowers, 1013 Gregg, as the business offers a wide selection of flowers, plants and many other gifts.

Faye's Flowers is currently owned by Debra Lusk who purchased the business in 1989 but the store has served the Big Spring area for numerous years.

Working with plants and flowers was not new to Lusk, who had owned a nursery before purchasing the business.

Under Lusk's ownership, the building has undergone remodeling several times and a variety of new products have been added along the way.



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody
Faye's Flowers employee Susie Hernandez, left, adds the finishing touches to a flower arrangement while the owner Debra Lusk completes some paper work. The business offers a variety of gifts along with its flower service.

At Faye's, flower designers, many who have been with the business for the past 20 years, can create an

arrangement for all types of occasions from anniversaries, birthdays, funerals or sending flowers to say thank you.

For those who want to send flowers out of town, the business offers Teleflora wire service.

Customers can also find a number of other gifts to select from, including candles, balloons, stuffed animals and specially designed silks.

The business is also very community oriented.

"We give every new patient that comes into Scenic Mountain Medical Center a carnation and bud vase," Lusk said.

"We deliver free flowers to nursing home patients who have a birthday."

Gartman: Making your home more comfortable

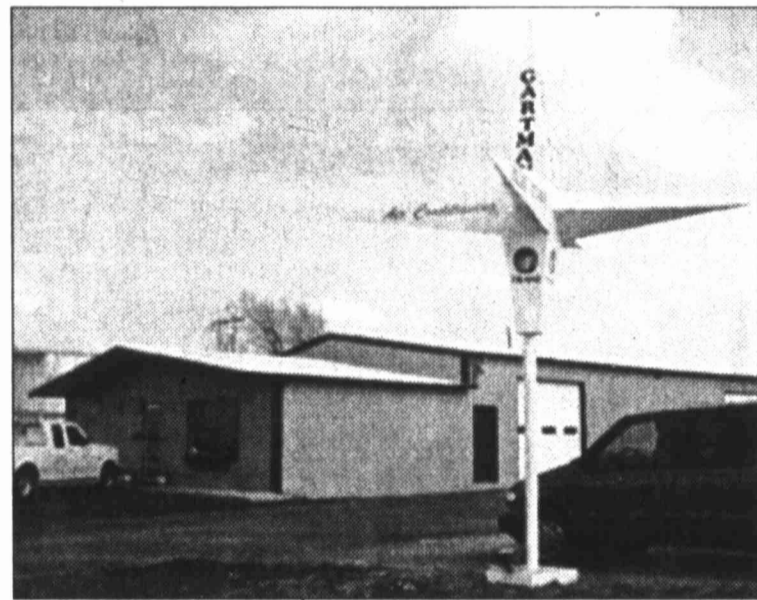
By **LYNDEL MOODY**
Staff Writer

Buster Gartman Sr. learned how to work with sheet metal while taking shop in high school.

Since his initial hands-on experience as a youth, Gartman has used his skills to build Gartman Sheet Metal, Refrigeration, Air-Conditioning and Heating that has served the Crossroads area since 1976.

The company, located at 3206 E. FM 700, sells high efficiency air-conditioning systems and heating and performs all kinds of sheet metal work.

"We give quality service and installations," Gartman



said. "We have the best warranties in the a/c business. We install systems for comfort including allergy relief and humidity control with efficiency a priority." The company services a 100-mile radius. Each of his

three workers is certified to work with freon, Gartman said.

Gartman's employees also have a number of years of experience. Two of his employees have been with the company for more than 15 years and the "new" guy has been with the company for four.

The company sells Trane air-conditioners, a high quality product, Gartman said, because Trane builds its own compressors and offers a 10-year warranty on all high end equipment.

By the start of summer, the company will begin to sell more environmentally friendly air-conditioning units.

IT'S RODEO TIME! COAHOMA KINDERGARTEN STYLE!



HERALD photos/Lyndel Moody
Clown Dakota Coulter, above front, and his father Danny, a professional bull rider, along with Coahoma High School helper Tasha Newton watch the Coahoma Kindergarten Rodeo. At top right, Jody Nix gives a special performance with the Best Little Band in Texas gathered around him. In the photo at right, cowboy/clowns Morgan Luce, left, and Jake Browne watch intently during the barrel racing action. The Coahoma Kindergarten Rodeo has been a tradition for 23 years.



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Whether giving blood, time or money, Crossroads area citizens go all out to help

HERALD Staff Report

Community efforts to raise funds and awareness for health issues continue to raise money, bring out volunteers and provide just plain fun for those involved.

One of the biggest fund-raisers of the year, involving thousands of people in Big Spring, is the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life, highlighted in Section C of this year's Progress Edition.

There are many others as well. Among them are these:

Alzheimer's Association

Serving approximately 300 to 400 residents in the county, the Alzheimer's Association Greater West Texas Chapter gives support for families and residents that have been impacted by Alzheimer's and dementia.

The group provides monthly support groups for family members and quarterly workshops. During the month of October, the organization holds a Memory Walk at Comanche Trail Park where teams walk to raise money. This will be the fourth year for the walk.

Blood Drives

A call from United Blood Services to area residents asking for blood donation usually brings out the community to give the gift of life. In order to supply the 12 area hospitals, the UBS for this service area must collect more than 300 units of blood each week. Blood products have a shelf life of five to 42 days.

From businesses, to educational institutions to community-wide drives, the UBS blood mobile and personnel make monthly trips to the area.

Heart Walk and Jump Rope for Heart

Attempting to help reduce disability and death from cardiovascular disease and stroke is the mission of the American Heart Association. Annually the AHA holds the Heart Walk and Jump Rope for Heart events both to raise funds and educate the community about living a heart-healthy life.

Last year's Heart Walk brought people together to raise

See **HELPING**, Page 10D

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Blum's Jewelry owners are proud to call Big Spring home



Blum's Jewelry customer Tommy Churchwell admires a diamond bracelet displayed by sales clerk Betty Gamboa, middle, while owner Lynette Brooks and her son Greg look on. Blum's, started by Lynette's father, Joe Blum, has been in business in Big Spring for 41 years. The business is currently located in the Big Spring Mall.

By **LYNDEL MOODY**
Staff Writer

The son of an Air Force fighter pilot, Greg Brooks traveled the world as a youth but decided early on Big Spring was home.

"People in Big Spring are the nicest people in the country," Greg said. "I always wanted to come back here."

During his 12 years of secondary school, Greg lived here for only two years, but decided to stay and raise his family in Big Spring. He also went into the family business, Blum's Jewelry. Greg and his wife, Lisa, have two sons.

Greg is the grandson of Joe and Pauline Blum, who moved to Big Spring in the 1940s when Joe worked for a jewelry store in town. Joe eventually opened Blum's Jewelry store.

For 41 years, the family-owned store has offered choices of fine jewelry to the Big Spring area.

The store has changed locations four times, moving first from 219 Main St. to across the street at 222

Main. After 23 years on Main Street, the business moved to the Highland Mall and eventually to its current location inside the Big Spring Mall.

Three generations have worked at the store. Greg's parents, Lynette, the daughter of Joe and Pauline Blum, and her husband Ralph, who was a Thunderbird pilot for the Air Force, took over the store when Joe and Pauline retired in 1973.

Before handing the business over to his daughter, Joe hired sales clerk Betty Gamboa who continues as an employee with the business after 31 years.

Greg joined the business in 1979 after he graduated from Texas Tech University. He received his training at the Genealogical Institute of America in California and said he enjoys working with jewelry.

"It's something I can be creative with," he said.

The shop offers jewelry, watches and other fine products and in a price range for about every cus-

tomers. "We sell everything from high end products to low end and all the way in between," said Lynette.

The business is the only dealership in town for Waterford Crystal and Michele Jordi watches. Also many graduates purchase their class ring from Blum's.

"We have a large selection of pearl jewelry," Lynette said.

The business offers a large selection of wedding rings, engagement rings, 14-carat gold chains among its product line and also fixes and polishes jewelry.

"We welcome special orders," she said.

Lynette said the store receives several out of town customers and sometimes customers who have been shopping for a certain piece of jewelry around the West Texas area will find that item at Blum's.

"I would encourage people to shop the town first," she said. "People should give Big Spring merchants a chance. I think they would be surprised."

Comet Cleaners offers same day service at College Park location

HERALD Staff Report

Comet Cleaners has been a family owned business in Big Spring since 1986 when it was opened by Don and Jo Evans at its original location at College Park Shopping Center.

It was taken over by their son Randy Evans when they retired in 1997. The establishment was then relocated to its present location at 1500 East FM 700 in January

1999. Comet Cleaners offers quality service which includes laundry, dry cleaning, alterations, leather cleaning and the preservation of wedding gowns.

"We have same day service," said Randy. "You can drop off your dry cleaning in the morning and pick it up in the afternoon."

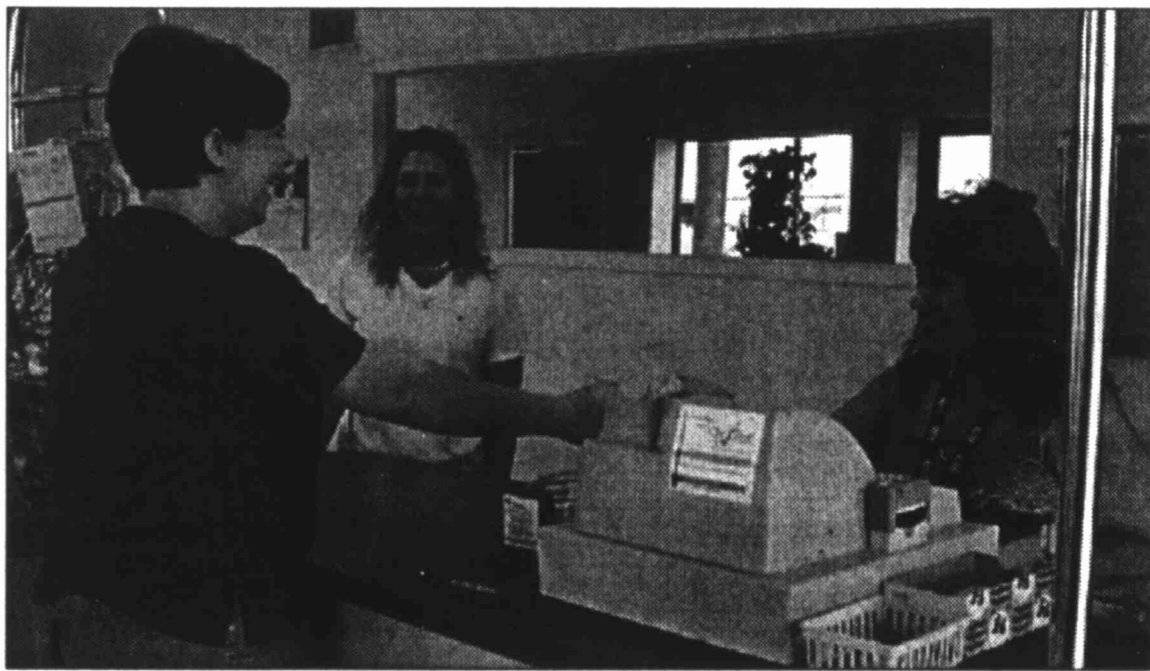
Randy is proud of the business he has established and the services it offers. "I

believe we serve the customer better than anyone," he said.

For more information on their services call 267-2584.

Customer Suzanna Wood happily retrieves her dry cleaning from Comet Cleaner clerks Valinda Holguin, right and Gina McNeal. Comet Cleaners is located at 1500 East FM 700.

HERALD Photo/Andrea Medlin



Members of the Big Spring Fire Department encourage motorists to "Fill the Boot" during their annual campaign to fight Muscular Dystrophy.

HERALD file photo



HELPING

Continued from Page 9D

funds and awareness for cardiovascular research and education.

The participants walked for about 30 minutes while Howard College cheerleaders supported their efforts.

In Jump Rope for Heart, area elementary students from local schools jump rope for pledges, aimed at raising funds for the AHA.

Multiple Sclerosis (MS) Walk

Multiple sclerosis is a disease that randomly attacks the nervous system and every year residents put on their walking shoes to help educate and find a cure.

In years past, walkers have trekked from First Baptist Church into Comanche Trail Park and back to the starting point, an approximately hour-and-a-half walk.

Participants seeks sponsors to pledge a certain amount of money for every mile they walk.

Muscular Dystrophy Association

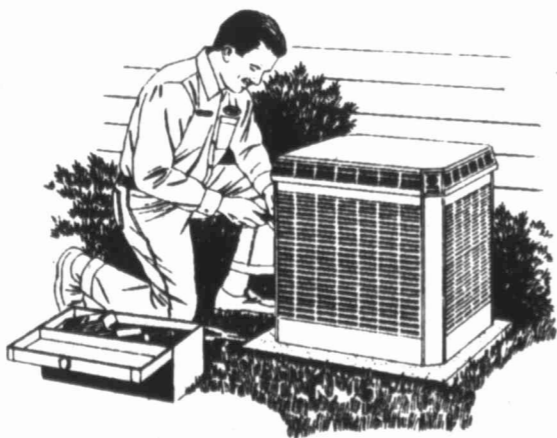
In previous years, more than \$30,000 has been raised locally for the Muscular Dystrophy Association during two local events; organizers said over 75 percent of that money stayed in the community.

Big Spring firefighters hit the streets, asking residents to Fill the Boot, their annual campaign. Last year the Howard County Volunteer Fire Department pitched in with a fund-raiser of its own.

The Harley Owners Group (HOG) sponsored the local

televised MDA telethon at the Big Spring Mall with a telephone center and members of the group answering the phone to take pledges.

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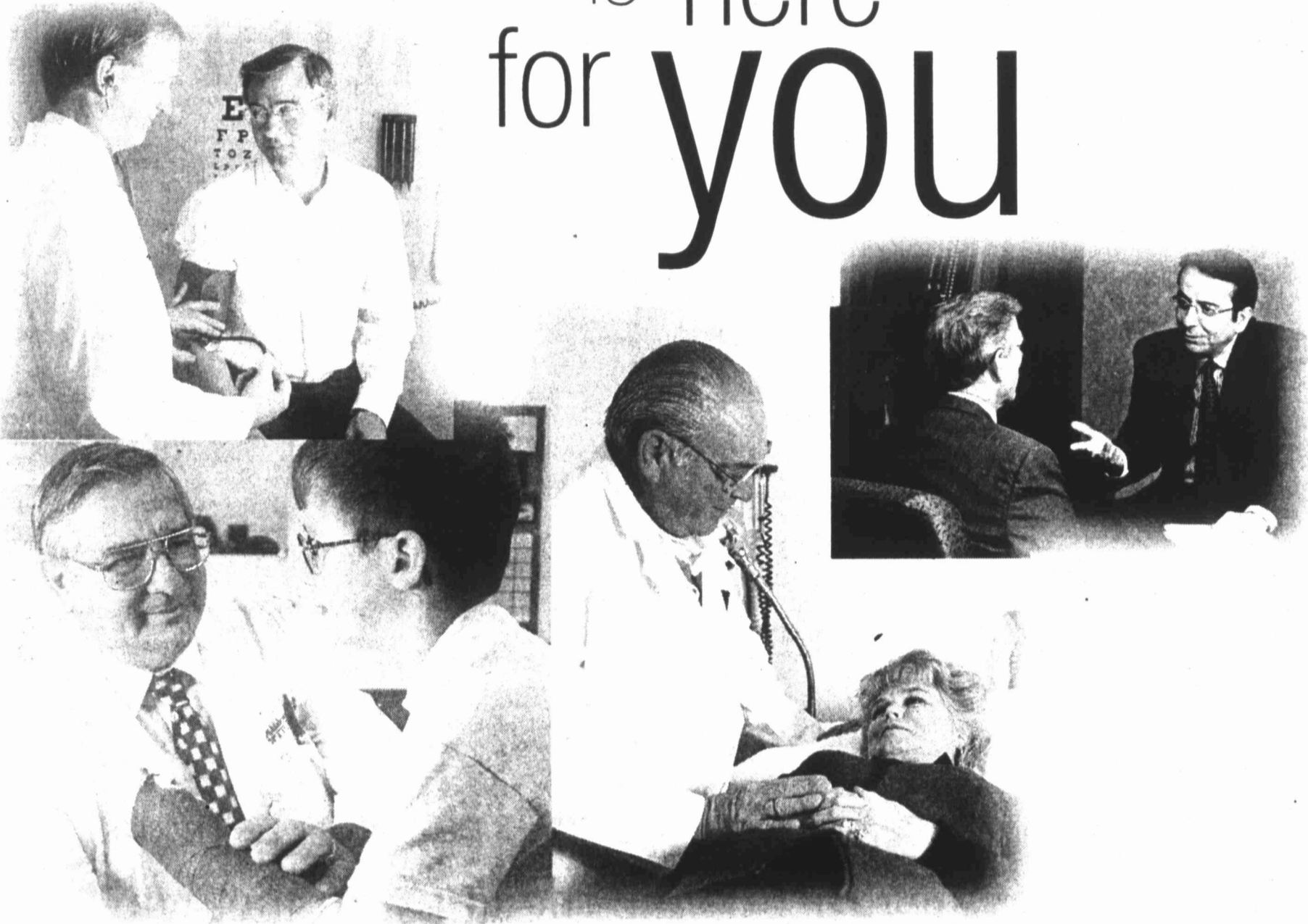
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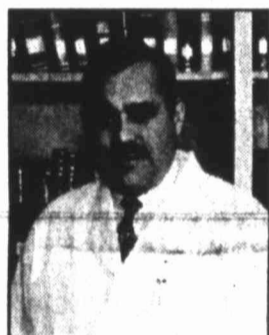
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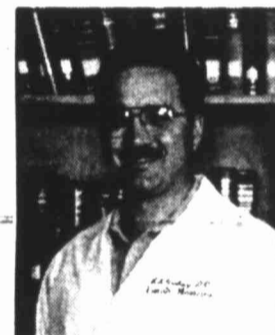
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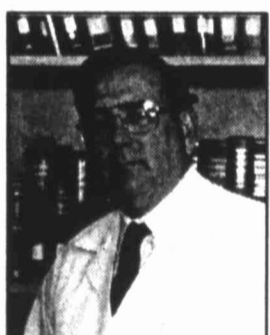
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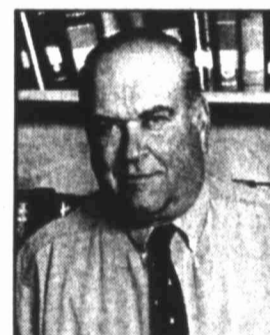
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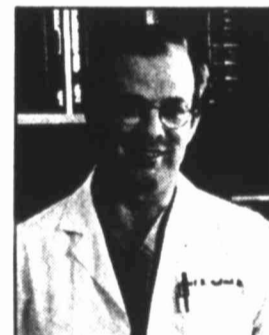
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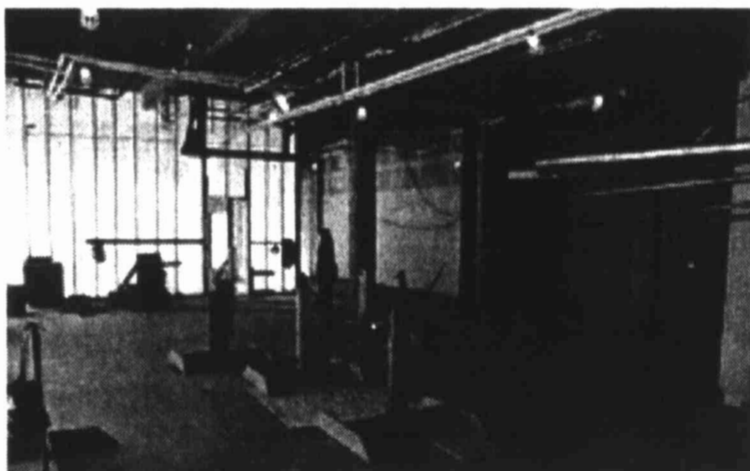
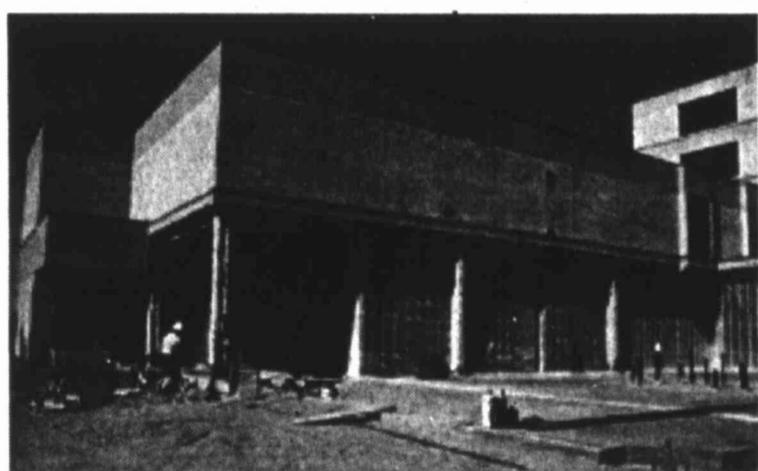
Scenic Mountain Medical Center



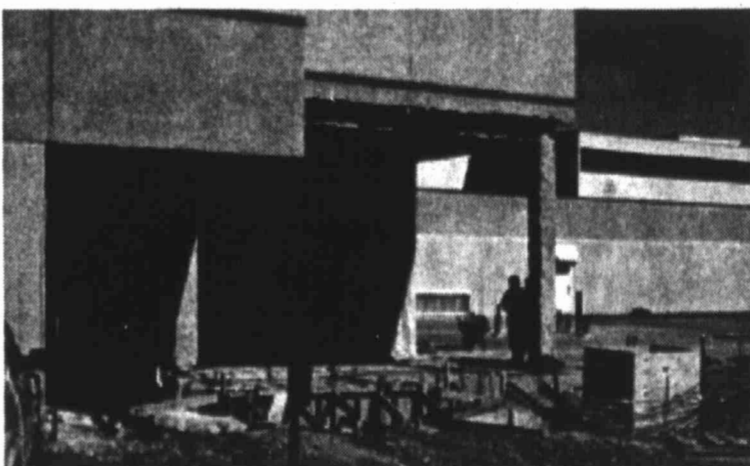
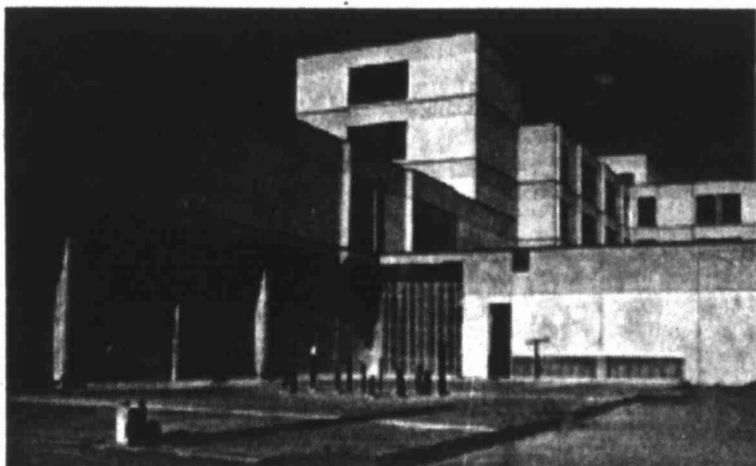
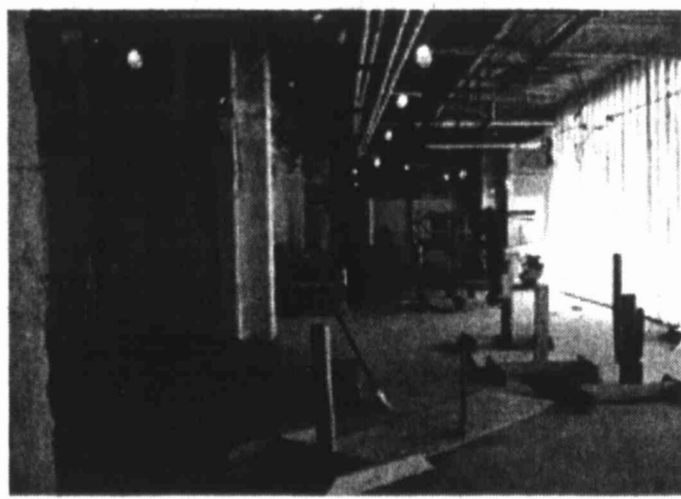
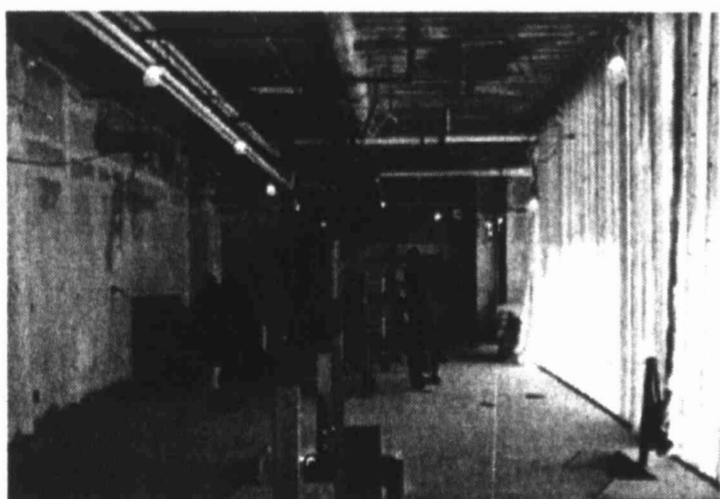
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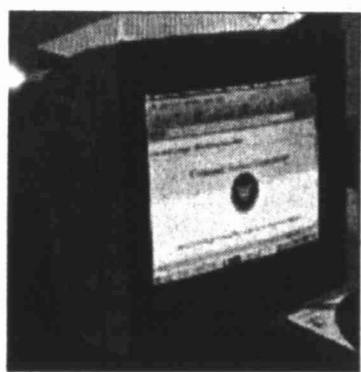
The Administration Building is at the front entrance of the Howard College campus on Birdwell Lane. The Student Assistance Center is here, as are the President and Vice Presidents' offices. Guidance and Counseling, and Financial Aid are also located in this building. Classrooms and instructor offices are located on the second floor.

Howard College criminal justice program awaits Firearms Training System (FATS)

Howard College's Criminal Justice Department awaits the arrival of the Firearms Training Simulator (FATS) system, which is expected to be operational by the fall semester.

"This system will further enhance the department's capabilities of providing superior instruction to students interested in preparing for careers in criminal justice," said Joe Cook, Howard College criminal justice instructor.

Cook said once training on the equipment is complete, Howard College students will benefit from the FATS system through



it's sophisticated training technology.

"This is much more than a shot-don't shoot game. The philosophy and mechanics of the training system are to teach critical thinking through classroom presentations supported by

real time life-like scenarios which stress a force level continuum," he said.

State-of-the-art technology, the operator/instructor has the capabilities of modifying the scenarios as the student participates, to let the student experience how his/her actions and reactions might play out in an actual situation, Cook said.

"This will be a simulation students may very well encounter out on the street," he said.

The philosophy generating the simulations is to allow the student to develop confidence and

skills in assessing potential problems, implementing thoughtful solutions with less than lethal force, and being able to articulate his or her actions, he added.

with FATS, Howard College takes a substantial step toward utilizing the latest technology in the criminal justice program.

"The FATS system will allow Howard College to provide students with an education that takes them beyond the book knowledge and into the arena of like skills vitally necessary to protect and serve the public in all realms of the criminal justice system," Cook said.

Howard College Committed to needs of community, students

Howard College has been committed to meeting the personal, professional, social, and physical needs of the community for 57 years.

Howard College is located at the foot of the giant Texas Caprock, nestled in the canyons and hills that interrupt the vast Texas Plains.

The 120-acre campus includes 14 buildings, a football stadium, baseball field, a 4,000-seat multipurpose coliseum and newly completed softball field.

workforce.

The faculty-student ratio is 1-to-18, and classes are small, with personal attention given to each student.

Howard College has designed its curriculum, activities, and atmosphere to make the college years valuable according to the student's interests and efforts.

In addition to Howard College's varied curriculum, various academic, social and outside interest groups have been organized.

Howard College, a comprehensive, two-year community college, also has campuses located in Lamesa and San Angelo.

Howard College is especially proud to have the SouthWest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf as a part of the college district.

SWCID the only self-contained community college in the world serving the Deaf, hearing impaired, and hearing students.

Cultural opportunities are provided through Howard College's own fine arts department, with offerings in drama, art and music.

Community opportunities for drama, art and music exist as well.

The excellent facilities, the varied activities and the qualified, friendly faculty combine to provide Howard College students with an educational setting which helps students achieve their educational goals.

Professionals employed in deafness-related fields also attend SWCID to take paraprofessional classes for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, and interpreter training courses.

Howard College's curriculum includes academic transfer programs which parallel university programs for students who plan to continue their education beyond the community college level.

Howard College also provides a variety of one-year and two-year vocational and technical programs for students who want to develop specific job skills and enter the

Howard College also operates a Child Development Center, Howard Cottage, as an extension of the Child and Family Development Studies program.

Howard Cottage serves the child care needs of Howard College students, and also accepts children from the community as space allows.

A satellite Go! Project Head Start Center, Howard Cottage provides quality child care with an emphasis on child development.

For more information about Howard College contact 264-5000.

Industrial Production Technology program offers students many choices in related industry fields

Howard College offers two certificate programs and an associate's degree in Industrial Production Technology, using some of the newest and most innovative training equipment today's technology provides.

"We began offering this program as a response to specific needs within our business community," said Dr. Amy Burchett, Howard College vice president of instruction and student services.

A focus group of Moore Development for Big Spring requested the program to answer the needs of the business industry.

Citing a need for qualified workers, the group approached Howard College about providing this program.

A specialized mobile

laboratory provides the training necessary for the students.

An associates of applied science in Industrial Production Technology provides the graduate with the skills necessary to meet the needs of the manufacturing industry.

The two-year curriculum allows the student an opportunity to work in the field of either production, maintenance and repair, or quality control and management.

Students may seek a one-year certificate program that provides entry-level training and basic understanding of manufacturing technology and production.

Students completing this level of education will have entry-level skills needed to enter the workforce.

A Certificate II provides students with more in-depth knowledge in the production field of manufacturing. The prerequisite for the program is to have received the Certificate Level I.

Some of the courses available through the Industrial Production Technology Program are Technical Drafting, which is an introduction to the principles of drafting including terminology and fundamentals; Basic Computer-Aided Drafting with emphasis placed on drawing set-up, creating and modifying geometry, storing and retrieving predefined shapes and using input and output devices; DC-AC Circuits include networks, transformers, resonance, phasors, capacitive and

inductive and circuit analysis techniques; Process Troubleshooting offers instruction in the different types of troubleshooting techniques, procedures and methods used to solve problems. Topics include data collection and analysis, cause and effect relationships, and reasoning; Manufacturing Processes explore a variety of methods used in manufacturing. Theory and application include metal forming, welding, machining, heat treating, plating, assembly procedures, and process control considerations.

Other courses are Cooperative Education - Industrial/Manufacturing Technology Technician, which is a career-related cooperative opportunity for

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students with Howard College and an employer. This course combines classroom learning with work experience, and may be repeated.

Special Topics in Industrial/Manufacturing Technology/Technician allow students to address current events, skills, knowledge and/or attitudes as they relate to the technology or occupation relevant to the professional development of the student.

Logistics is an

introductory course that relates to the industrial and service industries. Integrated Software Applications, Computerized Numerical Control Programming, OSHA Regulations-General Industry, Quality Control, Total Quality Management and Metrology are also courses offered.

To learn more about Howard College's Industrial Production Technology Program, contact the college at 264-5000.

Computer professionals in demand

A recent study by the Information Technology Association of America reveals 346,000 IT jobs are currently vacant in United States' companies, leaving one in 10 jobs unfilled.

The U.S. Commerce Department's Office of Technology Policy report, "America's New Deficit: The Shortage of Information Technology Workers," said between 1996 and 2006, more than 1.3 million new systems analysts, computer scientists, engineers, and programmers will be required to meet the industry's demands.

Microsoft estimates that during the next 12 months its business partners and customers will require 647,000 new IT professionals to support and develop business solutions on Microsoft products and technologies.

The growing and critical shortage of Information Technology (IT) professionals translates into real opportunities for job seekers and those interested in entering the IT industry.

Networking
Computer Professionals who create, manage and

support networks are in more demand than ever before.

Demand for qualified professionals who can perform the network administration job function has grown dramatically, and candidates as well as the IT industry have indicated that a certification for this job function is a valuable credential.

Certification by Microsoft, one of the leading network providers, distinguishes graduates as outstanding professionals and a valuable company resource.

Howard College offers certifications in networking.

Howard College also offers Microsoft's MCSE and the new MCSA certifications.

Howard College prepares students for CompTIA's Network+ exam, which Microsoft accepts as an elective for the MCSA certification.

Howard College provides quality network training with Microsoft Certified Professionals, using Microsoft Authorized training materials at an exceptional value.

Courses also are offered during evening hours for convenience.

Computer maintenance experts in critical need
Computer maintenance and support personnel who maintain, troubleshoot, and repair computer equipment are in high demand.

Demand for qualified professionals who can perform the job function has grown dramatically, and candidates as well as the IT industry have indicated that an A+ certification is a valuable credential.

Certification by COMPTIA, a global industry association, is recognized as a leading provider of vendor-neutral certifications.

A CompTIA A+ certification can distinguish a student as an outstanding professional and a valuable resource.

Howard College provides quality computer maintenance and troubleshooting experience through hands-on training utilizing CompTIA-recognized training materials. Evening courses



The STEPS Learning Center provides tutorial support for Howard College students, as well as advanced technology training for instructors.

are available.

Web development fuels today's information-seeking consumers
The Internet continues to fuel today's economy. The World Wide Web is an excellent resource for information, a global marketplace, and has tremendous entertainment possibilities.

The bottom line for

today's businesses requires a web presence.

Howard College offers courses and degree programs that develop the skills needed to create effective and profitable web sites.

Students at Howard College work with the latest technologies in data management and presentation, video capture and transmission methods,

such as streaming audio and video, as well as traditional graphic creation tools.

Howard College provides the skills needed to work in this industry.

For information about any of these programs, contact Howard College Workforce Education at 264-5125.

Howard College instructor Kent Easley contributed to this article.

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Airpark to take on a fresh look under new manager

By ROGER CLINE
Staff Writer

Stuff is definitely happening at Big Spring's McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark. Jim Curtiss, formerly of Davenport, Fla., has been in the driver's seat at the airpark just a month and a half and already plans are hatching at the former Webb Air Force Base.



CURTISS

One of the biggest planned projects involves the creation of a giant sod farm in the 1,000-plus acres interspersed between the airport's runways.

"Ultimately we're working with Texas A&M University to sod this entire area," Curtiss said. "Then we're going to harvest the sod and hopefully it will generate between \$400,000 and \$600,000 a year in revenues for us."

The sod Curtiss has in mind to grow was designed especially to flourish in hot, arid environments like West Texas, he said.

"It's a new sod. It's actually a demonstration sod called 'Reveille Bluegrass.' It's a West Texas designed sod. It's drought-resistant, it's green all year round and it's what I want on this airpark."

The sod farm operation shouldn't disrupt the day-to-day workings of the airport, Curtiss said.

"Harvesting, it's just like a mowing machine. It's called a Breller Harvester," he said. "It comes along and cuts up the sod, and as it cuts it, it leaves a little patch and that grows back out over it again, so you're constantly rejuvenating your sod field."

The startup costs for the sod field will be low, Curtiss said.

"We don't think it's going to cost us anything because we're working with Texas A&M to come up with the sod," he said. "The only thing that's going to cost us is our water."

In fact, irrigating the sod will solve a water flow problem at the airpark, Curtiss said.

"The water we have coming out here is a 14-inch line that was put here originally when the Air Force base was here and it was servicing a lot of people," he said. "That line now services this area over here, and that water gets stagnated because we don't pull enough water from that line."

Irrigation will help move the water through the system.

"When I came here we were literally dumping water in two areas, with these big jets and it was just shooting out on the ground," he said. "It served no functional purpose. We decided we were going to use that water for irrigation. The city has said we've got to move that water to keep it potable and in the process of moving that

water we're going to go ahead and irrigate everything on the airport and landscaping and beautify it, so the water is moving and it helps justify it."

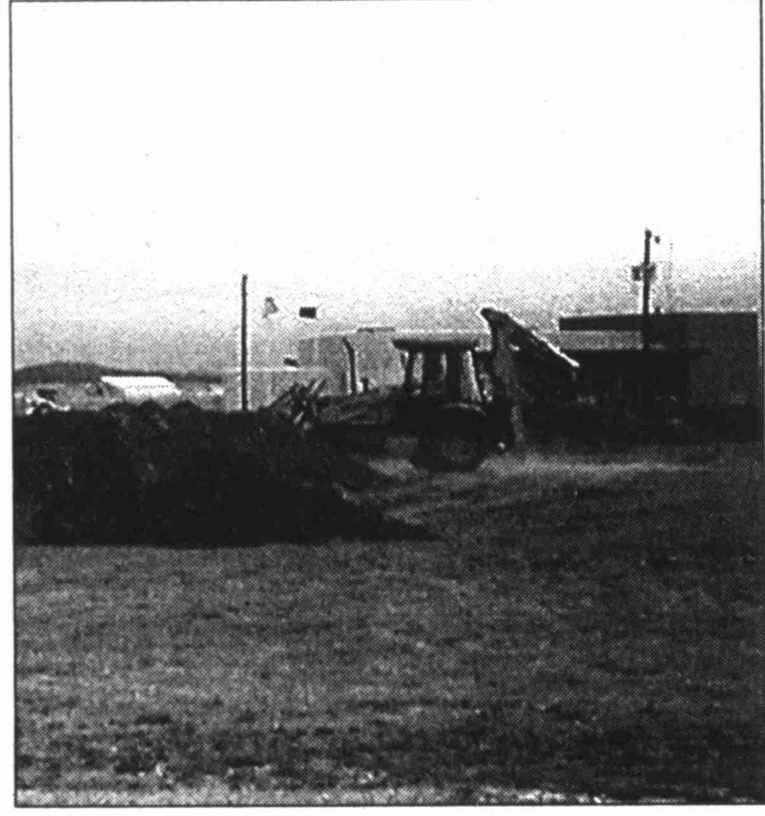
The sod farm will eventually create jobs, Curtiss said.

"This 1,000 acres out here will allow us to do that," he said. "It will generate revenue for the airport, it will help beautify the airport, it serves a functional purpose because right now, as I understand, the closest we have a sod field to us is about 90 miles from here. This will give us a massive sod field that will help provide sod to the city of Big Spring and surrounding areas."

The sod farm ties into a general theme of improving the aesthetics qualities of

All that is happening at McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark is not in the sky. A sod farm and landscaping are just two of the projects under way by new airpark manager Jim Curtiss. The new changes should improve the overall looks of the facility, plus generate some extra income.

HERALD photos/Roger Cline



the air park.

"On all new ventures now, whenever we work on a building we're going to landscape it," Curtiss said, adding that the air park entrance, a triangular plot near the prison, Western Container's parking lot, the entry driveway to the terminal, and several other locations have also been selected for landscaping.

"We're redoing Western Container's parking lot," Curtiss said. "The grading on it was wrong, the drainage on it was improperly done. We're moving the parking lot away from the building by about 25 feet."

Work has already started on landscaped berms which will eventually line the driveway leading to the new airport terminal.

"Basically what the berms

look like is that they will have a rolling effect, and we'll put trees all through it, and the trees will be thick," he said. "They'll have shrubs and flowers and such and they'll be all over this berm."

The berms will hold examples of all the trees that are available for landscaping projects at the air park, Curtiss said.

"We talked to the Texas (Cooperative) Extension Service and they gave us a two-page list of trees that we can plant out here that will survive in West Texas," he said. "We're going to have a little bit of a demonstration of just about everything out there. It will be our initial demonstration of what we can do landscaping-wise."

Another part of the landscaping plan will provide a barrier between the Texas

Department of Criminal Justice's Wilderness Camp, located on the airpark, and the rest of the city.

"We've got a problem there because that's where

they dress down the inmates," Curtiss said. "We're putting in Chatler Junipers over there to block off this whole area and make it more attractive to

drive past, and at the same time give it a wind barrier as well as a privacy barrier."

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Kent

Special to the

Kent Company owned business 50 years, are in West Spring with providing face to their

The company traces back to when E.L. Wickett Refinery president and holder of West Kent Oil Inc. Company in chanced Reed and Reed Company in

Kent took ownership of oil and distribution in 1957 and renamed the Kent Oil Distributors

Operating a service station West Texas Kent Oil Inc. customer Distributors

In the late started its program to in customer base. Thanks to m Texans, this base eventually resent 30 per cent of the company's volume.

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HERALD Staff

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Kent Companies is one of West Texas' largest employers

Special to the Herald

Kent Companies, family owned businesses for almost 50 years, are a proud tradition in West Texas and Big Spring with a reputation of providing fast, friendly service to their customers.

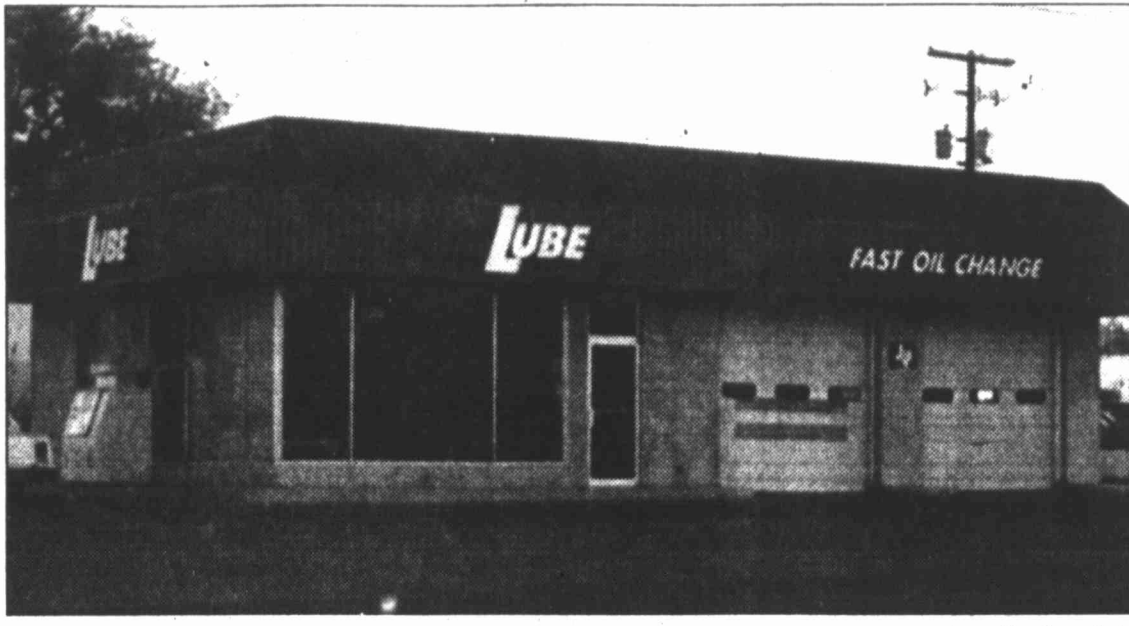
The companies' history traces back to the mid 1950s when E.L. "Buck" Kent, president and major stockholder of Wickett Refining Company in Wickett, purchased Reed Oil Company and Reed Distributing Company in Big Spring.

Kent took 100 percent ownership of the Big Spring oil and distributing companies in 1957 after the sale of Wickett Refining Inc. and renamed the companies Kent Oil Inc. and Kent Distributors Inc.

Operating and owning 27 service stations throughout West Texas at the time, Kent Oil Inc. was the largest customer of Kent Distributors Inc.

In the late 1950s, Kent Oil started its own credit card program to increase its customer base and loyalty. Thanks to many loyal West Texans, this credit card base eventually grew to represent 30 percent of the company's volume.

During the 1960s, Kent Oil grew to operating approximately 75 stations in the



Courtesy photo
Avis Lube Kent Lubrication Center located on Fourth and Goliad was remodeled from a Kent Lubrication Center. Avis Lube provides fluid maintenance including oil change, transmission service, radiator service and differential service.

Permian Basin, Texas Panhandle, El Paso and New Mexico and supplying fuel to the local 7-Elevens, Colonial Food Stores and hundreds of other accounts.

Expanding service stations into convenience stores in 1975 marked a new direction for the companies. Selling retail gasoline by itself was a marginally profitable business. Buck Kent and his son, Jim decided to expand into the convenience store market by taking the company's better

retail outlets and transforming them into convenience stores. During the transformation, the company sold or closed 75 outlets.

The companies underwent a change in leadership in 1978 when Bill Kent, Buck's youngest child, joined the companies full-time after graduating from Arizona State University. Jim resigned to pursue his own business interests.

Bill continued his brother's strategy of expanding into the convenience store

business while exiting the service station business. By 1984, Bill, the executive vice president at the time, took over the ownership of Kent Companies from Buck, who had decided to retire.

During the change of ownership, the companies operated 12 high-volume convenience stores, a few service stations and six Kent Lubrication Centers, another family business. Bill assumed a majority of ownership in Kent Lube in the sale.

A new concept, Kent Lubrication Centers, formed by the Kent Family in 1976, was the first to offer fast oil change service in West Texas.

Tom Kent, one of Buck's sons, was instrumental in bringing this new concept to the Permian Basin by convincing his father to build several "quick lubes" as a test.

The fast oil change business went through some difficult beginnings since the concept of having one's oil change, chassis lubricated, floors vacuumed, windows washed, tires and all fluid

levels checked in only 10 short minutes without an appointment was not only a new concept in the 1970s but also a slow one to gain acceptance.

The new facility start-up costs and high advertising expenses to build consumer awareness and volume made for several difficult years but today the business thrives.

As the largest fast oil change operation in West Texas today, Kent Lubrication Centers service more than 250,000 vehicles per year with stores in Big Spring, Odessa, Midland, San Angelo, Abilene and one in Phoenix, Ariz.

The company has continued to grow and thrive through the ups and downs of the West Texas economy, an accomplishment made through the great service provided by the company's many dedicated team members.

In 1988, Kent Lubrication Centers agreed to become a franchisee of Avis Services

Inc., operator of Avis Lube fast Oil Change Centers. Avis Lube is a subsidiary of Avis Inc., a world leader in the rental car business.

In August of 1991, the franchise agreement was terminated and the company entered into a licensee agreement with Avis.

Today all 15 units operate under the Avis Lube Fast Oil Change Center name.

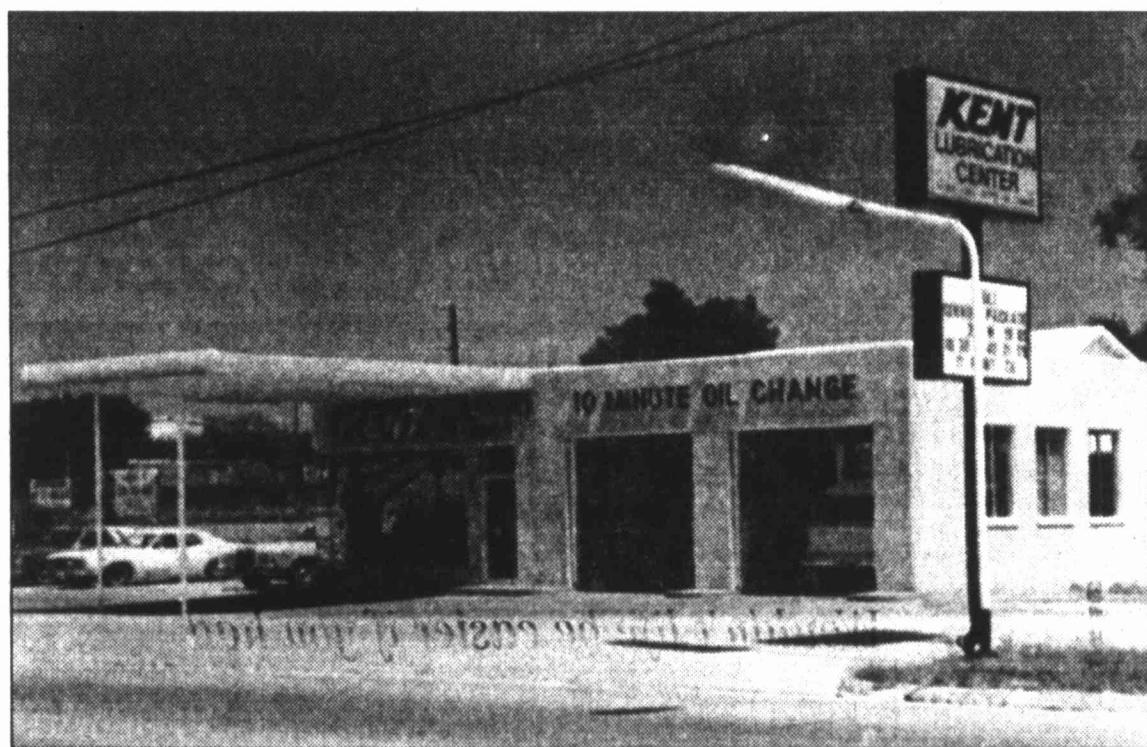
The Avis Lube in Big Spring is located at Fourth and Goliad and provides fluid maintenance including oil change, transmission service, radiator service and differential service.

Kent Companies continue to grow today through the dedication and hard work of all the company's team members.

Kent Companies is one of the larger employers in West Texas, operating 15 Avis Lube Fast Oil Change Centers, 24 Kent Kwik stores, 12 Mr. Payroll check cashing outlets and two Baskin-Robbins ice cream franchises.



Courtesy photo
Shown is a picture of the original Kent Distributing and Kent Oil office building in Big Spring. In the late 1950s, E.L. "Buck" Kent took 100 percent of the Reed Oil Company and Reed Distributing Company in Big Spring. Kent Companies is one of the larger employers in West Texas, operating 24 Kent Kwik stores, 12 Mr. Payroll check cashing outlets and two Baskin-Robbins ice cream franchises.



Courtesy photo
Kent Lubrication Centers such as this one located in Big Spring before it was remodeled were the first businesses in West Texas to offer fast oil change service.

Wilderness Camp inmates save city, other entities thousands of dollars

HERALD Staff Report

Though they are often taken for granted, inmates from the Wilderness Camp in Howard County have made a huge contribution to the appearance of the city as well as saving the community millions of dollars since they began work in September 1994.

Becky Crane, parks and recreation supervisor, does all the scheduling of work

for the inmates. She works closely with the supervisory staff of the Wilderness Camp, making sure of their availability and working out all the arrangements.

City officials estimate that the inmates save the city and other entities about \$50,000 a month.

A few of the projects they have helped in include the renovation of the Howard College day care center, Howard Cottage; the play-

ground area at Comanche Trail Park (monkey house area); and the Moss Creek Lake renovation, which lasted about four months.

Wilderness Camp inmates helped cleaned up the area after the Permian Building was demolished. They have constructed a new pavilion, boarded up and secured the Howard House before it was demolished and cleaned up

See **CAMP**, Page 4E

Vision

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Courtesy photo
Pictured are our newest agents, Brad Lentz, Daleca Moore and Pat Hardison. Not pictured is Lana Webster, who served as Coldwell Banker's secretary for two years and then acquired her salesperson's license.

Coldwell Banker continues to grow at a very steady rate

Special to the Herald

Coldwell Banker Ellen Phillips Realtors has added four new staff members since October 2001, indicating that there is economic growth and recovery in Big Spring since Sept. 11.

Coldwell Banker Ellen Phillips Realtors merged with Coldwell Banker Sun Country Realtors in June 2000, creating one large company which has served Big Spring since 1981.

Now with a staff of 13 licensed salespersons and brokers and the backing of the number one franchise in North America, the professional staff at Coldwell Banker Ellen Phillips Realtors has the tools and programs to make your sale or purchase of real estate a totally satisfying experience.

Our newest agents bring with them a myriad of experience. Brad Lentz is retired from the oil business and has been attending American Sign Language classes at SWCID and hopes to be of special service to our hearing-impaired residents.

Our company tries to be sensitive to the needs of hearing-impaired persons and to be knowledgeable of the deaf culture.

Daleca Moore, formerly

Properties can be viewed at www.coldwellbanker.com or www.ellenphillips.com

with Howard College, recent college graduate and mother of four, has fulfilled a long-time dream of becoming a realtor.

Daleca understands the unique needs of large families, whether buying or selling real estate. Pat Hardison, lifetime Big Spring/Howard County resident, is another fulfillment of a lifelong desire to pursue the attainment of a real estate license. Pat has been a businesswoman all her adult life, both with her own decorated denim clothing line, as well as being part-owner of Hardison Appliance.

Lana Webster functions both as a salesperson and assistant to the broker. She has been a Texas resident for three years, is our youngest sales associate and has an abundance of energy and enthusiasm for her business.

All our four newest sales associates have had rigorous instruction in the most current real estate methods, techniques and current laws.

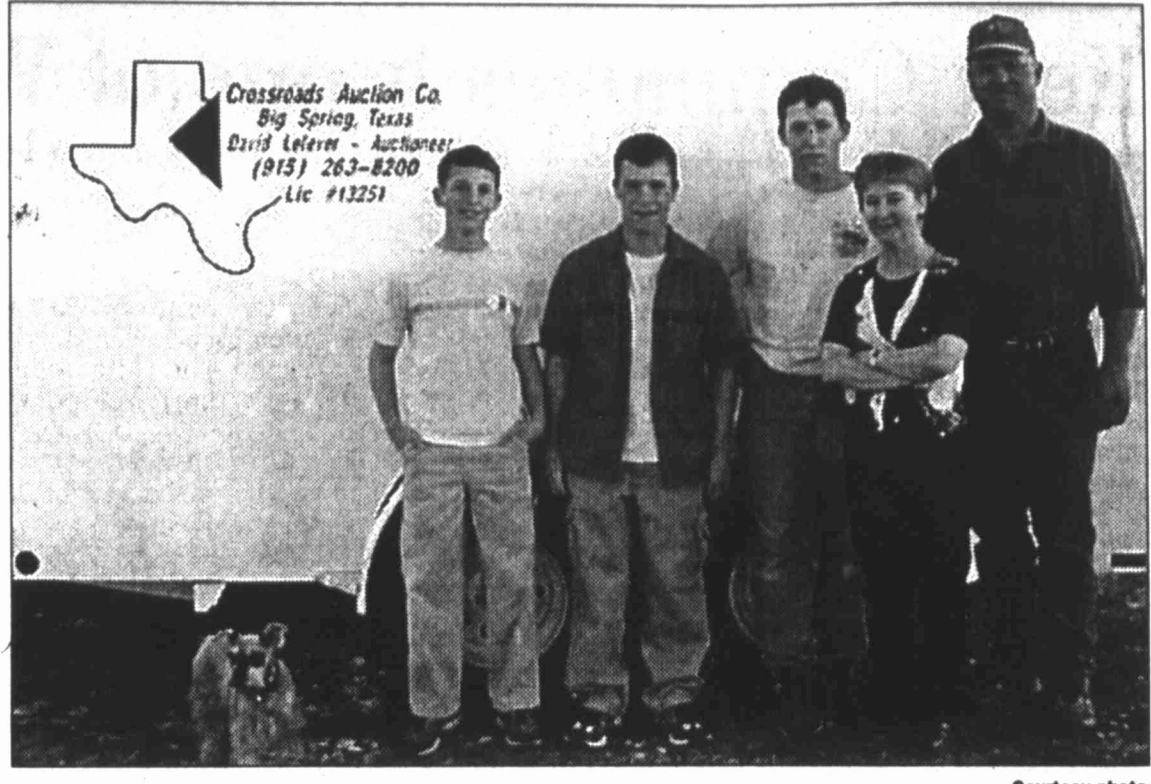
In addition, they have had extensive in-house training in contract writing and Coldwell Banker methods

by sales manager Linda Fernandez.

Brad, Lana, Daleca and Pat stand ready to assist buyers and sellers in Big Spring and Howard County. Come by and meet our newest sales associates and let Big Spring's largest real estate firm work for you.

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Courtesy photo
David LeFever, right, owner of Crossroads Auction Company, poses with his family. From left, sons Shelby, Cody and Justin and wife Rhonda all pitch in to make the family-run business a success. The family's dog Trixie, left, enjoys posing for photographs but is not a Crossroads Auction employee, LeFever said.

Crossroads Auction Company building local family business

By ROGER CLINE

Staff Writer
The LeFever family is building a family business in Big Spring.

Crossroads Auction Company, founded by David LeFever, said they've been in the business for two years.

"This is a family deal," he said. "Me and my wife, and we've got three sons. My wife, she does the clerking and my kids, they're the ring men, or they move stuff around and hold it up or whatever."

The company can handle auctions from start to finish, he said.

"We go and do the set up, the advertising. We do everything and we send them a check," he said.

The company specializes in estate auctions.

"I can do just about any auction, probably, but right now we're kind of specializing in estate auctions,"

LeFever said. "We do clean up, we do set up, There's a lot more to an auction than people think."

LeFever said he doesn't use the fast-talking auctioneer style many people think of when they think of auctions.

"With estate auctions, you have to kind of go slow," he said. "There are people who

might never have been to an auction before, so you have to go a little bit slow and be a little more plain so they understand it."

Just about anything can turn up at estate auctions, he said.

"We sell anything from antique furniture, regular

See AUCTION, Page 6E

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CAMP

Continued from Page 3E

the Mt. Olive Cemetery.

In addition, they have spruced up the Howard College Rodeo grounds, taken care of the grounds at SouthWest Collegiate Institute For The Deaf, worked on the new training room above the city council chambers and most worked in the clean-up of the area where the Apache Bend Apartments stood.

Two summers ago, they were kept busy on various clean-up projects including cleaning of the right of way to the Big Spring State Park. They also worked on the Heart of the City Park and put in many hours at the new library/courthouse project.

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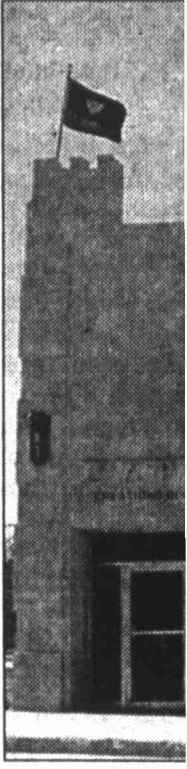
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By DEBBIE L.

Special to the

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"People that the time ha prised by th said Laura, rearranged jus thing and add gift items to dise. "We just



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By LYNDEL M

Staff Writer

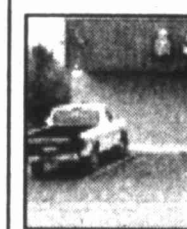
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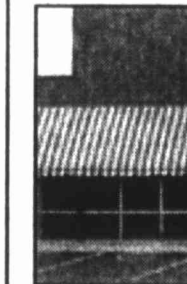
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Under new ownership

Dakota's Flowers and Gifts adding new lines of merchandise

By DEBBIE L. JENSEN
Special to the Herald

New owners Laura and Duane Murphree have changed quite a bit about Dakota's Flowers and Gifts, but the thing people notice first is the appearance inside the store.

"People that shop here all the time have been surprised by the new look," said Laura, who has rearranged just about everything and added lots of new gift items to the merchandise. "We just plan to grow a

little bit."

Some of the new items are well-known favorites that shoppers frequently request.

"We just got in some Circle E candles," she said. "Those are very popular."

Still other additions to the store's merchandise are unusual or even one-of-a-kind. Check out the selection of limestone carvings, including figurines and crosses.

The store now carries a large selection of gift items

that are available for delivery.

"We always have flowers, and those are great to deliver to someone on almost any occasion," said Laura. "But there are times when flowers just aren't right, but you still want delivery."

Forget a birthday or other special occasion? Want to say "Thanks" or "Way to go" to a friend? Laura said gift delivery is really catching around town.

Planning a wedding? Dakota's already has cande-

labrum and arches available for rental, not to mention custom bouquets and all the other necessary florals for the entire wedding party. When you stop by the store at 1110 11th Place, check out the new bridal area created to show off the many choices and arrangements.

But Laura is planning soon to add a selection of invitations, monogrammed napkins and other wedding necessities to make the store a one-stop wedding shop for couples. With one

visit to Dakota's, they can take care of a lot of those details.

There are plenty of religious items, too, including various designs of angels and crosses. The store still specializes in custom silk arrangements that are legend with regular customers.

"They last forever and we can match them to any décor," said Laura. "My designer just works magic."

Of course there are still living plants and fresh flowers available at Dakota's for

every occasion. And Mother's Day, one of the biggest floral holidays of the year, is just around the corner. For those who plan ahead, it's not too early to pick out something beautiful for Mom.

For Laura, a former school secretary, her new job is quite a change. But spending time around all those beautiful things all day, she said, is a great way to make a living.

"I'm having a blast," she said.



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

The outside of the Dahmer's building, 204, 206, 208 Main, was recently remodeled to look like a castle. The building and business will undergo many changes over the next few years as Dahmer's strives to become a unique marketplace in West Texas.

Dahmer's features unique look, royal treatment for customers

By LYNDEL MOODY

Staff Writer

At the Crossroads of Texas, customers receive the royal treatment at Dahmer's as the business strives to become a unique spot in West Texas.

Located at 204-208 Main Street in downtown Big Spring, Dahmer's stands out with its newly renovated castle facade, flowing flags and medieval knights that guard the entrance to one of the three businesses located in the structure.

The building includes Dahmer's Antiques, Dahmer's Imporia and the soon-to-be-open Dahmer's Gallery (Capps Gallery) that will feature bronze work.

Dahmer's has been in business in Howard County

"We put our customer's needs first. Any special requests will be met."

since 1976, selling antiques and collectibles and is owned by Tony and Vicki Dahmer, who are collectors themselves.

The castle facade is just the first of many changes to the building and business coming in the next few years.

They plan to offer unique gifts for both men and women.

"We will handle products not available in a 500 mile radius," Vicki said.

Customers will soon be browsing through selections

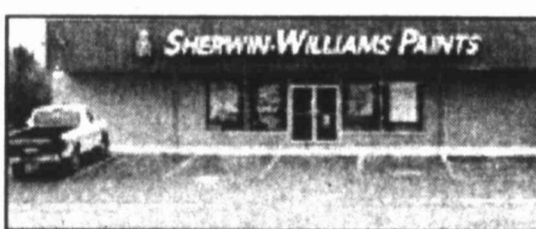
of Louis XIV reproduction furniture, fine art and glass and character collectibles, a selection of products for everyone.

"We put our customer's needs first. Any special requests will be met," Vicki said.

Dahmer's Gallery (Capps Gallery) will feature the artwork of bronze artist Jake Capps. The couple owns the artists copywrite.

The business will be offering special services for its clients, including gift wrapping, shipping and a Web site for on-line shopping.

"Through our portals pass the kings and queens of the world," is a phrase that will be inscribed above one entrance as customers will be given the West Texas royal treatment.



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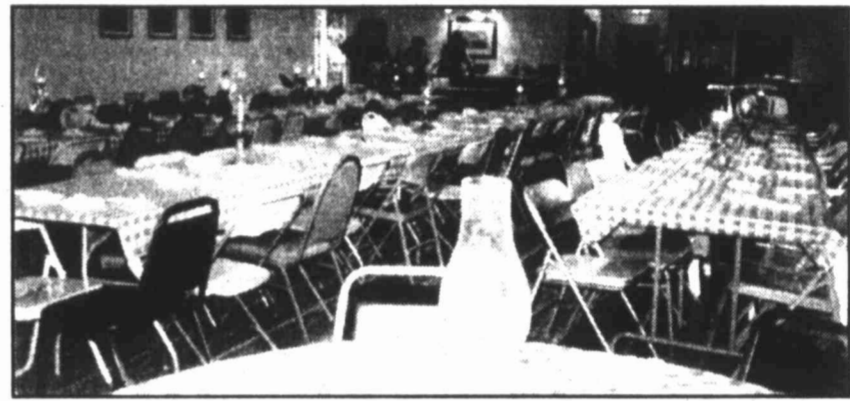
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Wiggins Chiropractic offers natural health care

By ANDREA MEDLIN

Features Editor

"Chiropractic care is better health through natural care and it works," says Michelle Wiggins, owner of Wiggins Chiropractic located at 1512 Scurry.

Wiggins opened her office in June 2000 after moving to Big Spring from Midland.

"I graduated from here in 1988 and got my license at Dallas Park College of Chiropractic."

She obtained a doctor of chiropractic along with a bachelor's degree in science and is a member of the Texas Chiropractic Association, the American Association of Chiropractic and the Rotary Club.

Wiggins offers regular adjustments and therapy and has introduced stone massage to the services she provides.

"Stone massage is a massage with warm stones. It is an ancient oriental practice," she explains.

Chiropractic care can provide relief from a wide range of ailments, pain or suffering. Doctors in this field are required to com-

plete six years of academic study with two years preparatory and four years professional.

The required subjects are similar to those found at medical schools including anatomy, physiology, chemistry, psychology and obstetrics.

Chiropractic products are available at her office as well, including support pillows, Biofreeze ointments, and other related products.

As an added convenience, Wiggins files all insurance claims including Medicare.

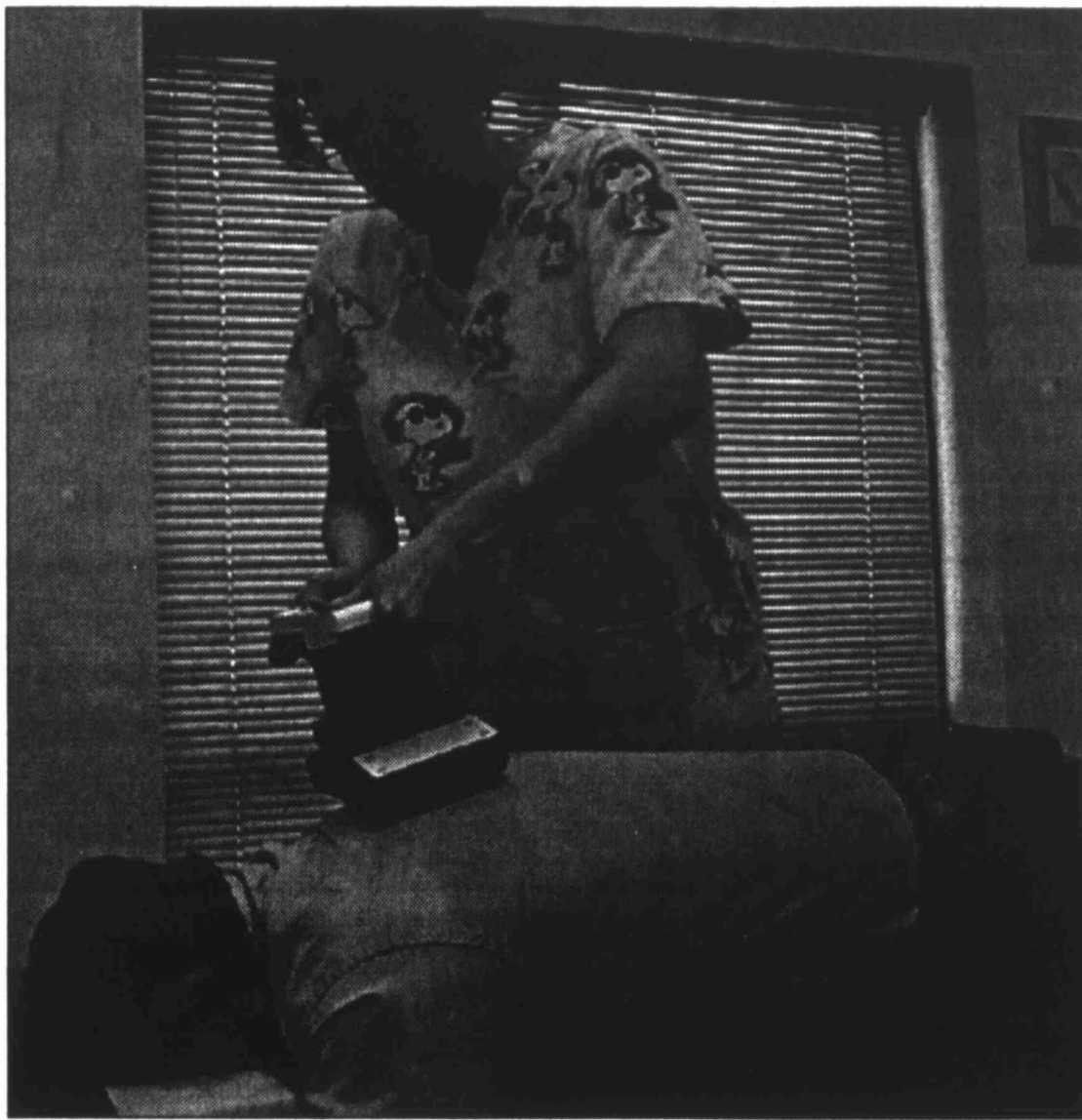
At present she operates the business herself but is planning to expand soon and will offer more services.

"I will soon be expanding and will offer X-ray services," she says.

For more information or to schedule an appointment call 268-1711.

Michelle Wiggins, owner of Wiggins Chiropractic, massages the back of patient Tip Baker who is a regular client.

HERALD Photo/Andrea Medlin



Now is a good time to invest

A.G. Edwards continues to grow

By ANDREA MEDLIN

Features Editor

Despite fluctuations in the market, the second biggest market crash in history in 1987 and the tragic death of its branch manager the Big Spring office, A.G. Edwards has continued to operate since it opened its doors in 1986.

"The office started with three employees," said assistant manager Forrest Wester, adding that the branch has since gone through two growth periods. The number of employees "went up to seven then the branch manager was killed in an accident. The office fell on hard times and the number fell back to three," he said.

"As it reflects what is happening in our economy, the stock market has been on quite a roller coaster ride."

In 1986 the market was trading in the 2,000's and it has escalated through the years," said Wester. The market saw its second worst bond collapse in history in 1987. The market fell 500 points in 1987 but rose to 3,500 in 1995 and topped out at 11,750 in 2000, he said.

This rise in the market mostly came with the high technology stock, i.e., computers, servers, and telecommunication (cell phones and pagers), according to statistics.

"It then started to retreat through 2000 and 2001 as much as 70 and 80 percent

due to the fall of high tech, telecommunications and Internet," he said, adding that although a tremendous amount went bankrupt, some companies such as Yahoo!, E-Bay and Amazon.com have weathered the tough times virtually unscathed.

In deference to the devastation caused by Sept. 11, the DOW auspiciously rebounded after bottoming out at 8,062 and is now trading at 10,500.

"We are seeing good economic news and we believe the recession is over. It is a very good time for people to invest now because the market is stable," said Wester.

And for those who are still wary, A.G. Edwards is offering a security blanket for its clients.

"What we're doing for clients is offering variable annuities. This allows our clients to still invest in the stock market and bond market but, yet there is an insurance wrapper around the product," Wester explained, adding that there is a 5 percent rate of return guarantee and the client, "can draw out now or let it grow. The insurance guarantees the principal that is put into the product."

"Investors are fearful of future lows, but we do not see that. We think markets will trend higher and I encourage people to invest for the long term or for a lifetime. Don't invest for



RHONDA MURPHREE AND FORREST WESTER

short term. CD buyers should buy short term — six months. Eventually the rates will be higher," he said.

The Big Spring office now has 14 employees and offers a variety of services, including annuities, CD's, stocks, bonds, business retirement plans, estate and financial planning, IRA's, life insurance, mutual funds, options,

check writing asset accounts and money market accounts.

For Big Spring and its other clients A.G. Edwards offers personal visits to their homes or office and is interested in long term rela-

See EDWARDS, Page 7E

AUCTION

Continued from Page 4E

furniture, appliances," he said. "You've got glassware, pots and pans, any kind of collectible or old items."

Regular daily-wear clothes are about the only thing the auction company doesn't deal in, he said.

"Anything in the house or the estate," he said. "We sell everything except, basically, clothes, like in the bedroom, in the dresser drawers, underwear, and stuff like that."

"We bag it up and if it's OK with the person doing the auction, we donate it to the Salvation Army or the state hospital or somebody like that."

"Clothes in a closet, sometimes old clothes, we'll sell the whole closetful. Sometimes old clothes are kind of collectible."

People can watch for auction announcements in the Big Spring Herald classifieds, he said.



LEFEVER

Kenn

By ROGER CLIN

Staff Writer

Kenn Const has been remodeling and expanding his businesses around for 16 years.

The business John and Tana both Big Spring whose families several generations ago — does home improve custom kitchen rooms to hand nets, from roof additions.

"Two weeks a custom shower in some people John said "W entire inside. We we fixed the ca the floor work some of the e just totally redid end to the other

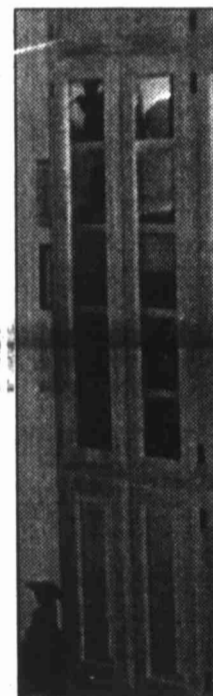
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"We put in s limestone cou we roofed two the MHMR bu town, which w roof," he said.

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John got his struction in here in Big Spr won a local v competition.

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EDWARD

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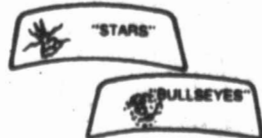
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Kenn Construction handles all types of remodeling, roofing

By ROGER CLINE
Staff Writer

Kenn Construction has been remodeling and expanding homes and businesses around Big Spring for 16 years.

The business — run by John and Tana Kennemur, both Big Spring natives whose families stretch back several generations in the area — does all kind of home improvements, from custom kitchens and bathrooms to handmade cabinets, from roofing to room additions.

"Two weeks ago we built a custom shower, a tile shower in some people's house," John said. "We redid the entire inside. We painted it, we fixed the cabinets, redid the floor work. We redid some of the exterior. We just totally redid it from one end to the other."

The company's agenda last week involved a lot of roofing, he said.

"We put in some custom limestone countertop and we roofed two houses and the MHMR building downtown, which was a \$22,000 roof," he said. "So that was a rather busy week. Basically, if it has to do with a property, we do it."

John got his start in construction in high school here in Big Spring, when he won a local woodworking competition.

"I worked for a local guy here all through high school," he said. "Then I went to college and got a degree in construction."

John's degree is from the Texas State Technical College in Waco.

"From there I went to Austin and built lots of houses," he said, adding that he was a supervisor with his construction company there. "I got out of there right before the economy collapsed the last time. Before I left there, I had \$8 million worth of property under my supervision."

John came back to Big Spring and started Kenn Construction. In between working on other peoples' homes, he works on his own.

"One end of this house to the other, we've redone," he said. "This used to be a flat ceiling. We tore it out and we vaulted it and put in all these little niches. These bookcases, we built them, the fireplace and the doors."

A tour through the Kennemur's home is like walking through some kind of modern cathedral — vaulted ceilings, indirect lighting and beautiful appointments.

"This house was originally a HUD repo house," Tana said. "We've been working on it for 15 years in our off time."

John is the area's only certified home inspector, he said.

"We do the only local home inspection," he said. "I have a degree in construction and I am also a certified building inspector. We do the work every day, so I actually know what I'm looking at when I get out

there." The certification comes from the Southern Building Code Congress.

"You have to apprentice under somebody for, I believe 200 inspections," he said. "You have to have two years of college. It's kind of hard to get the license."

People who are buying a house would be wise to have it inspected beforehand, Tana said.

"These inspections are for people who are buying a new home and wish to get some idea of it's condition," she said, adding that inspections are also a good idea for people selling their home, to get it in shape before the sale.

Kenn boasts a work crew that has been working together for 12 years, John said.

"We do lots of roofing," Tana said. "Lots and lots and lots of roofing."

The experience working together is important, John said.

"We do a bunch of large projects, but we're real small," he said. "It's usually me and two or three hands. I've got a roofing crew that's been with me for over 12 years, which is very unusual. Most of these roofers, when they need a hand, they hire whoever they can find. We've got the same people that have been roofing all these houses time and time again."

Projects Kenn has roofed include Citizens Federal Credit Union, Faye's Flowers and repair work on



HERALD photo/Roger Cline
From roofing, to beautiful interiors, Kenn Construction can make your home a place to treasure. The firm's dedicated, experienced employees tackle all sorts of jobs, and tailor-fit them to the individual customer.

Elrod's Furniture.

Lack of skilled workers is a problem in Big Spring, but the Kennemurs make a point of not letting new, untried employees loose on a home by themselves.

"Everybody around here has trouble with help," John said. "A lot of these companies that are bigger, they hire these guys and say 'Oh great. You're a carpenter. Here's a job,' and they send them to these people's house."

The company has the ability to design home remodel-

ing and addition jobs to the customer's tastes, John said, but they also work with pre-existing plans.

"I'm working on one right now, a garage for a gentleman," he said. "If it's anything real complicated, we don't. There's just not enough time in the day."

Tana added that the company works to the customer's desires.

"A lot of times people come to us with set ideas about what they want and how they want it, and we work with that," she said.

"Other times it's like, We have this much room. We want this because of our bathroom. Design it. And we'll do that for them and make them happy."

The company usually doesn't venture into complete home building, but nothing is impossible for them.

"Remodeling and paint jobs, mostly," John said. "We've got one guy we're talking to about a home, but mostly just remodeling and roofing."



HERALD photo/Roger Cline
Whether it is a business or home, Kenn Construction has the experience to tackle the job. With a work crew that has been together 12 years, Kenn provides quality, professional results.

EDWARDS

Continued from Page 6E

tionships.

"We design detailed financial strategies taking in account their investment needs and their ability to take risks, their current and future tax liabilities and any other personal considerations that might impact their investment decisions," explained Wester, who

describes A.G. Edwards' typical client as being those who have retired, have 401 K rollover and want to know how to draw an income from it, how to leave assets for their kids and how to protect their estate from Uncle Sam.

Although Forrest and his wife Karla work in Midland they make their home in Big Spring. Karla graduated

from Big Spring High School and met her husband while attending Abilene Christian University.

Forrest is a 1976 graduate of Dallas Christian University and both Westers hold accounting degrees.

They have two children Ryan, 18, and Rachel, 16, who both attend Big Spring High School.

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Pierce GM Country means customer satisfaction

Special to the Herald

Pierce GMC Cadillac Buick Oldsmobile Pontiac is located at 202 South 3rd Street in Lamesa. The dealership is only 45 minutes north of Big Spring. If you would like to call the dealership and ask any questions before driving to Lamesa, our toll free number is 800-530-4544.

Pierce GMC Cadillac Buick Olds Pontiac was formerly Bob Brown Motors. Shannon W. Pierce has been at the dealership for more than four years and changed to name of the dealership to Pierce GM Country in November 2000. Pierce has more than 17 years automobile experience. The dealership employees have more than 300 years combined experience in sales, service and parts.

"We want our customers to feel good about doing business with our dealership," Pierce said. "We have invested a lot of time and money in upgrading our facilities, getting certified training for our employees and investing in state of the art technology so that our customers are satisfied. We invest in people. We are not any better than our customers and are only as good as our employees."

Pierce GM Country is a full line dealership. The dealership was established in 1967.

"Robert (Bob) Brown has always done good business," Pierce said. "He took pride in building a good, respectable automobile business over the years. All we had to do is update the dealership, get some employee training and stock more inventory."

At Pierce GM Country in Lamesa, you can choose from five different new automobiles lines. They are GMC trucks, Cadillac, Buick, Oldsmobile and

Pontiac. We stock over 75 new units at a time. We will special order you a new vehicle and have it available for delivery in six to eight weeks. A customer will benefit from a lower price if they special order a vehicle from the dealership.

The reason special ordering a vehicle is becoming so popular is because the customer gets exactly what they want in and on a vehicle. Our dealership will sell the customer a new vehicle at a lower price because we don't have any stocking fees or have to pay any interest on the vehicle. Its as easy as 1,2,3. So come order your new vehicle today.

If you are not in the market for a new vehicle, Pierce GM Country has over 65 preowned GM-certified used cars and trucks and used vehicles in stock at all times. Now that General Motors has the Certified Preowned Vehicle Program, we can offer our customers three-month/3,000 miles extra on their basic factory warranty for a total of 39 months/39,000 miles basic factory warranty on all certified preowned GM vehicles except Cadillac. We offer our Certified Preowned Cadillac customers a six-year/100,000 mile Basic GM Certified warranty from the time the vehicle was put in service.

With a certified GM preowned vehicle we are able to offer our customers 6.9 percent financing with approved credit. General Motors and GMAC are supporting their dealers so we can be competitive with our pricing and financing.

Our preowned used vehicles are hand picked at factory GM auctions or are trade in vehicles. We have a wide variety of preowned cars and trucks. Our prices are very competitive. We have a lot of one owner low mileage trade ins since we



Pierce GMC Cadillac Buick Oldsmobile Pontiac wants customers to feel good about doing business with the dealership. At Pierce GMC, customers come first.

are in a smaller town.

"I like to be able to tell a customer the background on a used vehicle that we have in stock," said Pierce. "That means a lot to a customer when they are buying a preowned vehicle. We stand behind our preowned used vehicles. We want our customers completely satisfied."

At Pierce GM Country we want our customers to come first. We want your business after the sale. If we do our customers a good job then they are our best advertising. "Word of Mouth" is the best advertising we could possibly have, said Pierce. So come to Lamesa and let us take care of your automotive needs.

Pierce GM Country in Lamesa has low overhead which allows us to sell our vehicles at a more competi-

tive price. New vehicles cost the same from the manufacturer to the dealership. So we can sell a vehicle as cheap and maybe cheaper than big city dealers. We may not have the selection of vehicles that the big city dealers have but we offer a special locator service to customers that allows us to find the vehicle that you want.

So there's no reason for the citizens of Big Spring not to come to Lamesa and purchase vehicles from Pierce GM Country or get their vehicle serviced.

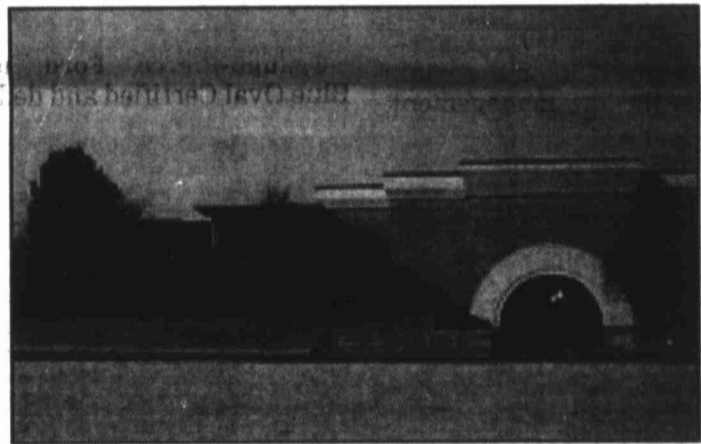
Lamesa has something to offer someone that drives to Pierce GM Country. In Lamesa we have one of the only drive-in theaters in West Texas. Sky View offers two different showings of the latest box office movies. Lamesa also has some fine

restaurants, great shops and wonderful people. If nothing else, come go to the drive-in.

"Drive a little, save a lot," said Pierce. If Pierce GM Country can't clobber those big city prices we'll buy

your gas to send you home. If we do trade with you, we'll buy your gas to get you home. So all you are out is your time. We look forward to seeing you at Pierce GM Country in Lamesa.

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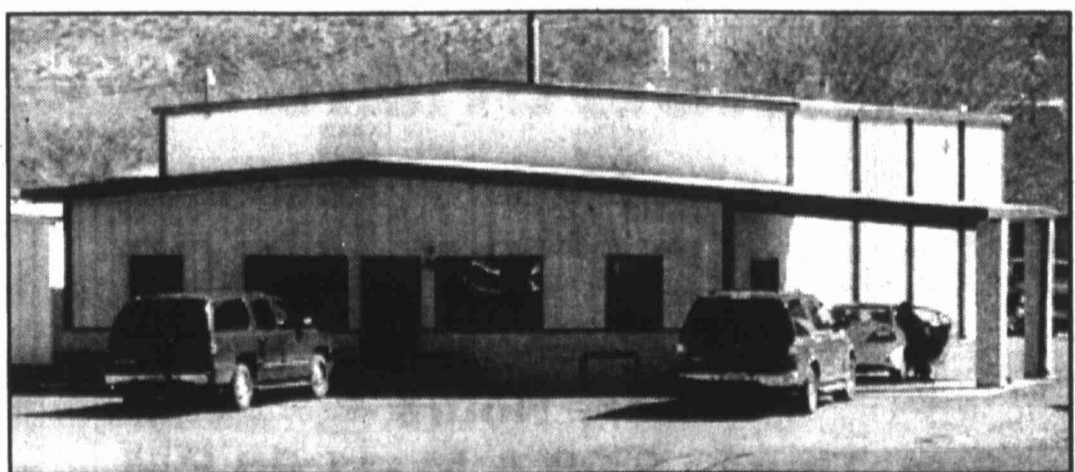


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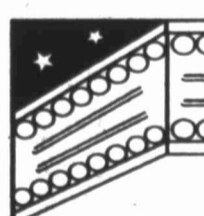
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Spaugh-Pierce Ford invites all friends and past customers to come by or give them a call. The businesses is open Monday through Saturday.

Spaugh-Pierce is the only place to go for all your automotive and truck needs

Special to the Herald

Spaugh-Pierce Ford will be the place to save on a new Ford, Lincoln or Mercury

Spaugh-Pierce Ford Lincoln Mercury, formerly McLaughlin Ford Lincoln Mercury is ready to serve the needs of area car and truck buyers.

Chuck Spaugh and Shannon Pierce are the owners of Spaugh-Pierce Ford Lincoln Mercury. Chuck will be the manger of the dealership, and all of the employees that have been at the dealership will remain under the new management.

Spaugh-Pierce Ford, along with GM Country, will offer car and truck buyers in the area a bigger selection of new and used cars and trucks.

Inventories in all areas will be increased, with a good selection of Ford cars and pickups, Lincoln luxury cars and the tradition of the Mercury Grand Marquis and Mountaineer. The new and exciting Ford Thunderbird should be arriving later this month. This is one of the most sought-after new cars on the market.

Spaugh-Pierce Ford is Blue Oval Certified and ded-

icated to providing the finest in sales and service. A full staff of factory-trained service technicians will assure customers receive service after the sale. Spaugh-Pierce Ford Lincoln Mercury is happy to guarantee fast, friendly service in a relaxed atmosphere.

Spaugh and Pierce would like to invite all their friends and past customers to come by or give them a call. There is a better way to buy a new car or truck. Call Spaugh-Pierce Ford for a better deal; they will make buying a new or used car or truck a pleasant and rewarding experience.

Spaugh-Pierce Ford Lincoln Mercury is located at 1207 South Lynn in Lamesa. For more information, contact the dealership at (806) 872-2188 or 1-800-658-6230. You can also visit online at lamesaford.com

Spaugh-Pierce Ford Lincoln Mercury is open from 8:30 a.m. until 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. on Saturday. The service department is open weekdays.



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HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody
Three-year-old Tyler Sparks gives 3-year-old Ricky Prater a push during playtime at Hillcrest Baptist Church. The church offers a state licensed daycare center.

Hillcrest Baptist invites you to come learn and grow in God's holy word

Special to the Herald

Originally organized as a mission, Hillcrest Baptist Church continues to grow and offer services to the community.

The church was formally organized on Dec. 1, 1951, as a mission to the First Baptist Church and held services in an old barracks building, formerly used as a Boy Scout Hut on Lancaster.

The original congregation totaled 40 charter members, a few who are still with the church today. The mission continued to

grow and became a self-supporting church in 1956. The church moved to its current location, 2000 W. FM 700, in 1978, and today averages about 200-plus members for Sunday service. In 2000, Kevin G. Parker became the pastor of the church.

The church offers a child development center, providing quality, loving day-care for approximately 150 children daily, ages from 18 months to 5 years old.

A state-licensed child care center, Hillcrest fol-

See HILLCREST, Page 10E

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Sid Richardson Carbon Black has been in business since 1961

Special to the Herald

The Sid Richardson Carbon Black plant was built in 1961 with the latest technology for the time.

The old process was called "Channel Black," and plants could be seen for miles due to the amount of carbon black escaping into the air.

The new technology when the plant was built was called "Furnace Black." With the new process, it is difficult to determine that a plant is running, due to the lack of carbon black escaping into the air.

When the plant was built in 1960, it was made up of two production units. Since that time, Sid Richardson Carbon Co. has expanded the plant twice, once by adding a unit and the other by increasing production capability. The company has continued to improve the process and reduce emissions as well.

The company's corporate headquarters are located in Fort Worth. The Carbon Black division is made up of three plants, two in Texas and one in Louisiana. The company also has a natural gas gathering and processing division.

These natural gas facilities are located in West Texas and eastern New Mexico.

The Big Spring location employs 70 people. The average employee tenure with the company is 15 years.

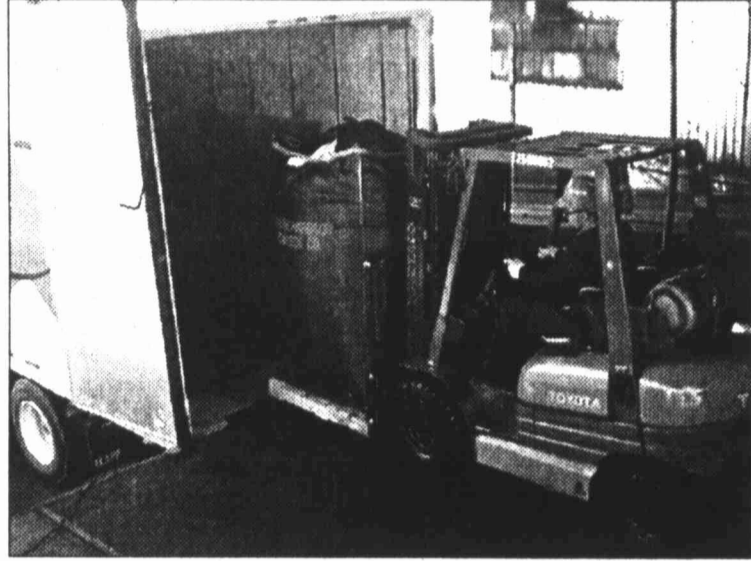
Carbon Black is produced using three main raw materials: air, gas and Carbon Black oil. The Carbon Black oil is very heavy oil purchased from several refineries and with the local ALON refinery supplying a large portion of what the company uses.

Inside the Carbon Black production furnace, natural gas and air are mixed and burned. The Carbon Black oil is then sprayed into this hot atmosphere and the result is a heavy smoke.

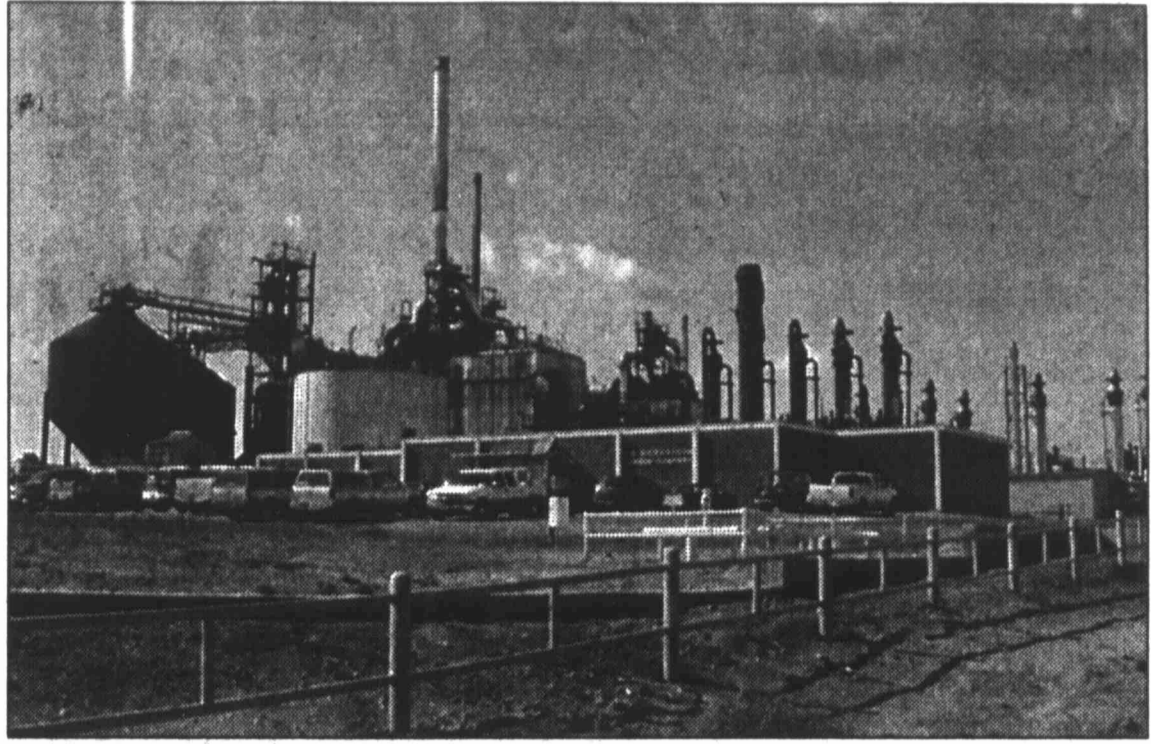
This smoke consists of Carbon Black particles. The remainder of the process is needed to separate the product from the gases of combustion and convert the Carbon Black particles into a form that can be more easily packaged and shipped to the customers.

The Black is shipped by railroad hopper cars and hopper trucks.

The product made in the Big Spring plant is sold to most of the major tire manufacturers and is heavily used in the tread portion of the automobile and agricultural tires the general public purchases.



Eric Gang, an employee of Sid Richardson Carbon Black company, loads a sack of the Carbon Black product into a van for transportation.



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

Sid Richardson Carbon Black Big Spring plant, shown here, makes Carbon Black that is sold to most of the major tire manufacturers and heavily used in the tread portion of the automobile and agricultural tires.

Through Main Street Inc. Big Spring downtown area looks toward future

By **LYNDEL MOODY**
Staff Writer

From promoting thriving business, to beautification and the demolition of run-down buildings, the community effort to revitalize downtown Big Spring has produced positive results.

Organizations such as Big Spring Main Street Inc. have worked diligently to beautify the downtown area. Due to their efforts, Big Spring boasts the Railroad Plaza. Formerly an unattractive lot, Railroad Plaza is now a landscaped marketplace area commemorating Big Spring's history.

Also, thanks to Main Street Inc. and volunteer Jack Harrison, the Doc Hardy Memorial Railroad

museum located in downtown Main Street has been reopened.

The HO model railroad that takes up about 80 percent of the space in the building at the museum and is fully adorned with buildings and scenery along with a model wild goat or two.

To bring in people off the highway and further beautify downtown Big Spring, Heart of the City Park, a tourist travel park, was built on the southwest corner of Third and Scurry, the quarter block where the Permian Building once stood.

The park includes a pavilion for outdoor community activities and a live community Christmas tree, sponsored by the *Big Spring Herald*.

The park has been the site for the Heart of the City Festival with hundreds flocking to the area for food, to purchase antiques or hand-crafted items from vendors and enjoy the what the downtown area businesses have to offer. A second park "Rotary Park," is nearing completion.

Pedestrian walkways in the park lead to historic downtown areas where variety business are located including antique shops, travel agencies and clothing stores.

Many old buildings have either been demolished or have received a facelift. The Settles Hotel is a stellar example of the latter. The hotel, the tallest building in

See **MAIN STREET**, Page 12E

HILLCREST

Continued from Page 9E

lows the Abeka curriculum, a Christian curriculum that intersperses educational learning with religious lessons.

The church offers other activities for children including a day camp dur-

ing the summer for ages up to 12 and a week-long Vacation Bible School.

"We would love to have you come and be our guest if you are looking for a church home," Parker said. "You will be treated like family."

Sunday services begin at

9:30 a.m. with Bible study followed by worship and children's extended worship at 11 a.m., and evening worship at 6 p.m.

A prayer service at 6:30 begins Wednesday night's activities with youth Bible study at 7 and Bible study at 7:30.

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Service keeps customers coming back to Bob Brock Ford Lincoln Mercury Nissan

By **LYNDEL MOODY**
Staff Writer

Price sells a customer his or her first car but service keeps customers coming back to Bob Brock Ford Lincoln Mercury Nissan, located at 500 W. Fourth St.

"We try to treat our customers how we want to be treated," Randy Gee, new car sales manager, said. "We consider our customers lifetime customers."

A family-owned and operated company, the business prides itself on its customer service and commitment to the community.

"We offer what we consider very high quality service," Gee said. "Service makes or breaks an automobile dealership. We have put in years of training to our service department to offer the best in Texas."

The company employs seven highly-trained technicians, including a master technician among its 40 employees, Gee said.

"We offer oil changes, engine and transmission repair and everything in between," Gee said.

Last year, the dealership was awarded the Blue Oval stamp, one of the first Ford dealerships in West Texas to receive the award. The award is based upon both customer and employee satisfaction.

Bob Brock, the owner, began the business in 1966. Brock's son Rondel and son-in-law Randy Gee are both sales managers and Bob's grandsons, Jason Brock and Brock Gee, also work for the family businesses.

The hometown dealership spends thousands of dollars each year supporting community programs.

"Bob always has been very open to supporting the

people of the city," Gee said. "Our attitude is this is our home and these are neighbors and friends. We feel loyalty is a strong mixture for a business today. If we don't support our community who will?"

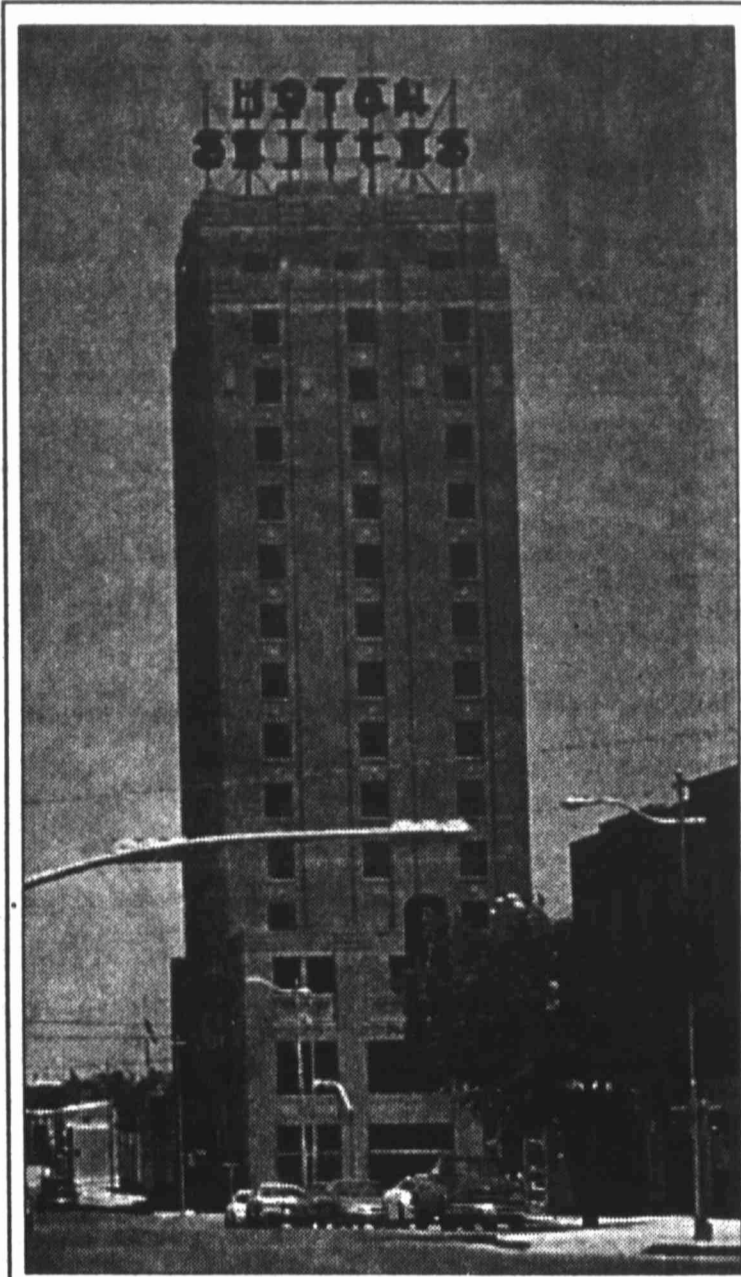
Family atmosphere, prices and service bring customers from around the West Texas area to shop at Bob Brock Ford, Gee said.

A family-owned business, Bob Brock, owner of Bob Brock Ford, left, stands with his son, middle, Rondel and son-in-law Randy Gee by one of the business show display cars.

HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody



Ralph Osborne, an employee of Bob Brock Ford, changes the oil on a vehicle. The company offers a three-year, full-service warranty for most of its new cars.



SETTLES BUILDING

MAIN STREET

Continued from Page 10E

Big Spring, was abandoned and had fallen into disrepair since its heyday in the 1930s and '40s. A group called Friends of the Settles prevented the building from being demolished and has worked to repair and beautify it in hopes that it will once again become a downtown attraction.

Main Street has also been involved in asbestos abate-

ment at the Petroleum Building, another structure which is hoped can be used to help revitalize the downtown area.

The improvement of downtown has been a community wide effort, involving the city and county governments along with private citizens.

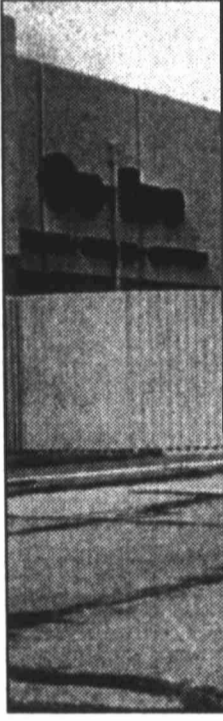
Officers on the board of directors include Tommy Churchwell as president, Terry Hansen as vice president and Sandra Waggoner as secretary.

Mall news

By **DEBBIE L. JENKINS**
Special to the Herald

While it might not be the amenities of a shopping center, Mall has all the advantages that come with a small town, said Kathy Lusk, mall manager.

"It's clean, the people are friendly, and we can be flexible about our mall," said Lusk. "It allows regular life like the MDA to



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Mall not only scene for shopping but telethon, other major events

By DEBBIE L. JENSEN
Special to the Herald

While it might lack some of the amenities of a big-city shopping center, Big Spring Mall has all the advantages that come with a small town, said Kathy Lusk, mall manager. "It's clean, the people are friendly, and we can be flexible about uses of the mall," said Lusk. Flexibility allows regular large events like the MDA telethon and



LUSK

small activities like bake sales and blood drives.

"We have a community service room that non-profit organizations can use," Lusk explained. "They just need to reserve it ahead of time."

That room has hosted a book sale, meetings and youth sports sign-ups. Mall visitors with four legs are welcomed each November when the Big Spring Kennel Club offers its pet photo fund-raiser. Lines of enthusiastic pets and their owners usually stretch beyond the front doors, waiting their chance to say, "cheese."

Up to 50 people each day come to the 120,000-square-foot facility just for exercise. The mall walkers are a loyal bunch, and Lusk said merchants are happy to have them.

Merchants, most of them local entrepreneurs, may choose their own opening and closing times, which means some choose to close early or don't come in at all on Sunday. But with that small-town feeling comes another side: Store owners and managers are often community-minded, support local causes, display advertising flyers in their windows and call their cus-

tomers by name.

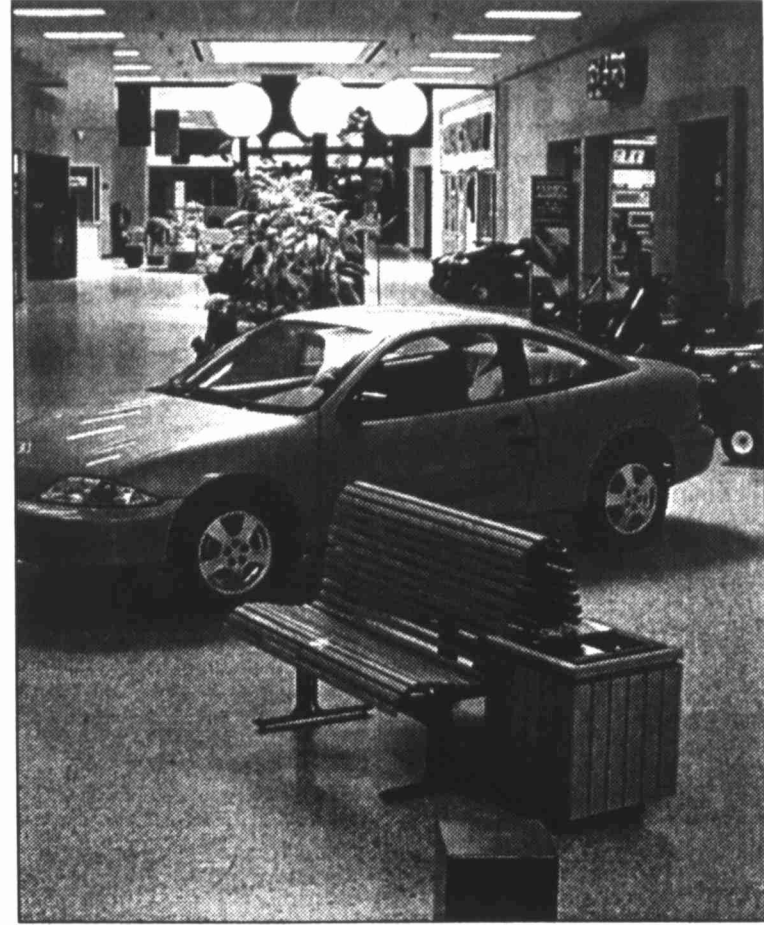
Mall merchants get together for regular promotions such as sidewalk sales. The mall offers seasonal promotions such as, coming in April, a bridal show. Others have included lawn and garden or prom-wear exhibitions. Watch the marquee out front for word on special events.

Plenty of things have, but some things haven't changed at Big Spring Mall, including Lusk — who's been at her job for four years, and maintenance supervisor Freddy Martinez, who has the same amount of tenure in his job.

The mall currently houses the following stores:

Family Dollar, On Cue, Athletic Supply, Sears, Blum's Jewelry, Regis, GNC, Halfmann's Creations, Bealls, Suggs Hallmark, Dana's Urban Zone, Wireless Today, Seams So Nice, Attitudes, Santa Fe Sandwiches, Claire's Accessories, Hollywood Nails, Merle Norman, Amber's Arcade, Jerry's, Cinema 4 Theatre and Big Spring Driver's Ed. The two newest are Dana's Urban Zone and Halfmann's Creations. Another store, although Lusk won't say which, plans to expand soon.

Perhaps the biggest news of all for local shoppers:

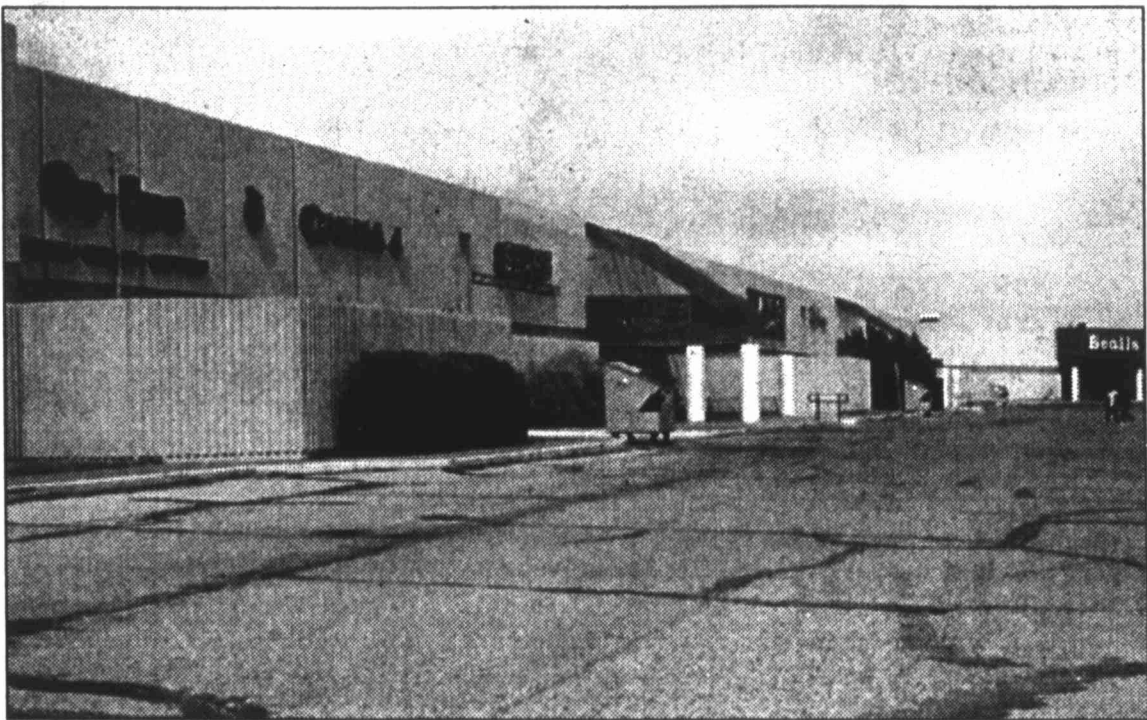


HERALD photo/Roger Cline

The Big Spring Mall hosts a variety of shops in which to purchase clothing, jewelry, books, music, gifts, large and small appliances, outdoor and gardening accessories, athletic supplies and gifts. The mall also hosts a barber and beauty salon, a restaurant, movie theater and arcade. In addition, many events are held there and walkers enjoy it for its controlled atmosphere and safety.

Before Christmas, a department store will open in the west "anchor" space, the large space left vacant most recently by the combining of two Bealls stores. So just

in time for the holiday shopping season 2002, Big Spring Mall will offer another option for people who want to keep their shopping dollars at home.



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Beltone: Because communication is vital

HERALD Staff Report

The sense of hearing is vital to daily communications, and just like some people need glasses to improve their below-average vision, others use tools to improve their hearing.

For more than 21 years, Beltone's Wallis-Villasenor family has been making those tools available to the hearing impaired of West



Texas.

"At one time or another, each family member has been involved at Beltone," said company founder and audioprothologist Curt Wallis. "We are a family-run business. I think that is very important. We have a commitment to West

The family operates out of offices in Midland and Odessa, but they also maintain a part-time office in Big Spring at 106 W. Marcy.

Wallis' son Mike Wallis, also an audioprothologist and a nationally-board certified hearing instrument specialist, visits the Big Spring office three Thursdays each month to provide free hearing aid care and maintenance for Beltone patients and free hearing tests for adults. He works out of the Odessa office three days a week and on Tuesdays and

the third Thursday of each month, he travels to service centers in Andrews, Fort Stockton, Kermit, Monahans and Pecos.

Susan Bennett, Texas licensed hearing instrument specialist, is in the Big Spring office every Monday and one Thursday each month to provide the same Beltone professional care. On her Thursday in Big Spring, she spends a couple of hours at Canterbury Retirement Center providing Canterbury residents with hearing aid care. Susan splits the remainder of her time between the Midland and Odessa offices. In addition, she travels to Alpine with Curt Wallis on the second Friday of each month.

In addition, Ann Alexander runs the Big Spring office. It is open from 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Alexander offers batteries and provides client care to hearing instrument wearers. Alexander has been with the company 10 years.

In addition to the three offices, company representatives make monthly visits to Alpine, Andrews, Fort Stockton, Kermit, Monahans and Pecos.

In 1979, Curt and Peggy Wallis of Odessa made the decision to acquire the local Odessa Beltone office. Since then, they have added the Midland and Big Spring offices and become the premiere hearing specialists in the Permian Basin.

In 1980, Mike Wallis decided to join his parents' business. He received a Texas license as a Hearing Instrument Specialist a National Board Certification and a Certification as

an Audioprothologist. Bennett joined the Beltone staff in 1987 as the Patient Care Manager in Midland. In 1991 she received her Texas license as a Hearing Instrument Specialist. Curt Wallis' children, grandchildren and some great-grandchildren and nieces have all appeared in Beltone advertisements. Mike and two of Curt's granddaughters and his sister-in-law currently work in the Odessa office. His daughter is still



HERALD photo/Roger Cline

Beltone offers many in-the-ear hearing devices like the one to the left, as well as behind-the-ear models. Hearing aids are available in both digital and analog versions. Above, Beltone's Big Spring office is located near the intersection of Gregg Street and FM 700 at 106 W. Marcy Drive.

involved with many facets of the business, although she has moved to the Dallas area where she and her husband still work with the hearing-impaired. Beltone offers a wide variety of hearing aids, including many kinds of programmable and digital hearing instruments.

Currently, Beltone's most sophisticated hearing technology is the Beltone Lumina four-channel, digital, circuit providing the ultimate in versatility and

listening comfort. The device's circuit automatically adjusts the amount of amplification needed to communicate in every facet of everyday life, from walking down a busy street to having a quiet talk with a friend.

This level of fine-tuning helps the wearer hear soft sounds without having loud sounds become too loud and uncomfortable. The Lumina also features advanced Speech Pattern Detection and the Silencer System, which helps this circuit more precisely distinguish between speech sounds and non-speech sounds, enhancing the clarity of sounds produced by the device.

See BELTONE, Page 15E

See BELTONE, Page 15E

See BELTONE, Page 15E

See BELTONE, Page 15E

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Continued from

This state-of-the-art technology can be customized to different sized instruments to meet each patient's special care needs. Beltone's Completely-Invisible hearing instruments fit deeply into the ear canal, and, in most cases, are completely invisible. To get the most appropriate fitting coupled with the latest technology in hearing aid care, you should be seeking an audioprothologist.

"Some are not wearing contact lenses," said Wallis. "I wear digital hearing aids myself, and I'm very happy with them. I believe Beltone name people care. A free hearing test takes about 30 minutes. When a Beltone audioprothologist determines the hearing loss, a fitting is conducted.

The Beltone Hearing Instrument Practitioner will help each person through a thorough hearing evaluation, including:

- A complete hearing evaluation, including questions about hearing, and your hearing aid use.
- A visual examination of your ear using a microscope.
- Tests of your hearing response to sounds.
- Tests of your hearing recognition and recall of words.
- In some cases, the mobility of the eardrum, and reflexes.

All Beltone audioprothologists strictly adhere to state and local regulations regarding hearing instrument dispensing and follow accepted testing

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BELTONE

Continued from Page 14E

This state-of-the-art technology can be combined with different size hearing instruments to fit the patient's specific hearing care needs. Beltone's Invisia Completely-In-The-Canal hearing instrument fits deeply into the ear canal and, in most cases, is virtually invisible. The Invisia is appropriate for patients seeking an inconspicuous fitting coupled with the latest in hearing instrument technology.

"Some are no bigger than a contact lens," Mike Wallis said. "I wear digital hearing aids myself, and have been very happy with the results. I believe Beltone is still a name people can trust."

A free hearing screening takes about 30 minutes. When a Beltone practitioner determines the patient has a hearing loss, further testing is conducted.

The Beltone Hearing Care Practitioner will guide each person through the steps of a thorough hearing evaluation, including:

- A complete case history, including medical questions, questions about your hearing, and your previous hearing aid use.
- A visual examination of your ear using an otoscope.
- Tests of your ability to respond to a variety of sounds.
- Tests of your ability to recognize and repeat spoken words.
- In some cases, a test of the mobility of your eardrum, and hearing reflexes.

All Beltone practitioners strictly adhere to all federal, state and local regulations regarding hearing instrument dispensing protocols and follow nationally accepted testing guidelines



Courtesy Photo

Curt and Peggy Wallis started this area's Beltone franchise in Midland in 1979. The family operates Big Spring's Beltone Hearing Center. Curt is a certified audiolprothologist.

of the American Speech Language Hearing Association, the American Academy of Audiology and the International Hearing Society.

If hearing aids are necessary, impressions are made of the patient's ears. The impressions are sent by express mail to the Beltone factory in Chicago where hearing aids are custom-sculpted to match the patient's ear contours exactly.

After the patient receives his hearing aids, the Beltone staff provides free lifetime care under their BelCare program.

Through BelCare, the Wallis family strives to deliver an ideal hearing

care experience including:

- Friendly, respectful, and knowledgeable staff
- A focus on explaining problems and solutions thoroughly
- Maintaining Certified Hearing Care Practitioners on staff
- An emphasis on honest and ethical behavior by all staff members
- Providing satisfaction and performance guarantees that are meaningful to the patient.
- Allowing time to listen to each patient's needs
- Truly caring about the patient care provided
- The dispensing of high quality products that fit well
- Providing regularly

Hearing health tips

Extremely loud noises can cause permanent damage to the tiny hair cells inside the cochlea (your inner ear). Even moderately loud noise over a period of time can be damaging. But just how loud is loud? Studies show that prolonged exposure to sounds at or above 90dB can damage hearing. Protect your hearing and wear earplugs when exposed to loud noise.

- Protect your hearing whenever your surroundings are so loud you must raise your voice to be heard. It doesn't matter what the source of the loud sounds are - music (radios, live music, and headphones), machinery (lawn mower, drill, blender), conversation (bar or restaurant). If it's too loud for you to hear yourself, the sound is potentially damaging to your hearing. If you can't avoid the situation, wear earplugs.
- Mention any ringing or buzzing in your ears or in your head to your doctor.
- Ears are self-cleaning. Normal bathing is all most people have to do to keep their ears clean and healthy. When extra cleaning is needed, many practitioners recommend safe, over-the-counter products.
- Earwax does not need to be "cleaned out" unless it is affecting the performance of your hearing aids or becomes impacted in your ears. It is there to protect the lining of the ear canal.
- Never use a Q-tip to clean the ear canal. The old adage about never putting anything in your ear sharper or bigger than your elbow is still true.
- Any sudden change in hearing should be reported to your doctor.
- Adults should have a hearing test annually, especially if they are having trouble understanding words or having to ask people to repeat what they say often.

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In addition, BelCare Gold is available which includes standard BelCare, plus three years of Lost Stolen &

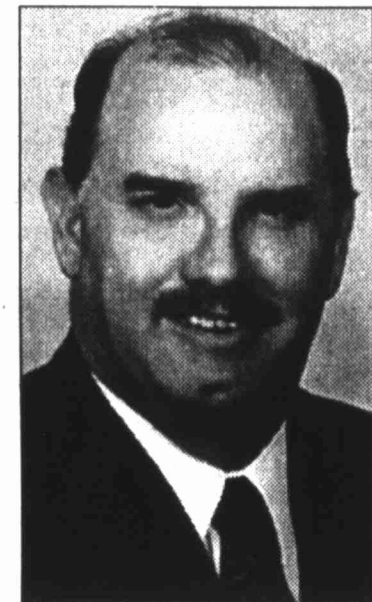
Damage insurance, a three-year factory warranty, and free Beltone batteries (10 six-packs a year with two hearing aids and five six-packs a year with one hear-

ing aid for three years).

For most hearing needs, one can call Beltone at 263-6181, or in in Odessa at (915)332-0519 or Midland at (915)682-2180.



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\$21,890 Price
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\$19,900 Price
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7601	'99 FORD ESCORT 2X2	\$6988	\$146	7603	'99 CHEV TRACKER	\$7488	\$157
U798	'99 MERCURY TRACER	\$6088	\$129	P519A	'98 PLYMOUTH VOYAGER	\$8988	\$188
U792	'99 CHEVROLET PRIZM	\$6988	\$146	7681	'98 FORD WINDSTAR	\$10,488	\$219
P548	'01 DODGE NEON	\$8988	\$188	P521A	'98 CHEVROLET ASTRO VAN	\$10,488	\$219
U786	'01 CHEVROLET CAVALIER	\$9488	\$199	7694	'00 CHEVROLET BLAZER	\$12,788	\$269
7695	'98 OLDS INTRIGUE	\$9488	\$199	P556	'01 DODGE RAM 1500	\$14,188	\$299
P557A	'98 BUICK LESABRE	\$10,888	\$229	7682	'99 FORD EXPLORER XLT	\$12,788	\$269
7692	'01 SATURN LSI	\$11,988	\$249	7654	'99 DODGE 1500 QUAD	\$14,188	\$299
7663	'01 DODGE INTREPID	\$13,188	\$279	P539A	'99 DODGE 1500 QUAD	\$14,188	\$299

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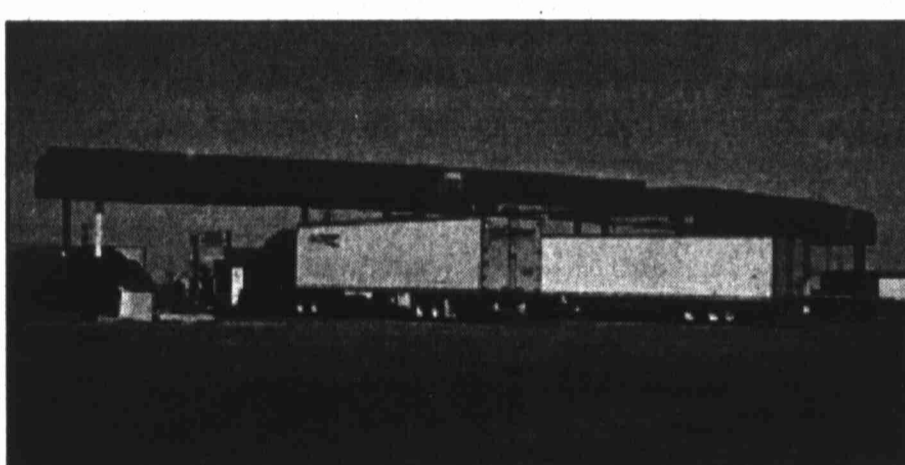
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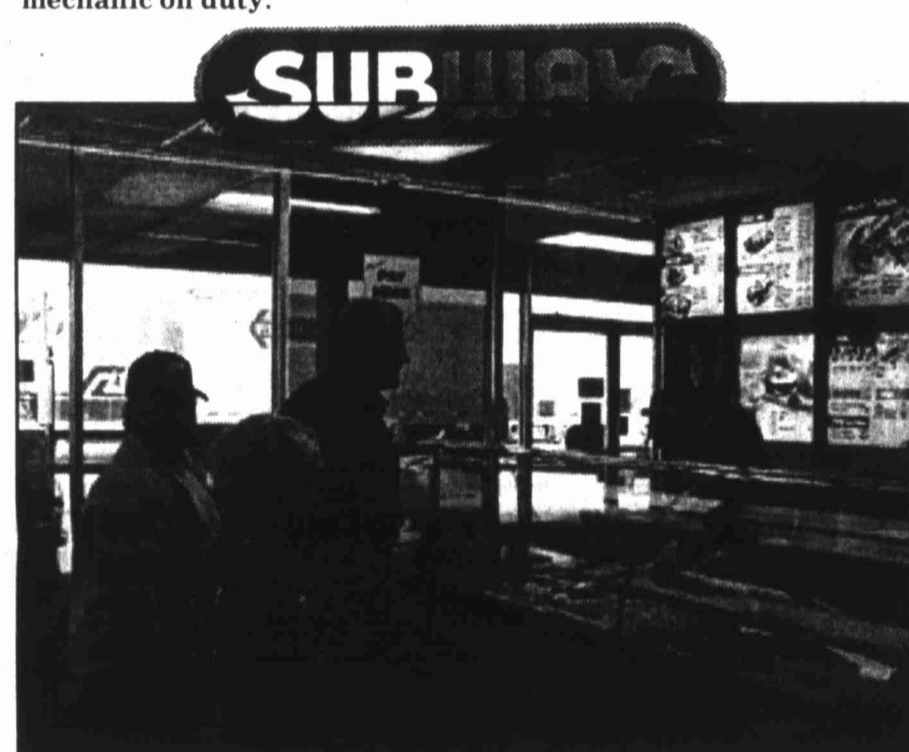
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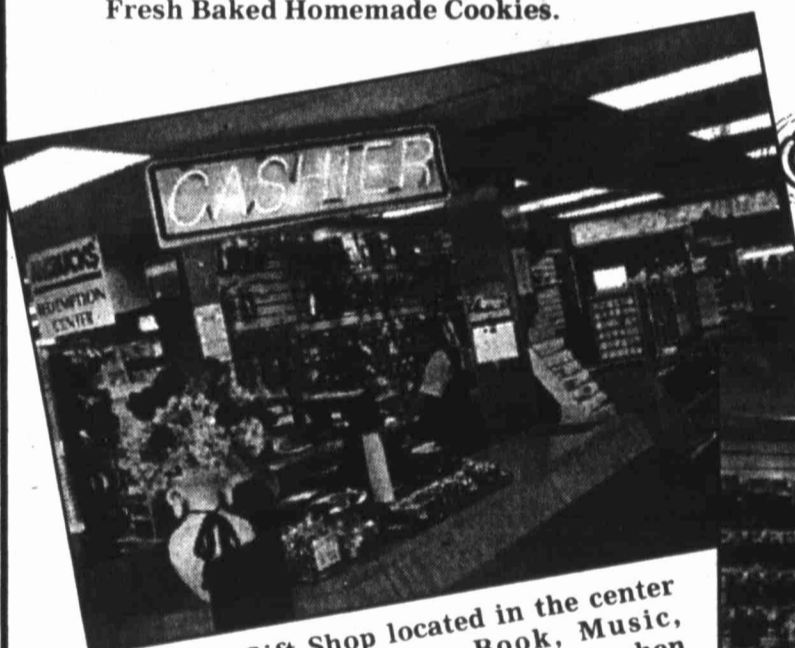


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By LYNDEL M
Staff Writer

Offering a atmosphere, Bartlett Co. s natives' main serve the cu the time they the door until

The hardware located at 190 has been serv Texas area s offers a large hardware item and screws to and appliance

"We stand products we se Byrne, manag Spring store.

Byrne said emphasizes o vice to its sal the time a cu through the fr he or she leav

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Higginbotham-Bartlett prides itself on customer service

By LYNDEL MOODY
Staff Writer

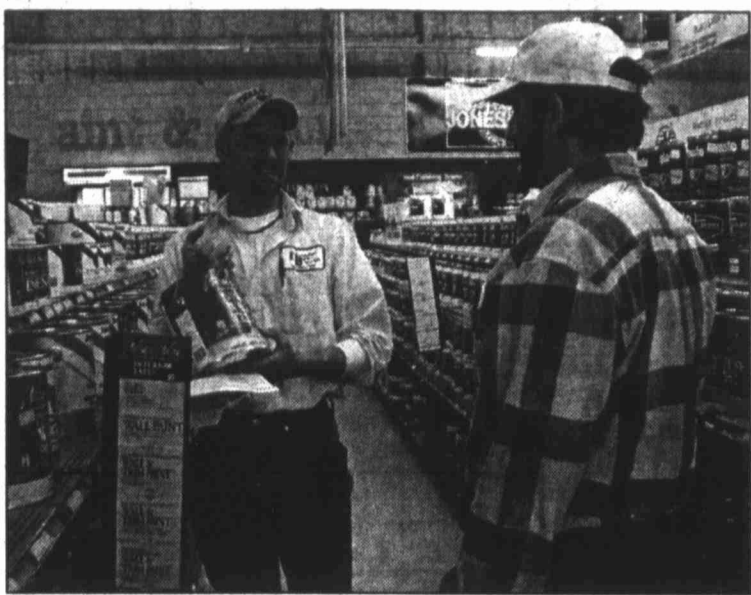
Offering a "country" atmosphere, Higginbotham-Bartlett Co. sales representatives' main priority is to serve the customers from the time they walk through the door until they leave.

The hardware company, located at 1900 E. FM 700, has been serving the West Texas area since 1916 and offers a large selection of hardware items from nails and screws to lumber, paint and appliances.

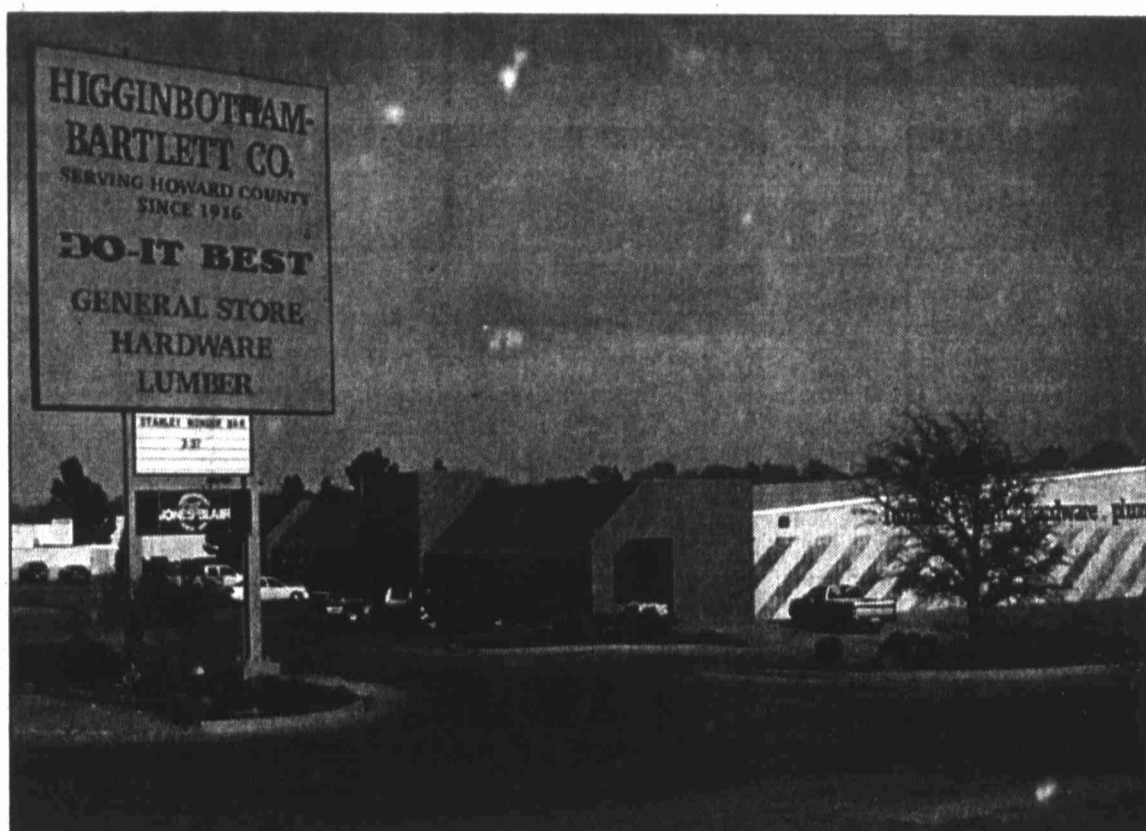
"We stand behind the products we sell," said Mike Byrne, manager of the Big Spring store.

Byrne said the company emphasizes customer service to its sale people from the time a customer walks through the front door until he or she leaves.

"We try to treat people as our friends," Byrne said. "It's a country atmosphere and we like to keep it that



Higginbotham-Bartlett Co. assistant manager Cary Hogue, left, helps a customer find the right type of paint for his project. Customer service is a priority to sales representatives at the Higginbotham-Bartlett Co. Sales people attempt to serve the customer from the time they walk through the door until they leave.



Higginbotham-Bartlett Co., 1900 E. FM 700, offers a large assortment of hardware supplies and sales representatives who offer customers advice on choosing the right materials for all their project needs.

way." The 10 full-time and two part-time personnel are ready to answer questions and offer advice for a customer's particular project. "We offer free estimates on projects," Byrne said.

See PRIDE, Page 2F



Elrods has been serving the Crossroads' furniture needs for more than 60 years

By LYNDEL MOODY
Staff Writer

A family tradition, three generations of the Elrod family have been providing home fur-

Dee Elrod and his wife Lynda, right, owners of Elrods Furniture, pose with their daughter, Leslie, who is currently helping out with the business. For more than 60 years, three generations of the Elrod family have provided home furniture needs for the Crossroads area.

niture needs to Big Spring and the surrounding areas for more than 60 years.

J.W. Elrod started Elrods Furniture in 1926, selling dry and used goods to the community of Texline. After several moves, the business found a home in Big Spring and established a tradition of customer service for more than 60 years.

The business was passed down to J.W.'s son, David and in 1983, Dee, J.W.'s grandson, purchased the business from his father.

Currently owned and managed by Dee and his wife, Lynda, the furniture store is located on 2309 Scurry and

offers four product-line galleries — Broyhill, Bassett, King Koil and Lane.

Lynda and employee Kelly McBee offer designing and decorating consulting and staff members Shirley Murphy, Donnell Herm and Amber Johnson are always ready to answer a customer's question. The business also provides delivery service.

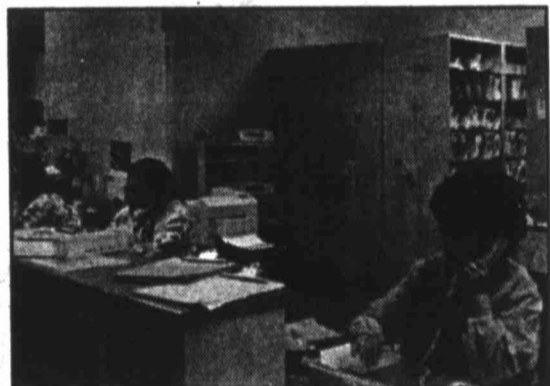
An established community business, Dee and Lynda support community functions and local organizations.

"We are dedicated to this community," Dee said.

"We have been here and we will be here for the rest of our lives."

HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

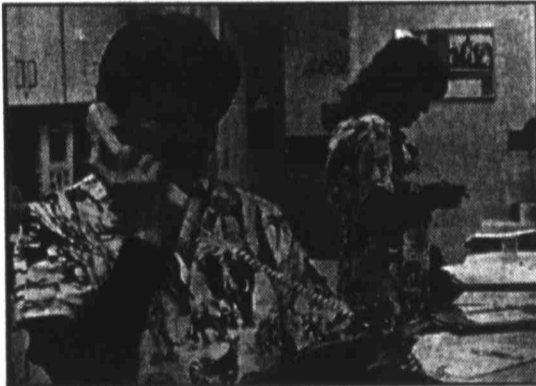
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Lab Technician Christine Hilario takes blood of Trisha Valle.



Dr. Erich Byerly with OB Patient.



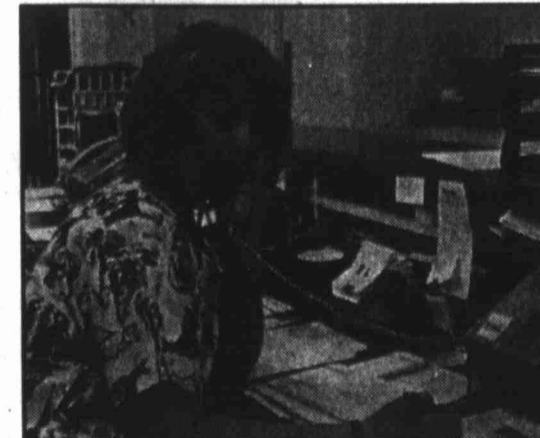
Dr. R. Bernal & Trisha Valle with Haley.



Dr. D. Bradley & Brandi Sizenbach with Brayden.



Xray and Bone Density: Brandi Sizenbach & Natalie McDonald.



Registered Medical Technician: Shannon Eason.



Medical Technicians Lucy Campos, Summer Sparks & Sydney.



MSO Billing (L to R) Chelsea Webb, Kelly Tubb, Trisha Valle, Summer Spark (on phone).

Not pictured Stacia Gill - Registered Medical Technician, Tresa Hull - Registered Phlebotomist, Traci Watson - Registered Medical Technician, Trishia Frank - Registered Medical Technician, Nikki Walker - File Clerk, Christi Ontiveros - Receptionist, Julie Alvarez and Jennifer Hale.

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All-American Cabinets can show customers how the product will look before they start

By ROGER CLINE
Staff Writer

All-American Cabinets and Design is bringing modern technology to bear on the task of designing the perfect kitchen.

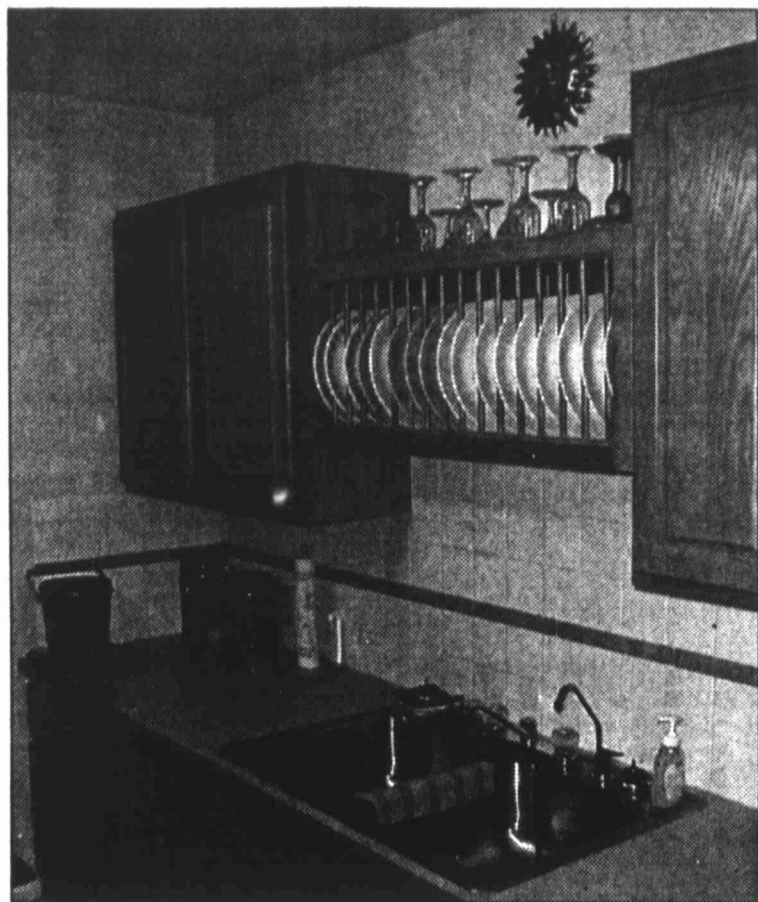
Although the business was started in November of 2000, owner Dalton Lewis has been designing and building kitchens and installing cabinets for about 10 years.

"Originally all the drawings were done by hand which took two to three days to complete and was very tedious," he said. "Then we purchased a (Computer-Aided Drafting) program that allows us to draw a kitchen in two to three hours and is much more professional and precise."

Lewis said customers love the way they can actually see their kitchen before a single board is cut.

"You draw out the walls, enter all the windows and doorways, then you select each individual cabinet based upon the customer's needs and desires," he said. "I love it when I push the 'Perspective' option on the computer and I hear, 'Oh my gosh! There's our kitchen!' It's really great. That is a feeling of accomplishment that is hard to

describe."



Courtesy photo

All-American Cabinets and Design provides not only quality cabinets, but can show customers how their remodeled kitchen, bath or other room will look before the project is even started.

When homeowners decide to remodel or build a new kitchen, it's important that they carefully discuss what they want before deciding. "Usually this is a lifetime decision that most people

don't want — or won't have a chance — to do again," Lewis said. "So therefore you want it perfect."

The couple should then take their ideas to an expert designer, he said. "There is much more to

designing a kitchen than just drawing it on a computer," he said. "That is why you need a designer that is well-educated, knowledgeable about your options and knows what kind of questions to ask."

Lewis is recognized by the National Kitchen and Bath Association as a Certified Kitchen Designer, he said.

"The course usually takes a year or longer to complete and it covers everything from tear out to finish," he said.

When looking at remodeling their kitchen, customers can expect to spend from about \$2,000 up, Lewis said.

"Over the years we have sold kitchens that range in price from \$2,000 to over \$30,000," he said, adding that All-American offers manufactured cabinets instead of shop-built ones in order to save its customers money.

"They are of very high quality and generally less expensive than shop-built ones," he said. "There are three important things to consider when choosing between shop built and manufactured cabinets: Construction, finish and price. All of our cabinets

See CABINETS, Page 4F

Sherry Wegner Agency

In tough times, producers need sound strategies to protect their livelihood

Special to the Herald

Borrowing the words of a famous comedian, farmers "...just don't seem to get no respect."

But it is hard to find any humor in the situation when Americans pay less for food than residents of any other developed nation yet U.S. farmers continue to struggle under low prices and find it difficult to turn a profit.

Local business partners providing support to agriculture are also actively seeking ways to improve profitability and help producers make it through tough economic times. One of the most critical needs is to help farmers protect their livelihood through an effective marketing and risk management plan, according to Sherry Wegner of the Sherry Wegner Agency, Big Spring, San Angelo and St. Lawrence.

"We see our business changing as we counsel farmers on ways to maxi-

mize their revenue and manage market risk," Wegner said. "You can't just guess what the market is going to do any more. It's too risky. There are strategies now that allow farmers to combine the benefits of crop insurance and a market plan to guarantee revenue that they can depend on."

The Sherry Wegner Agency features products and services provided through American Agrisurance Inc. AmAg developed the most popular crop insurance coverage — Crop Revenue Coverage (CRC) — and continues to work with farmers to find products and services to improve profitability.

"As an agency serving agriculture, we also feel the increasing economic pressure on farmers," Wegner explained. "With current prices, finding new ways to manage risk and help farmers with their marketing is our primary focus right now."

Helping local farmers prosper pays big benefits to the local community, Wegner noted. A strong farm economy helps local

See WEGNER, Page 4F.



SHERRY WEGNER

Four Seasons Insulation & Siding boasts 30 years of experience

By ANDREIA MEDLIN
Features Editor

The Stallings family have 30 years experience in the home improvement field and have entered their third generation in the business with 11-year-old Marcus.

Along with Four Seasons Insulation and Siding Inc., in Big Spring, other locations include Lubbock, Midland and Odessa.

Being sensitive to the needs of their customers is the primary consideration of co-owners Ken, Kenny and Marcus.

This includes not causing an inconvenience to their customers with phone solicitation.

As Ken explains, "We don't phone solicit or door knock. We operate by word of mouth and advertising only."

Four Seasons Insulation

and Siding offers a variety of services including vinyl and steel siding, Soffitt and Fascia (overhangs), thermal replacement windows, insulated entry doors, and all types of French and patio entry doors.

The company also offers all types of insulation, including wall insulation on wood and brick walls all work being done outside the home.

Other types of insulation Four Seasons Insulation and Siding offers are attic insulation, floor insulation and spray on insulation for metal buildings.

They can also install storm windows and doors as well as metal roofing and security doors.

Four Seasons Insulation and Siding can also build that carport or patio cover you've always wanted.

FOUR SEASONS INSULATION & SIDING, INC.

BIG SPRING (915) 264-8610 MIDLAND / ODESSA (915) 563-9541 LUBBOCK (806) 797-2114

1-800-688-1516

Ken, Kenny and Marcus Stallings, co-owners of Four Seasons Insulation and Siding Inc., stand next to one of their trailers. Four Seasons has locations in Big Spring, Midland, Odessa and Lubbock. They have 30 years experience in the home improvement field and offer a variety of services.

The Stallings are happy to be in Big Spring and have chosen it as their home. Although they have businesses at other locations, they want their customers to know that they have no

plans to move. "We want our customers to know that we appreciate the community support all these years," said Ken, who explains that he likes Big Spring "...for the people and

community. There are a lot of good Christian people here."

To contact Four Seasons Siding in Big Spring call 264-8610 or 1800-688-1516.

PRIDE

Continued from Page 1F

"We don't do any projects but we are here to give advice on what you need, whether its a small project or full decks."

And the company is community oriented. "Everybody who comes in here for a donation, I donate. That is part of Higginbotham-Bartlett," Byrne said. "The company is community minded and we try to help when we can. I donate as much as I can."

In the near future, Byrne said the hardware store in Big Spring plans to start a line of two-man small bass boats and in late April the store will hold a spring fling for its customers offering a day of barbecue, door prizes and more.

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- Color-keyed wheel moldings

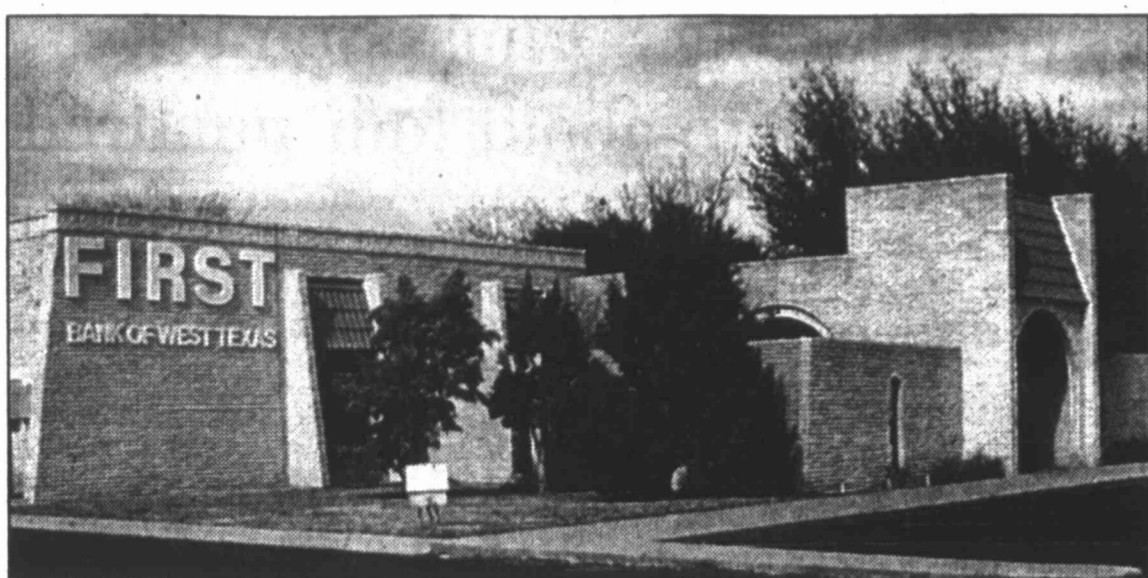
See the All New "Supercrew" F150 Now At Bob Brock Ford

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HERALD photo/Roger Cline
First Bank of West Texas, located on 500 W. Broadway in Coahoma, has been serving Howard County for 41 years.



HERALD photo/Roger Cline
The Big Spring branch of First Bank of West Texas is located on 1810 FM 700. The two locations turn deposits into expansion opportunities for small businesses.

First Bank of West Texas has two locations to serve Howard County

Special to the Herald

The largest lender to small businesses in Howard County, First Bank of West Texas makes decisions based on supporting the community.

First Bank of West Texas is the only bank with two locations in Howard County, one in Coahoma,

500 W. Broadway, and a branch in Big Spring, 1810 FM 700.

Serving the Crossroads area for 41 years, the bank is under the leadership of Bruce Griffith, president.

The bank's two locations turn deposits into expansion opportunities for small business in Howard County.

More than 70 percent of local

deposits are loaned out to create new jobs in Howard County. Most other banks in the area use local deposits to fund loans in other areas or purchase bonds.

First Bank of West Texas offers a wide variety of products and services and is a true home town bank with all decisions made right here in Howard County.

Decisions are made not just

about what is best for the bank but also what is best for the community as a whole and their individual customers.

First Bank of West Texas has some of the lowest fees in West Texas because that is better for their customers and Howard County. Every decision is based on what the community needs and wants.

The bank has the ability to serve each customer at any level, ranging from personal accounts to small business loans.

Bank customers are fiercely loyal with many retaining their local account even when they move out of the area or out of state.

Home Hospice helps patients, survivors

Special to the Herald

Home Hospice of Odessa/Midland offers its services to help patients in the Crossroads area live as fully as possible until death and helping their families continue living afterwards.

In 2000, Home Hospice began serving patients in the area with three employees who commuted from the Midland office. The Big Spring office, 600 Gregg St., officially opened in June of 2000.

The Big Spring branch continues to expand and reach out to fulfill the needs of the community residents facing their end of life. Currently, the Big Spring office employs 18 people,

including six registered nurses, three office staff, one social worker, one chaplain and seven certified nurse's aids and plans to add more.

Home Hospice provides 24-hour service to patients and their families, both in private and nursing homes. Following the death of a patient, Home Hospice gives support to surviving families — offering a year-long bereavement program.

The organization operates the only inpatient hospice facility in West Texas located in Odessa. Patients go to the Hospice House in their last weeks, days or even hours.

Volunteers are an important part of Hospice ser-

vices. Volunteers can provide emotional support to both the patient and family members as well as giving a patient's care-giver time to recuperate.

"Patients look forward to the companionship each week," Sherry Hodnett, volunteer and bereavement coordinator said.

As the Hospice continues to increase its outreach to the community, volunteers are constantly being sought for patient and family care, bereavement support, office support, public relations and people who want to share their professional skills.

For more information about becoming a volunteer, call 265-7599



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody
Home Hospice employees Debbie Read, left, Kim Gee, Vickie Opegard, Sherry Hodnett and Patty Kirkpatrick review a patient's chart during a normal work day. Home Hospice provides 24-hour service to its patients.

The Kent Companies

Family owned since 1957

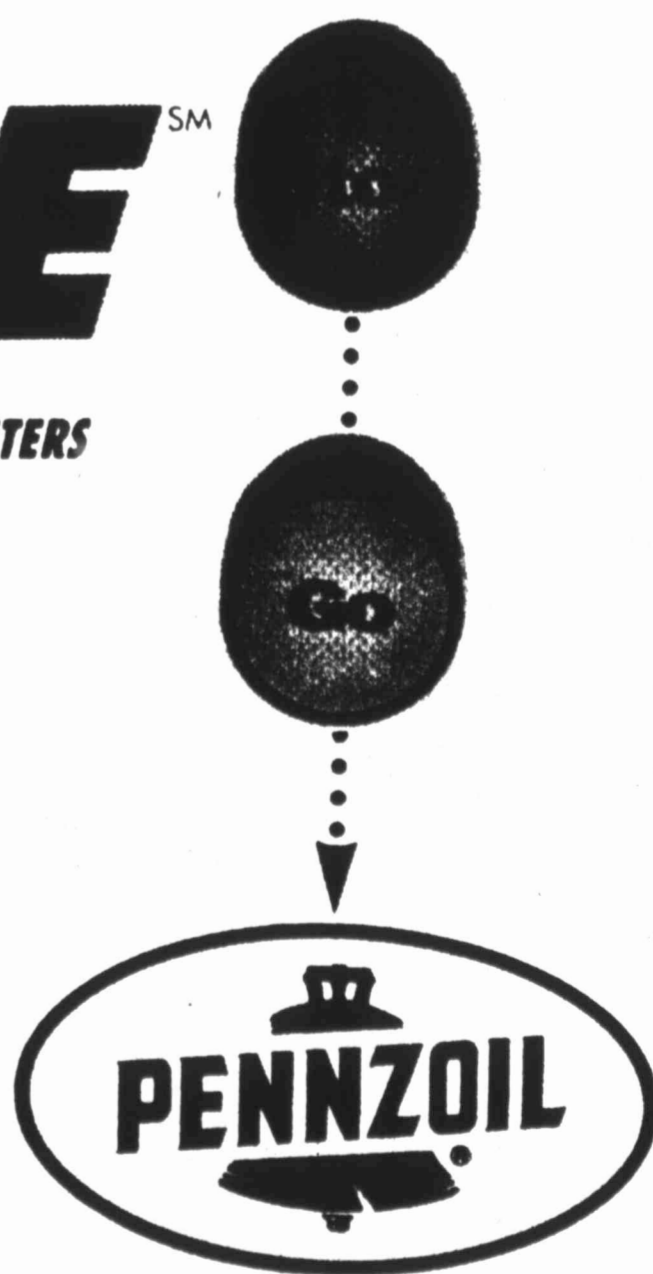
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SUNDAY BIR
SUNDAY AM
SUNDAY PM

Future looks bright for Big Spring's StarTek as employee base grows to about four hundred

By ANDREIA MEDLIN
Features Editor

"The future's so bright I gotta wear shades..."

As optimistic and enthusiastic as this old 1980s tune, StarTek is eagerly looking forward to its future in Big Spring as Daniel Breyman, recruiting manager explained, "We're always looking for new opportunities to grow and improve ourselves."

In an industry that is peripherally effected by the fluctuations of the high tech world, StarTek continues to grow and thrive.

"We are now at about 400 employees. The building is now full," said Breyman who commented that expanding to another location may eventually be in StarTek Big Spring's future.

The company has 14 call centers including the United Kingdom, Canada, Singapore as well as Big Spring and offers bilingual



HERALD file photo

Big Spring's StarTek has a large number of experienced employees to provide quality service to clients such as America On Line.

service for non-English speaking customers.

As the contract service provider for America On Line (AOL), StarTek provides technical support, packaging and is involved in gifts.com. Being this diverse requires a large

number of experienced employees to provide quality service.

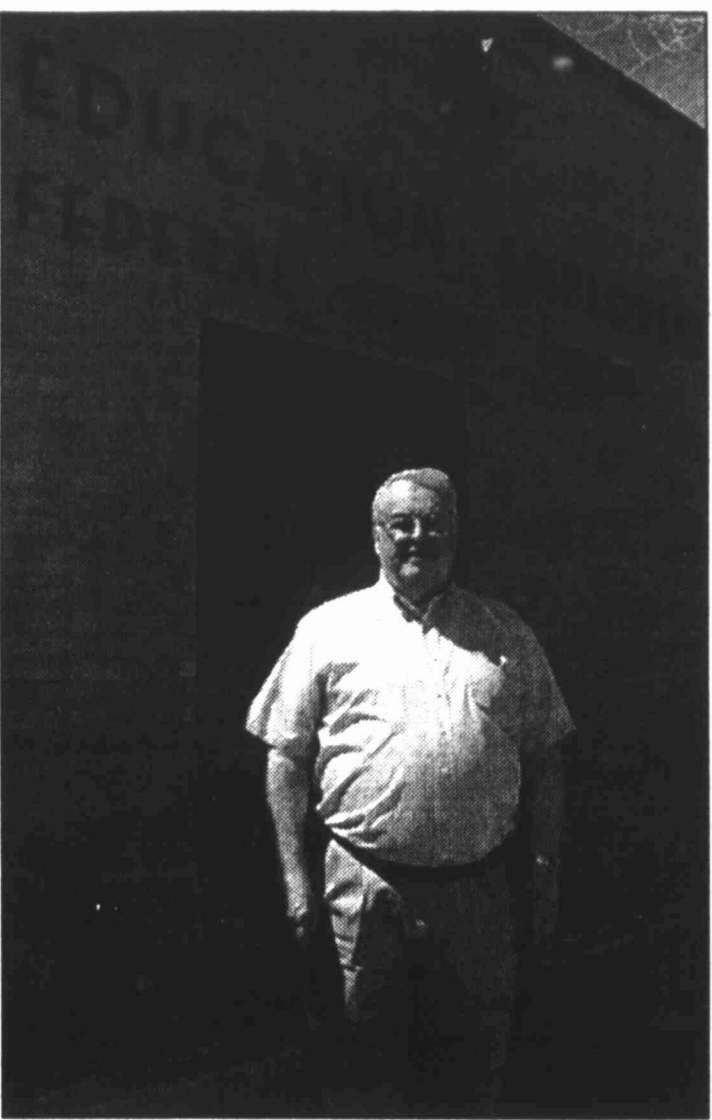
StarTek understands this and strives to keep its employee base by offering some incentives that similar companies do not, such as flex time, health and den-

tal insurance and childcare reimbursement.

It also participates in internal job posting and allowing employees to apply to other centers.

Other incentives include

See STARTEK, Page 5F



Herald staff photo

Bill Schaffner, president of the Big Spring Educational Employees Federal Credit Union, poses in front of the facility at 1110 Benton. The credit union has a branch office in Colorado City.

Educational Employees FCU has been serving educators for more than four decades

Special to the Herald

Going on 48 years now, Big Spring Educational Employees Federal Credit Union has been serving the needs of educators and their families.

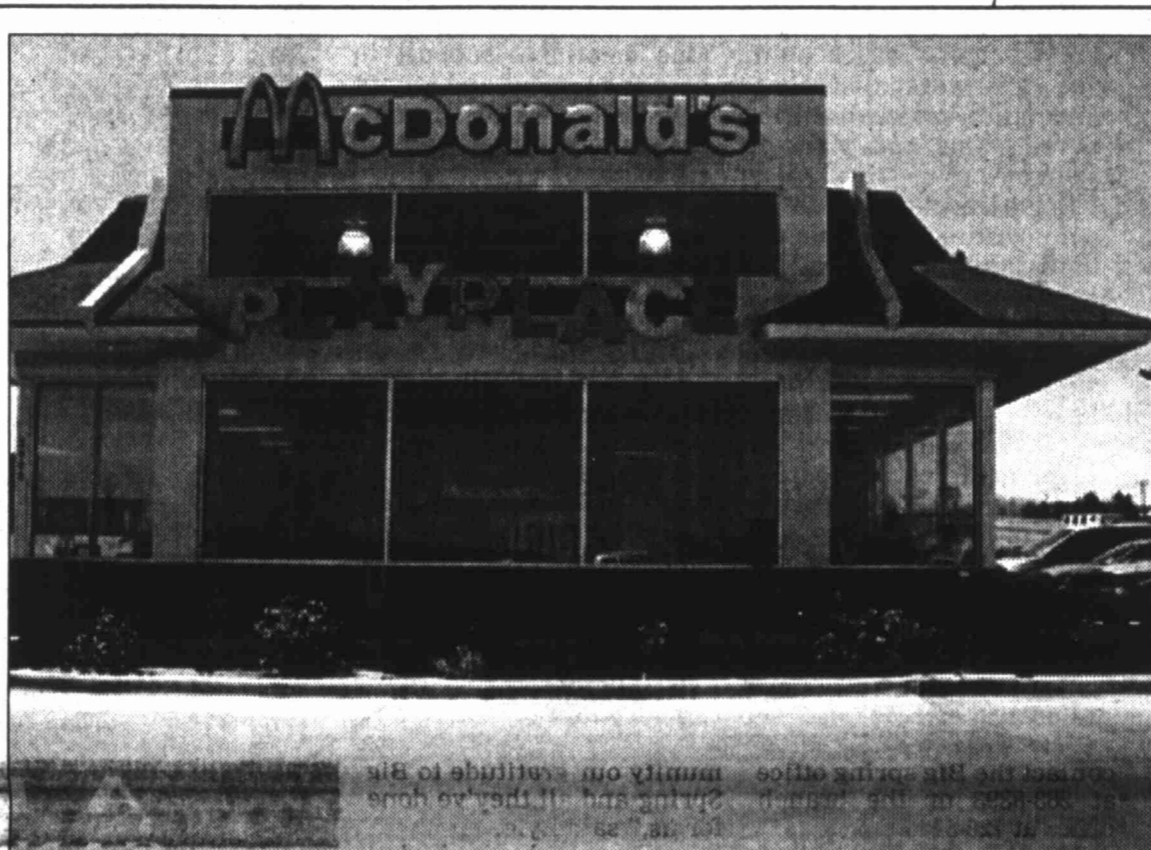
"We were chartered in 1954 and over the years we have gradually added services to where we are a full-service credit union now," said Bill Schaffner, president.

Big Spring Educational FCU offers its 4,500 cus-

tomers checking and savings accounts, automobile and home loans, home improvement loans, certificates of deposit, individual retirement accounts, money market accounts, debit and credit cards, travelers checks and money orders.

The credit union also offers direct deposit, bank-by-mail, drive up windows, fax service and a 24-hour

See FCU, Page 5F



McDonald's Restaurant, conveniently located at the intersection of FM 700 and South U. S. Highway 87, is a fun place for both children and adults. The restaurant features a large dining area and indoor "Playplace," and of course, a drive-through for those on the go. For breakfast, lunch, dinner or a quick pick-me-up, McDonald's makes your day a little more enjoyable.

HERALD staff photo

CABINETS

Continued from Page 2F

come with a lifetime warranty on construction and finish."

And price is another area where All-American outdoes the competition, he said.

"As far as price goes, when you compare apples to

apples, the fact is that we have beaten all of our competitors, including the home centers, 100 percent of the time," he said.

"We encourage our customers, if they desire, to go out of town and compare design and price. Once they do, they will see there is no reason not to buy your new kitchen right here in Big Spring."

WEGNER

Continued from Page 2E

businesses, schools, churches and civic organizations. Educating local producers on how to build an effective marketing plan can help provide a financial bridge until prices for their crops rebound, Wegner said.

Wegner is recognized

nationally as one of the top agents in the industry and has received numerous awards for her outstanding contributions to improve the crop insurance program.

Wegner contributes her success to her knowledge of the industry, her good staff and understanding husband, and most of all to her loyal customers.

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Worship.....10:20 AM
Evening.....6:00 PM

WEDNESDAY
Bible Classes for all ages...7:00 PM
Fellowship Meal & Devotional every
3rd Wednesday at 6:00 PM

And we proclaim Him...that we may present every man complete in Christ
Colossians 1:28

The Salvation Army
Captains Russ & Linda Keeney

Sunday School.....9:45 A.M.
Sunday Morning Worship.....11:00 A.M.
Sunday Praise Meeting.....12:00 P.M.
Wednesday Bible Study.....7:00 P.M.
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We welcome any
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Rick Cunn

Eye Associates, Specs & Co. — the center of excellence in eye care

Special to the Herald

Eye Associates and Specs & Co. have established themselves as the center for excellence in vision care by providing the highest level of eye care, superior product quality and dedication to exemplary patient service.

Specs & Co. came into existence in 1980, but the business can trace its roots to the early 1940s when Dr. Allen Hamilton opened an establishment to help Howard County and area residents with eye care.

Hamilton sold his business to Wayne and Diana Hamm in 1978 and a year later, John H. Marshall entered the practice. Just a few months later, Specs & Co. became a reality.

In 1982, Dr. Hamm sold his half of the business to Dr. Marshall and in 1988, Dr. Marshall joined practices with Drs. Marshall Cauley and Harold Smith. Dr. Ted Seymour joined the group in 1997, and the business moved to its present location at 2311 Scurry in October of that year.

Over the years, optometry has consistently increased its scope of services. Eye Associates has been on the forefront of these advances, providing people of this area with the most current advances in both eyecare and eyewear. Services provided include adult and children eye examinations; glaucoma testing, detection

and management; amblyopia (lazy eye) testing and management; and the diagnosis and treatment of pink eye (conjunctivitis), eye allergies, corneal abrasions, dry eyes and foreign body removal.

The center offers a low vision clinic for the person who is suffering from macular degeneration, optic nerve atrophy, diabetes or any vision loss.

In addition, its highly skilled doctors are consultants for laser vision correction.

Eye Associates and Specs & Co. work with the community with such public service outreach programs as the Lion's Club, Vision USA and the Commission for the Blind.

The center has special extended hours on Tuesdays until 8 p.m.

Specs & Co. is a Varilux distributor, an Oakley supplier since 1984, offering personalized care focused on an individual's needs.

The staff brings 70 years of knowledge to assist people with their eye care needs.

The center features all available contact lenses, including RGP, astigmatic, tinted, bifocal and custom design.

Same day services is offered on most single vision prescriptions.

They are proud to bring together a blend of the newest technology and exquisite fashion design tailored to the customer's every need.

Medicaid and Medicare are accepted — also, Blue Cross Blue Shield, Healthsmart, NTCA and Spectera. Call 263-2501 for an appointment.



HERALD Photo/Andrelia Medlin
Specs & Company staff are, left to right, back row, Dr. Ted Seymour, Joy Horn, Priscilla Ginnetti, Dr. John Marshall, second row, Dania West, Paula Dalton, Jennifer Price, Janet Wilde, Cynthia Marshall, and Dr. Harold Smith, front row, Jeanie Lindsey and Vicki Johnson.

FCU

Continued from Page 4F

"We serve mostly school employees and their families in a seven-county area," said Schaffner.

Those counties are Martin, Glasscock, Reagan, Sterling, Howard, Mitchell and Borden.

The credit union also has a branch office in Colorado City which is able to serve all Mitchell County residents — not just those involved in the field of education.

That doesn't mean that the Big Spring office can strictly serve only teachers or administrators, however.

"If you have an immediate relative that is a member,

you are eligible, too," said Linda Park, senior vice president. "You don't have to be an educator yourself."

The Big Spring office, 1110 Benton, is open from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. weekdays. The Colorado City office is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays.

For more information, contact the Big Spring office at 263-8393 or the branch office at 728-3445.

per call, depending on the employee's quality scores.

"We are working to improve the working environment — it is very comfortable and laid back here," said Lyle Sanders, assistant recruiting manager.

As a part of the Big Spring community, StarTek's main focus is "To show the community our gratitude to Big Spring and all they've done for us," said Lyle.

Daniel emphasized that StarTek will continue to be involved in the community with events such as Pops In The Park, making donations to area nursing homes and participating in Relay for Life.

"We want Big Spring to

know that we're here to stay and to be a part of the community," said Daniel.

To inquire about a position at StarTek go by its office at 501 Birdwell Lane, call 264-2700 or visit the website at StarTek.com for job listings, applications or service.

STARTEK

Continued from Page 4F

revenue shares and referral bonuses which are given

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14TH AND MAIN CHURCH OF CHRIST

The churches of Christ have a unique history. Rather than being Catholic, Protestant, or Jewish, the churches of Christ are Restorationist. Their aim is to restore the church of Christ by doing exactly what Jesus and his apostles taught when the church was first established in Jerusalem.

This idea of restoring the New Testament church came about primarily in America the 19th century. A movement to abandon man-made religious creeds and to "speak where the Bible speaks and be silent where the Bible is silent", was the catalyst for the development of many congregations of the churches of Christ.

The church of Christ that now meets at 14th and Main in Big Spring was first assembled in 1912. Believers in this restoration plea first began meeting in the "Old School" Presbyterian church building. By 1924 the group had outgrown that facility. They purchased land at the corner of 4th and Gregg where a small meeting place was built. By 1928 the membership was approximately 160 members and still larger facilities were needed. After lots were obtained at the corner of 14th and Main, a building was begun in January 1929 and completed in March. Other buildings have been added through the years as needed.

Today the Christians meeting at 14th and Main remain true to the restoration plea. The Bible is the only source of direction for conversion, worship and living. Jesus is the head of the church. Elders, deacons, preachers and teachers are appointed by the guidelines of the Bible. Unity is achieved by letting God's Word be the final word in all matters.

We welcome anyone who would embrace with us this unique approach to church restoration. We are simply Christians, baptized believers who follow Jesus and obey God's Word.

Rick Cunningham, Pulpit Minister • Scott Prather, Youth/Education Minister
1401 MAIN 263-1303

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY...9:00 AM **WEDNESDAY BIBLE CLASS...7:00 PM**
SUNDAY AM WORSHIP...10:00 AM **TUESDAY LADIES CLASS...10:00 AM**
SUNDAY PM WORSHIP...5:00 PM

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5. Am I saving enough in my child's or grandchild's college fund?
6. Is my cash working as hard as it could?
7. How will I pay for long-term care?
8. If I'm leaving my job, do I know my employer retirement plan options?
9. Do I have enough life insurance?
10. Will my assets sufficiently meet my long-term retirement needs?

I have the knowledge and experience to help identify your needs and keep you on the right track to achieving your goals. Call me today if you have concerns about any of these questions.

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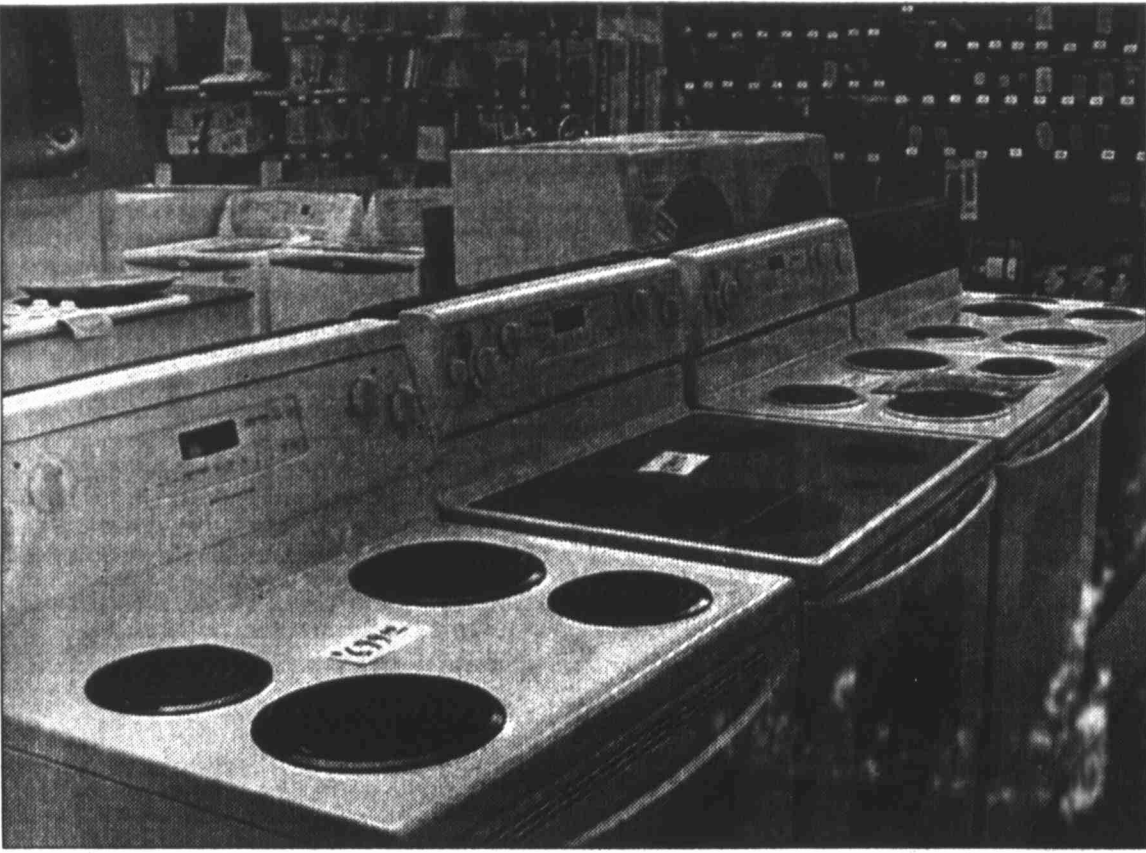
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HERALD photo/Roger Cline
Harris Lumber and Hardware, 1515 E. FM 700, has been in business since the mid-'60s and still offers the same small-town, friendly service it did when it was founded.

Harris Lumber still takes pride in professional, friendly service

By ROGER CLINE
Staff Writer

Since 1965, Harris Lumber and Hardware has been providing quality lumber, building products, hardware and advice for builders of projects big and small across Big Spring.

Harris Lumber was organized Nov. 17, 1965, by Bert Harris; Don Smith, president of Bowman Lumber Company; and Don McKee, secretary and treasurer of Bowman Lumber Company. Each person owned one-third of the business. The company opened for business Jan. 1, 1966, with Bert Harris and two employees hired locally.



STEVE HERREN

Despite the fact that there were seven other lumber yards in town at one point, the business continued to grow as the years passed. Harris bought out the two

other partners June 1, 1972, to become sole owner of the company.

In 1988, the company moved from its downtown location to its new site at 1515 E. FM 700, where it has been ever since.

Company president Steve Herren said he didn't grow up in the lumber and hardware business.

"I was more in the construction business. I was more in concrete construction work than anything," he said. "I worked for a company in Lubbock for a long time before I moved out here. They did pre-cast and pre-stressed concrete. They were building the airport back then, and they were building several different buildings."

Herren married into the family business, but he agrees with Harris' long-time policy of customer service.

"One of the things that we try to offer is service," he said. "We try to make sure that when the customer comes in they get taken care of and we're here to answer

any questions on how to do a project and to give that customer knowledge on what to do."

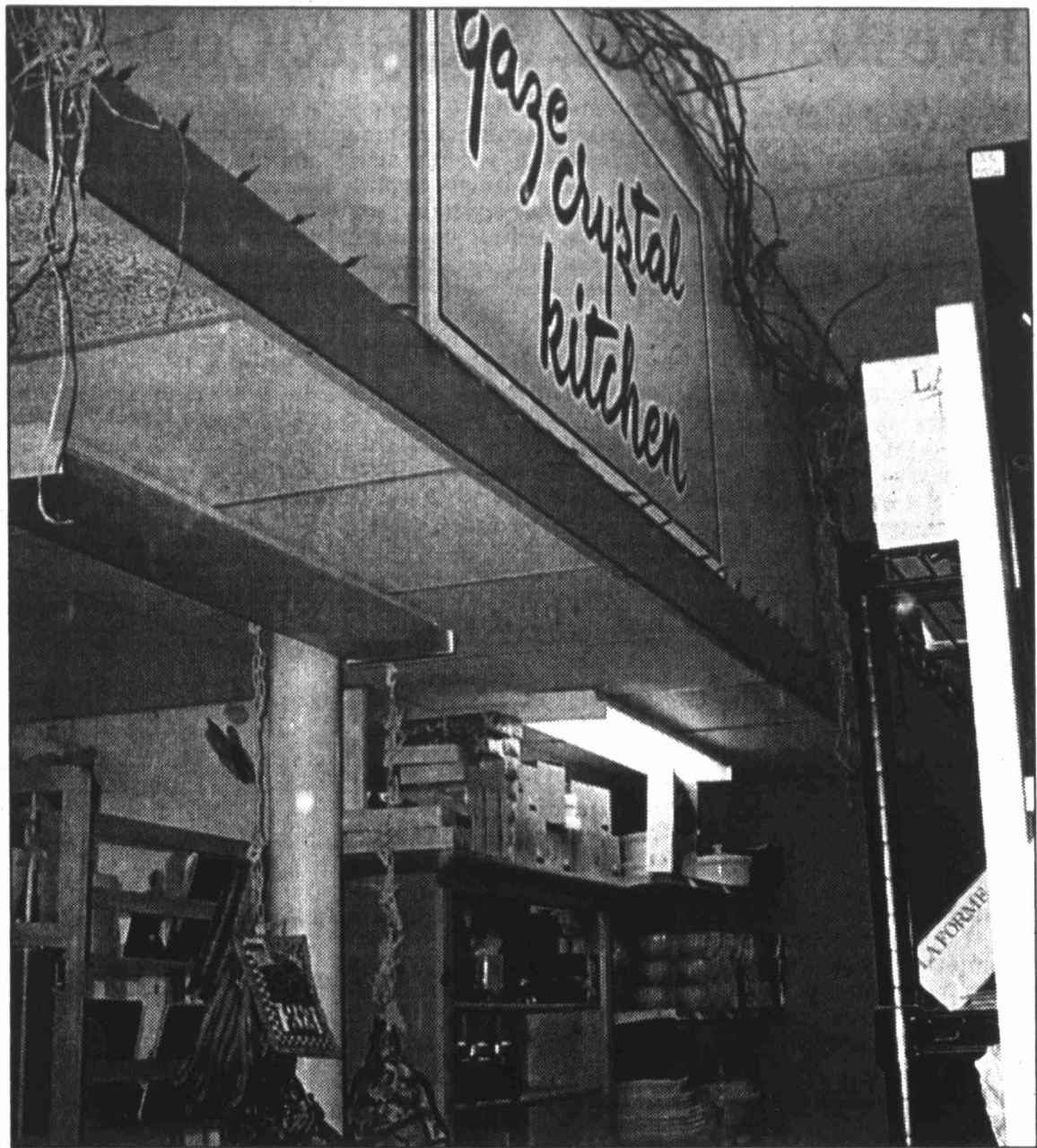
Customer service is one way a hardware store can stand out from its competitors.

"I think it's probably important in any store," he said.

"Right now, the one thing we have to compete with other stores is our customer service. If somebody just walks in and buys something, they don't need any help, but there are people that need people to take care of them and need them to answer their questions and to make it where they feel like they're important. It's a privilege that they're coming to our store and not going to another store."

It's good to know personal service is available at a hometown store like Harris in this time when more and more hardware stores are being swallowed by home improvement mega-marts.

"They're massive, they're big, they've got more money," Herren said.



HERALD photo/Roger Cline
Gaze Crystal Kitchen, located in Harris Lumber and Hardware, gives a feminine touch to the store, offering china, crystal, and baby clothes as wedding registry ideas in addition to the lawnmowers and power tools offered by the hardware store.

"That's the only thing you have to compete with them is that customer service. To take care of that customer and help them out."

Harris Lumber, an ACE Hardware affiliate, tries to offer a variety of products that one might not normally expect to find at a hardware and lumber store.

"We sell lumber and building materials of all kinds, hardware," he said. "But we also sell electronics, TVs and VCRs. We sell appliances, all the major appliances."

"Then in the back we have another section and we just call it Gaze Crystal Kitchen, and it's just basically china and crystal, and we sell some baby clothes and some gift items back there."

Baby clothes, in a hardware store?

"My wife really started it.

There wasn't anybody really doing any bridal registry as far as gifts and stuff," Herren explained. "ACE had kind of been talking about doing some bridal registry, but they were talking about stuff like the lawnmowers and the male side of it, not the female side of it."

Seeing an opportunity, Herren's wife Gay decided to complement the ACE registry with a feminine touch, he said.

"Gay went ahead and explored that and she's done real well with it," he said.

Right now Stephanie's kind of taking care of things over there. Stephanie's my daughter."

The future might hold some renovations for the 14-year-old business, but Herren said no plans are

definite.

"We don't have anything set right now, but we're looking in the future to do some remodeling," he said.

"We've been over here since '88, and it's getting time to redo some stuff and do some remodeling."

There are no plans to move the business, Herren reassured his customers.

"This is a really good location," he said. "FM 700, that's a real good location as far as traffic and all."

Harris Lumber and its 17 employees truly appreciate Big Spring, Herren said.

"We really appreciate Big Spring and the people of Big Spring and we just want to do anything we can to give back to help the town grow and to be successful."

Banking has never been easier at Cosden Federal Credit Union

By BILL MCCLELLAN
News Editor

Whether you prefer the convenience of the Internet or the personal touch that only a face-to-face visit can provide, Cosden Federal Credit Union makes banking easier.

"We want to make it as easy for our members as possible," said David Morris, CEO.

Cosden members can pay their bills, look up transactions, check their balance and even apply for a loan over the Internet.

"The Internet is the future in this business," said Morris.

But for customers who have no Internet access, Cosden is still easily accessible. For instance, Cosden FCU offers 24-hour telephone service.

New Cosden CEO excited about being in Big Spring

HERALD Staff Report

The new chief executive officer at Cosden Federal Credit Union hasn't been in Big Spring long, but is already feeling relaxed.

"What do they say about towns this size? This is a small big town. I feel comfortable here," said David Morris.



DAVID MORRIS

Morris has been in the finance banking business for 18 years. He moved to Big Spring from Amarillo, where he was president of the Amarillo Postal Employees Credit Union for eight years.

He served on the Texas Credit Union League board of directors for four years, was a member of the American Business Club

and the office, located east of Dunlap's on FM 700, features drive-through as well as walk-in banking.

And with automated teller machines and Mastercard service, it's easy to purchase items or get cash in a hurry, anytime.

The credit union offers savings accounts, checking accounts, certificates of deposits, IRA accounts, loans and other services for its members.

Which brings up the point, who can be a member?

"Anyone who lives in Howard County," said Morris.

Cosden FCU received a community charter in September 2000, allowing anyone who lives, works, goes to school,

worships or conducts business in Howard County to join.

Here's another incentive. Beginning in April, Cosden will again be offering free checking as well as special loan incentives.

"We intend to offer things geared toward our membership," said Morris.

Parents and college-age students will be interested in another program.

"We work through Howard College to provide student grant funds to help people go through college," said Morris. "And that is something I think we are going to be even more involved with in the future."

And that is what Cosden is all about. Friendly banking, while providing its customers the latest in ease and technology.



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By ROGER CL

Staff Writer

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Family Medical Center's first goal is preventative health care

Special to the Herald

Family Medical Center is a Modern Primary Care facility that takes care of health needs from birth to maturity.

We take care of urgent needs and minor emergencies. We are sponsors for Shots Across Texas and believe in protecting our children with immunizations and monthly check-ups. We provide pre-employment, DOT, athletic and general physicals.

Our first goal is preventative health care.

We have lab X-ray electrocardiography pulmonary function, hearing testing and bone mineral density (DEXA) exams.

Family Medical Center has five physicians —

John Farquhar, MD medical director, board certified family practice/emergency medicine. He cares for patients through their entire life span.

His staff includes Stacia Gill, med. tech, Lucy

Campos, certified medical technician, and Mary Lawdermilk, medical assistant.

Guido Toscano, M.D., board certified internal medicine. He has been with FMC for two years. He treats adults with complex medical histories. His staff includes Shannon Eason, registered med. tech.

Dr. Bernal, M.D., pediatrician joined FMC's staff in 2001. She takes care of infants, children and adolescents and her practice is growing rapidly. Her staff includes Trisha Franks, registered med. tech.

Dr. Bradley, D.O., is board certified in family practice. He has recently completed his first year at FMC. He has a special interest in dermatology. He also cares for the full life span of an individual. His staff includes Traci Watson, registered med. tech.

Dr. Byerly, MD OB/GYN board eligible. He has been with FMC for seven months. Not only is he an obstetri-

cian, he also takes care of female health needs from annual exams to the more complex problems which could result in surgery. His staff includes Mitzi Knight, registered med. tech. and clinic manager.

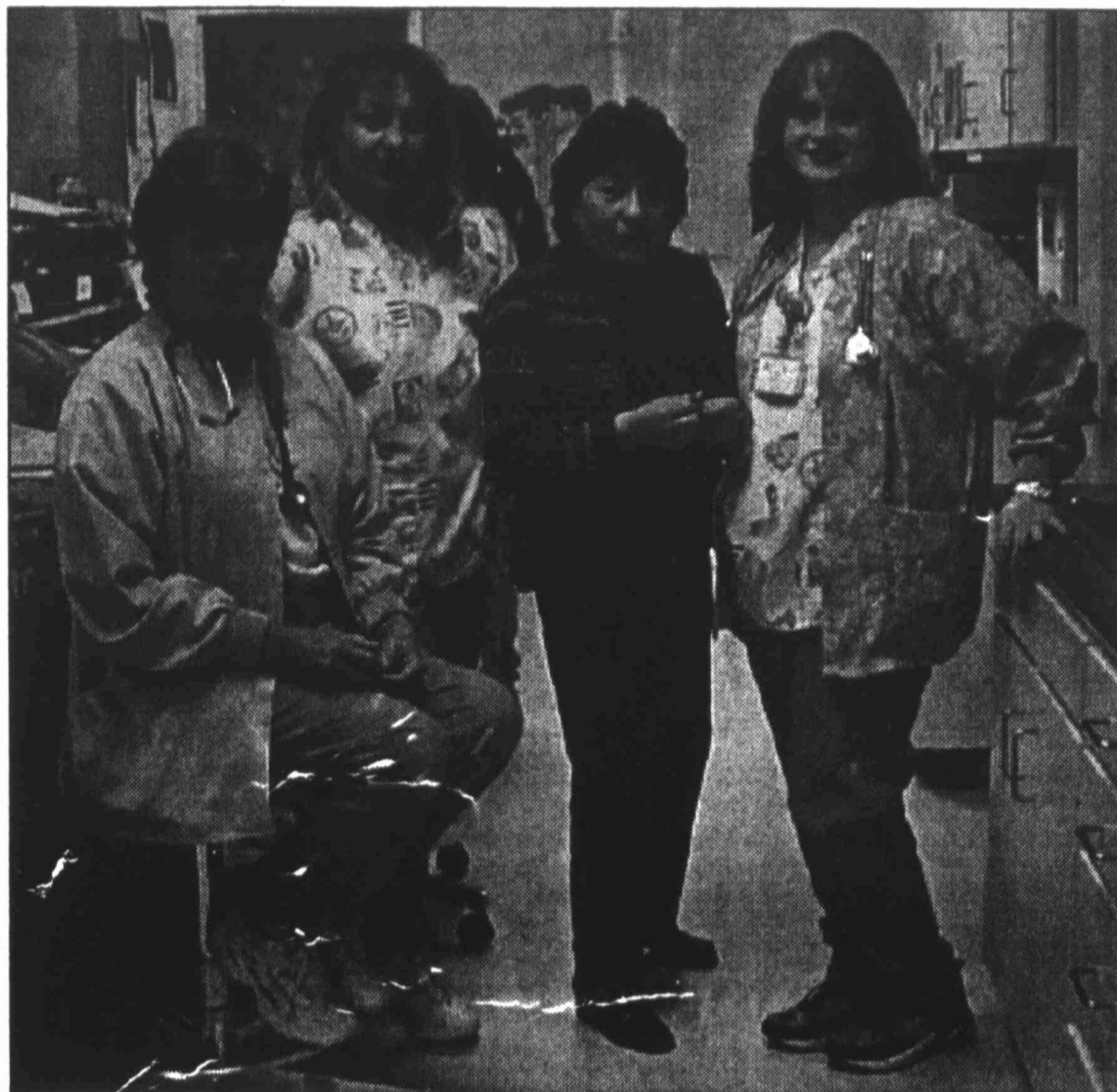
The staff at Family Medical Center tries hard to meet the needs of each individual patient.

You will be greeted by our front office staff, Shelly Cansino, Stephanie Sperry, Shannon Galon and Christi Ontiveros.

Our in-house lab is ran by Christina Hilario, phlebotomist and Tresa Hull, registered phlebotomist.

Natalie McDonald, registered radiology tech. and Brandi Sizenback, registered radiology take care of the X-ray department and bone densitometry.

Our billing staff is easily accessible and includes, Kelly Tubb MSO manager, Julie Alvarez, Viola Barfield, Jennifer Hale, Gloria Ramos, Trisha Valle and Chelsea Webb.



Above: Part of the Family Medical Center staff includes from left, Mary Lawdermilk, Shannon Eason, Dr. Ruth Bernal and Trish Franks. At left: The Center has friendly billing staff to help serve its customers better. From left, back row, Chelsea Webb, Viola Barfield, Summer Sparks, and Kelli Tubb, and front row, Trisha Valle, Julie Alvarez, Jennifer Hale and Gloria Ramos. At right: Pictured clockwise from left are Lucy Campos, Dr. Byerly, Mitzi Knight and Dr. John Farquhar. The center is located at 2301 Gregg St.

HERALD Photos/Andrea Medlin



Wireless World encourages people to come in and compare

By ROGER CLINE
Staff Writer

Although it's been in business only a year, Wireless

World, 1901 S. Gregg, has already set sales records basin-wide.

Manager Rodney Ferrell said customer service, variety and good products are

the business's key to success.

But the business is in a bit of turmoil right now because All-Star Sports, which shared the building with Wireless World, is moving to a new location.

"All-Star Sports has moved to 607 Gregg and has new managers, Robert and Young Woodard," he said. "We've actually been here for 10 years with the sporting goods business."

"We want to give customer service and we want to be able to service what we sell," he said.

"We try give people here the biggest variety of cellular and wireless products that we can."

— Manager Rodney Ferrell

"Some of the companies allow you to do more than others. What we really

encourage you to do is come in and compare the different companies."

Wireless world offers cellular service through three different companies, Ferrell said.

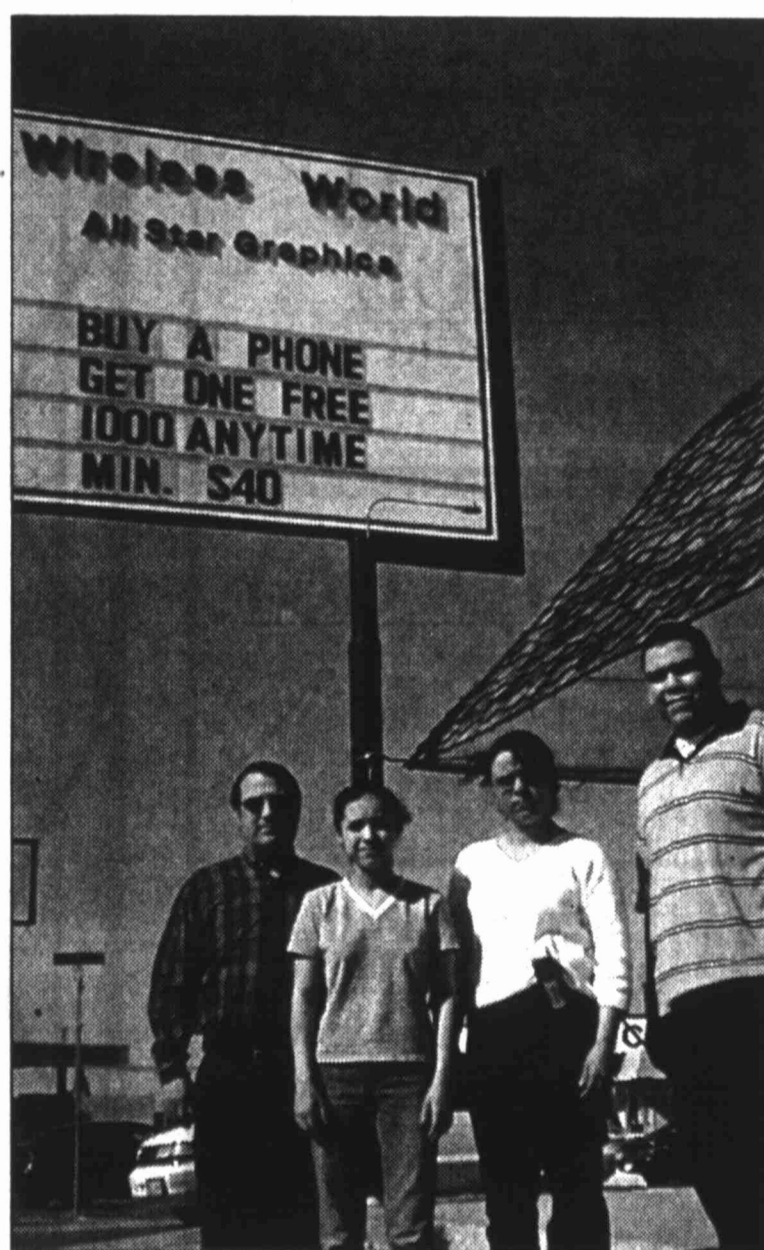
"We try give people here the biggest variety of cellular and wireless products that we can," he said. "Now we've added Cellular One, so we actually have Sprint, NextTel and Cellular One. We actually have a service that will work for everybody, whether they're in the cities and on the highways, or whether they need rural

coverage." Satellite-based Direct TV offers great station selection for the price, Ferrell said.

"We have Direct TV, where we can give them 131 channels for \$31.99," he said.

"If they compare that to the competitors, they'll find that's extremely competitive. We have free satellite dishes and free installation, that's even two receivers," Ferrell added.

The company even offers home phone service, pagers and will soon provide Internet services.



HERALD photo/Roger Cline
Wireless World, located at 1901 S. Gregg St., boasts a dedicated staff including manager Rodney Ferrell, left, Monica Sells, Eunice Gonzalez and Eduardo Estrada.

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Howard College Cosmetology seeing increased enrollment

Howard College Cosmetology Department continues to see increased growth in student enrollment and offers classroom hours and credits that are recognized world wide.

"Our graduates are trained in the various areas of the cosmetology business, based upon their interest, and this certification allows our students to go anywhere in the world and work in this profession," said Gary Don Carey, cosmetology instructor for Howard College.

The program enrolls students the first Monday of each month of the year except December, and graduation depends on the certification a student seeks, he said.

"We offer various modern certifications, from nail technology to shampoo and

conditioning experts to estheticians, those who specialize in skin care. Our program is constantly growing and we have more students enroll every month," Carey said.

Nail Technology

This specialization requires 600 clock hours. Students enroll for two eight-week sessions. These four classes must be completed before applying for the State Board Exam: Orientation to Nail Technology - Principles of Nail Technology I, Principles of Nail Technology II, and Nail Enhancement. A licensed manicure specialist is qualified to perform all nail services including sculptured nails, fiberglass overlays, silk overlays, and tip applications as well as

manicures and pedicures.

Shampoo/Conditioning Specialists

This specialization teaches the art of shampooing, application of conditioners and rinses, scalp manipulation, and shampooing hair goods in a licensed beauty salon. One month of structured classes, which provides the 150 clock hours required by the Texas Cosmetology Commission, prepares the student for this career choice.

Estheticians

A specialize in skin care rather than hairstyling in the Howard College Cosmetology program is offered with this program.

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PSYC 2301
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ITSC 1309* or COSC 1401
HRPO1311
SPCH 1321 or SPCH 1315
TECM 1303

*May be articulated as a Tech Prep course from high school

Howard College Student Assistance Center offers students one location

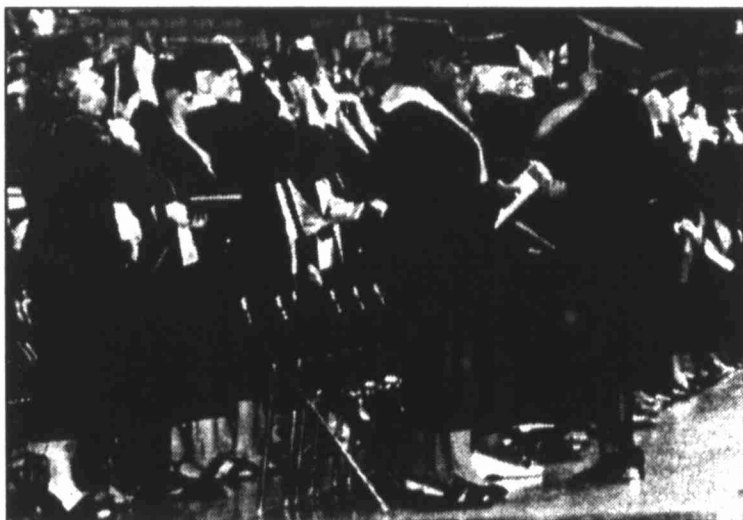
After opening the Student Assistance Center at Howard College last fall, student traffic at the one-stop shop continues to keep a brisk pace.

"We created a new enrollment management area for our students, and the Student Assistance Center provides all the information and forms

scholarship forms, college information and directions.

Student recruitment is located within the center as well. Student recruiter Elizabeth Morton travels to high schools within the Howard College 13-county service area providing workshops and information to prospective students.

"It really made sense to



Students may also manufacture, sell, or apply cosmetics. As highly trained specialists, estheticians provide preventative treatments as well as other treatments to keep skin healthy and attractive. This certificate also requires 600 clock hours.

Cosmetology

Instructor Option

The six-month Cosmetology Instructor Option is available to licensed cosmetologists. The program includes six specific courses and requires 750 clock hours as prescribed by the Texas Cosmetology Commission. Licensed operators with two years of verifiable experience are required to complete only 250 clock hours of instruction in a training program.

Admissions Policy

Students may enroll the first Monday of each month (except December). Applicants must be at least 17 years of age with a high school diploma or a GED. The enrollment process begins with the Cosmetology Instructor in the Cosmetology lab located in the Practical Arts Building on the Howard College campus.

students need to begin college," said Dr. Amy Burchett, Howard College vice president for instruction and student services.

SAC personnel provide financial aid forms, disburse assigned times for registration and answer enrollment questions for students. The center is located in the Administration Building, directly across the hall from the switchboard.

"This location is ideal for our prospective students because it is the first office they see when they walk through the front doors," said Ann Duncan, SAC director.

Along with all college entrance and financial aid forms, students may obtain catalogs, class schedules,

place all these areas within one center, and the efforts have been successful for both our students and our personnel," Burchett said.

Several smaller offices were remodeled to create the center.

"We want all our students, and their parents, to feel they can walk into the Student Assistance Center and have their questions answered. We assist students with completing forms, as well as obtaining times for registration and direction through the registration process," Duncan said.

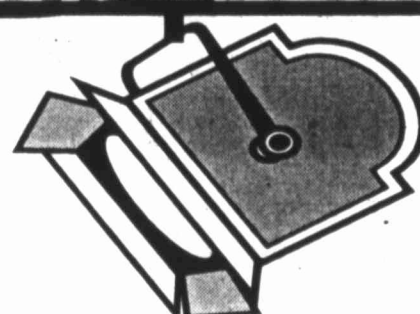
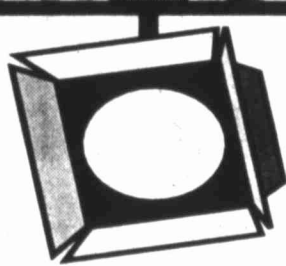
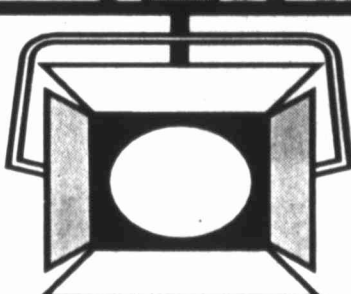
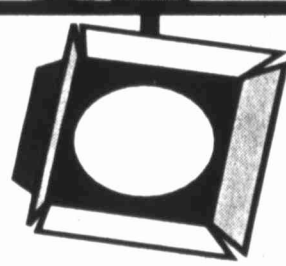
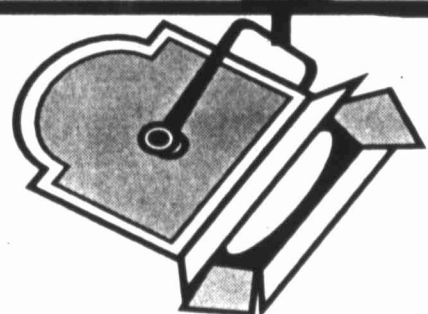
Registration for the summer and fall semesters begins April 15 and continues through July 19.

For more information call the Assistance Center at 264-5083.



Courtesy photo

All student work within the Cosmetology Program at Howard College is supervised by instructor Gary Don Carey. Community members may visit the Cosmetology Department at Howard College to receive a variety of services at reduced fees, including hair cuts, permanents, nails, color treatments, pedicures and manicures. Appointments are accepted Monday-Wednesday from 1-5 p.m. and Thursday from 1-7 p.m. Closed Fridays. Call 264-5062 to make an appointment.



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- Management
- Marketing

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGY

- Maintenance and Repair
- Production
- Quality Control and Management

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

CHILD AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

COSMETOLOGY

- Stylist
- Nail Technician
- Instructor

OFFICE ADMINISTRATION

COMPUTER & INFORMATION SCIENCES

- Information Management
- Networking
- PC Maintenance
- Web Design and Management

DRAFTING

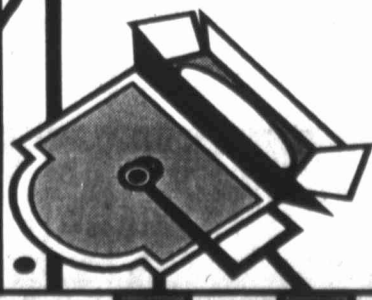
- Computer-Assisted Drafting Using AutoCAD Software

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Risk Management Academy answers needs

More workers than ever are being hurt on the job according to the Texas Mutual Fund Insurance Company (TMFIC).

"Workers' compensation claims, extended periods of sick leave and minor and major accidents are playing a big part in our daily work force situation," said William Strasburg, the Loss Prevention Specialist of the Texas Mutual Fund Insurance Company (TMFIC).

Regardless of pre-employment or early employment training, accidents continue to occur on a regular basis.

According to Stacy Payne-DeArmond, Howard College Director of Continuing Education and the Risk Management Academy, three critical courses, sponsored by the TMFIC, will be held on campus in the Spring 2002 semester.

"These are the same courses that many businesses pay anywhere from \$300 to \$500 for to send their employees for risk and safety management instruction," she said.

"I don't think we have a single class that costs over \$25, and most are much less than that. The courses that we are offering have the exact same instruction as the expensive ones in the larger cities. They are taught by experts in their fields and are hand-picked by TMFIC.

"Our instructors are our own employees who specialize in certain areas," Strasburg said. "We are an insurance company that pays out millions of dollars

per year in workers' compensation claims. We want our safety and risk management courses to be taught by the best that we have, and we are stringent in our selective process. We are keeping prices low and quality high so that employer and employee alike can learn to avoid risking injury."

OSHA 10-Hour General Industry is on the slate for this fall on the San Angelo campus.

"This course presents detailed information on how the provisions of OSHA may be implemented in the workplace," Payne-DeArmond said.

"Important topics will be discussed, such as the rights and responsibilities under OSHA, the appeals process and essential record keeping," she said.

She added that the class includes an introduction to

walking/working surfaces, means of egress, fire protection, electrical hazards, hazardous materials, personal protective equipment, machine guarding, safety and health programs, and more.

"This is a great course for employers and anyone interested in occupational safety and health as well as those who are concerned about meeting OSHA general industry standards," she said.

On April 3, the course, Overview of Worker's Compensation, will be offered.

"This class lasts only four hours," Payne-DeArmond said, "but it is loaded with information. The instructor will review, among other things, many common workers' compensation claim forms used by employers, some new and redesigned. The students

and the rights and responsibilities of both parties.

"This short course is important for employers and employees from all types of businesses, including administrative staff that are responsible for helping to administer Worker's Comp claims and also for anyone interested in knowing more about the Texas Workers' Compensation system," Payne-DeArmond said.

Occupational Ergonomics will be taught on May 2.

"A lot of us have those little aches and pains, mostly in our backs, necks and even our forearms and we don't realize that many times it is because of our workplace environment," Payne-DeArmond said. "We don't know that the problems may disappear by making a few adjustments at our desk or in our work area. That's what occupational ergonomics is all about.

"Ergonomics, as I understand it, is the field of study concerned with keeping people safe, comfortable and productive while they perform tasks at work and at home. It is based on the principle that you make the task fit the person performing it without stressing that person's abilities or ignoring the person's limitations. In this way, you maximize productivity and you ensure that employees acquire few to no injuries," she said.

Occupational Ergonomics, an eight-hour course, will assist employers and employees in recognizing ergonomic hazards that lead to a variety of Cumulative Trauma Disorders (CTD) as well as develop solutions to prevent or reduce the potential of the CTDs.



Courtesy photo
Dr. Cheryl Sparks, president of Howard College, accepts a \$100,000 check from David Frakes, Texas Workers Compensation Insurance Fund and State Representative David Counts at a special reception honoring the second year of the Risk Management Academy at Howard College. The Academy is entering its third year at Howard College.

Topics include the science of ergonomics, steps to analyze the workplace, ergonomic hazard prevention and control, successful training and education techniques, medical management programs and a review of OSHA's proposed Ergonomic Standard.

"This is a great course," Payne-DeArmond said.

"It will familiarize students with the ergonomic information they need to make their work area a friendly and safe place to perform their daily tasks. When I took it, I learned that the biggest pain in my neck was from the way I looked down at my computer monitor. I couldn't believe it when a simple adjustment in the height of my monitor, took away that pain."

Future courses that will be taught by field experts

include Hazardous Materials, the OSHA 10-Hour Construction course, Back Injury Prevention, Farm & Ranch Safety, Oilfield Safety, and others.

"If the Big Spring business community sees a need for safety and risk management short courses that we do not currently offer, please get in touch with Stacy at Howard College," Strasburg said.

"TMFIC will partner with Howard College to develop courses to meet the needs of this community," he said.

For enrollment information, contact the Howard College Risk Management Academy at (915) 264-5130.

Stacy DeArmond Payne, director of Continuing Education and the Risk Management Academy, contributed to this article.



OSHA's general industry standards and an overview of the requirements of the more frequently referenced standards. Other topics include the general duty clause, inspections, citations and penalties,

will learn all about the new laws and legislations for 2002."

Subjects covered include entitlement to income benefits, calculation of benefits, administrative dispute resolution systems,

Upcoming Classes Big Spring Campus

Workers Compensation Overview

April 3 8 a.m. - Noon

Occupational Ergonomics

May 1

Personal Protective Equipment & Bloodborn Pathogens

June 5 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

July 10 8 a.m. - Noon

Slip/Trip/Fall

July 10 1-5 p.m.

Upcoming Classes San Angelo Campus

Workers Compensation Overview

April 4 8 a.m. - Noon

Occupational Ergonomics

May 2

Bloodborn Pathogens

June 6 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Back Injury Prevention

July 11 8 a.m. - Noon

Slip/Trip/Fall

July 11 1-5 p.m.



Upcoming Fall Courses

Basic Safety Orientation

Hazard Communications

Hazardous Materials Transportation

Hazwoper

Workers Compensation Overview

General Industry

915-264-5171

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Rip Griffin's: It's definitely not just a truck stop

By ROGER CLINE
Staff Writer

Travelers across most of the Southwestern United States have enjoyed the service, good food and products available at Rip Griffin Travel Centers for more than 30 years.

"Our goal at Rip Griffin is to provide services and goods to both the professional drivers and personal travelers," said B.R. "Rip" Griffin in a greeting on his Web site, www.ripgriffin.com. "Our philosophy is to offer the highway traveler a place of rest and relaxation, where he or she will find fuel, food, lodging and enjoyment in a guaranteed clean, well-kept, gracious environment."

The Big Spring Rip Griffin Travel Center, located at the intersection of Interstate 20 and U.S. Highway 87, boasts a Subway restaurant, a convenience store, a gift/souvenir store, equipment for truckers, a game room, a restaurant and much more.

Leonita Whiteley, restaurant manager, said her job is to offer hot, tasty food to travelers and to locals.

"I would say maybe 30 to 35 percent comes from truckers," she said. "Probably between the truckers and what we get off of the highway, it's about 75 percent of our business. Twenty five percent is probably local people. My goal is, really, to increase that. I would like to have an even mixture, half and half."

A planned building project will hopefully help that goal come true, she said.

"We're going to be building a new restaurant later this year. I'm hoping when we get that new restaurant

"If any of the people out there have ever seen any of the caterings that we've done, they've figured out that this isn't your average run-of-the-mill truck stop."

up it will increase the local business," she said. "It will be on the opposite end of the property, down next to where Subway is right now. Currently, it's truck parking. That will become the new restaurant. We'll actually double in size. We'll be able to offer a private dining facility at that time. This is all in the preliminary plans. It's not in stone yet."

Too many local people see Rip Griffin's as a truck stop, she said.

"They've got the notion that it's a truck stop," she said. "If any of the people out there have ever seen any of the caterings that we've done, they've figured out that this isn't your average run-of-the-mill truck stop. We've done several caterings, and we do caterings very well. If people would just come out and try our buffet, it would give them an idea of the kind of things we can do."

The buffet is one of the restaurant's highlights, Whiteley said.

"We do a breakfast buffet from 6 a.m. to 10:30, and then we have a lunch and dinner buffet which goes up at 11 in the morning and stays up until 10 o'clock at night, seven days a week. We are open 24 hours a day," she said, adding that the buffet fare changes throughout the week. "On Wednesdays we do Italian food. Thursdays we do Mexican food. Fridays is fish. Saturdays we do barbecue. Sundays is turkey and dressing and ham. Mondays and Tuesdays, there's no telling what they'll have out there."

Mondays and Tuesdays are up to the restaurant's veteran buffet cook, she said. "Our buffet cook has been here about 11 years now, and he does an outstanding job on the buffet and he likes to get creative. He does it real well."

The restaurant also includes a full menu, Whiteley said.

"You can get anything from steaks to burgers to sandwiches, a cup of soup or a peanut butter sandwich," she said. "If you've just got a hankering for a peanut butter sandwich, we've got it."

Fare on both the menu and the buffet is homemade, she said.

"We do homemade fudge, homemade pies, cakes," she said. "They're actually homemade, we don't just get them out of a box and slide them in the oven. Same way with our dinner rolls and biscuits. We make everything homemade from scratch. It's just good, down-home country cooking."

And on the way out, din-

See TRAVEL, Page 11E



Rip Griffin Truck and Travel Center, located at the intersection of Interstate 20 and U.S. Highway 87, offers gasoline, a variety of food, souvenirs and services for the professional trucker and the highway traveler alike.



Among its many gift ideas, Rip Griffin Truck and Travel Center offers seasonal and holiday-themed gifts.



From 6 to 10:30 a.m., Rip Griffin Truck and Travel Center restaurant offers a piping-hot breakfast buffet. The buffet changes over to lunch and dinner selections at 11 a.m. and stays open until 10 p.m.



Rip Griffin Truck and Travel Center offers a game room for truckers and travelers who need a stimulating break from the open road.



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Newly has ser

Special to the H

Big Spring Center has gone through a lot of changes in the past year, including the renovation of its building on Gregg St. and a new branch manager.

"We've basically changed the size of the building," said Becky McCann, president. "We've cramped and now we have lots of room, so we're very happy about that."

Big Spring Center moved into its new Bluebonnet facility in October. The State National Bank of Texas. Since then, the name and the building have changed. The first to avoid the name was the local State Bank and the second to provide better service to customers and more employees.

It's worked out well. The center has deposits this past year of about \$50 million.

Last year, the center went through another change in branch management. Cooper was replaced by Azle and Ron Frazier, named executive vice president and branch manager.

"Mr. Brooks has a background in agriculture-related business. That's been a great asset for us," said McCann. "One-third of our customers are agriculture-related."

TRAVEL

Continued from P

ers can purchase candy to take home. The restaurant sells chocolate and taffy in regular and free varieties.

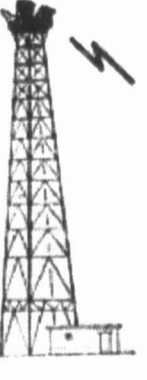
Rip Griffin's offers more than food, Whiteley said. "There's the travel center," she said. "They offer a complete line of gift items you can't find at a mart."

The store specializes in Southwestern-themed items, including a unique cactus figurine made from cut glass, and other souvenirs.

Travelers or shoppers who go can save time and convenience stores added.

"Really we're not stopping shopping here," said Whiteley. "You can get gas, you can get a loaf of milk, loaf of bread, ever it is you need."

Rip Griffin, Center and Travel Centers, started



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Big Spring

Newly remodeled Big Spring Banking Center has services to handle all your financial needs

Special to the Herald

Big Spring Banking Center has gone through a lot of changes in the past year, including an expansion of its building at 109 S. Gregg St. and a change in branch managers.

"We've basically doubled the size of the building," said Becky McCauley, vice president. "We were pretty cramped and now we've got lots of room, so we're very happy about that."

Big Spring Banking Center moved into the former Bluebonnet Savings facility in October of 1996 as State National Bank of West Texas. Since then, both the name and the look of the building have changed — the first to avoid confusion with the local State National Bank and the second to provide better service for customers and more room for employees.

It's worked well, with deposits this past year of about \$50 million.

Last year, the bank underwent another change when branch manager O.L. Cooper was transferred to Azle and Ron Brooks was named executive vice president and branch manager.

"Mr. Brooks is from Coahoma and has a good background in agriculture. That's been a great asset to us," said McCauley. "About one-third of our loans are agriculture-related but we



HERALD staff photo
Big Spring Banking Center, 109 S. Gregg St., offers full-service banking at its newly remodeled location. The renovations more than doubled the size of the facility, which features a drive-through and on-site ATM.

are a commercial bank and we can do just about any type of loan."

The bank also offers checking and savings accounts, IRAs, CDs, mortgage loans, trust services, investments, overdraft protection and more.

In keeping with current technology, Big Spring Banking Center features the latest advances for customer convenience.

"We have Internet bank-

ing, 24-hour phone XPress service, Visa check cards and an ATM on-site," said McCauley. "We set up all types of checking and savings accounts, probably any kind that any customer could possibly want."

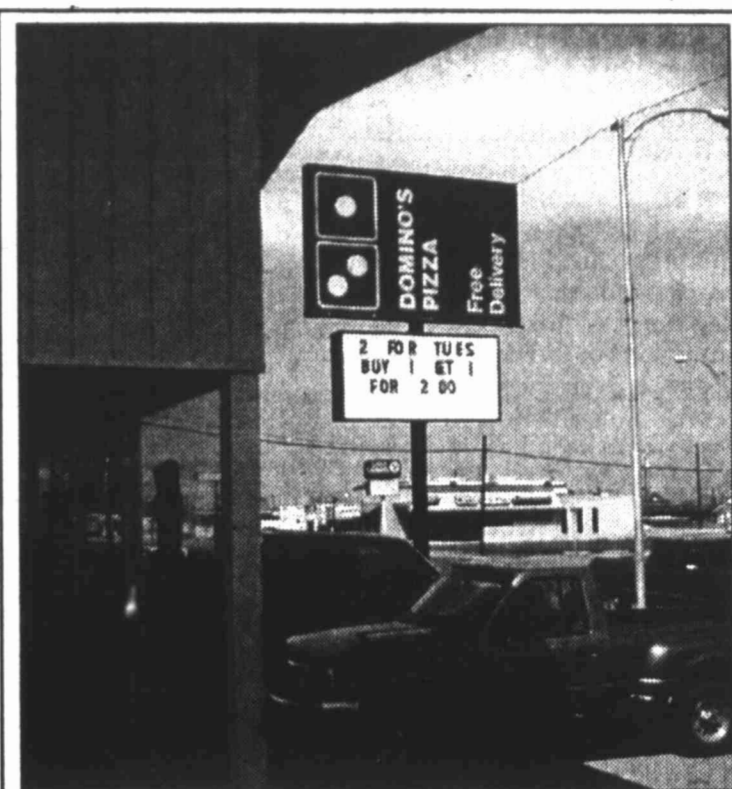
Of course, Big Spring Banking Center also offers drive-through as well as walk-in banking during normal business hours.

The bank has nine full-time and one part-time

employees. A community board made up of 10 local business professionals oversees operations.

Big Spring Banking Center is a part of the State National Bank system. Headquartered in Lubbock, the holding company has 37 banks in West Texas and New Mexico.

For more information about Big Spring Banking Center and its services, call 267-1651.



HERALD photo/Roger Cline
Domino's Pizza, 2202 S. Gregg St., has bought the Little Caesar's building across the street at 2111 S. Gregg. Domino's will remodel and move into the building in the near future.

Domino's Pizza moving to competitor's building

By ROGER CLINE
Staff Writer

Changes are afoot in Big Spring's pizza industry.

Now that the local Little Caesar's franchise has closed its doors, Domino's Pizza has purchased the building on the corner of Gregg and 22nd Street and will soon move its operation across the street.

"We were ready to re-image the store, which was required by Dominoes," said Domino's manager

Greg Williams. "We didn't really like the parking lot where we're at. We don't really like the building. Before Little Caesars moved in across the street, we were actually interested in that building and we didn't know it was for sale. Now, four years later, he's not making it and he sold out to us."

Although the deal included Little Caesars' pizza-making gear, Domino's

See DOMINO'S, Page 12F

TRAVEL

Continued from Page 10F

ers can purchase a bag of candy to take home. The restaurant sells hard candy, chocolate and saltwater taffy in regular and sugar-free varieties.

Rip Griffin's offers more than food, Whiteley said.

"There's the travel store," she said. "They offer a complete line of gifts, clothing, things you can't find at Wal-Mart."

The store specializes in Southwestern designs, including a unique selection of cactus figurines formed from cut glass, and Texas souvenirs.

Travelers or shoppers on the go can save time at Rip's convenience store, Whiteley added.

"Really we're your one-stop shopping place," she said. "You can come out here, you can eat, you can get gas, you can get a gallon of milk, loaf of bread, whatever it is you need."

Rip Griffin, CEO of Rip Griffin Truck and Travel centers, started his corpora-

tion with a one-pump gasoline station more than 30 years ago. It has since grown to a \$250 million company with headquarters in Lubbock.

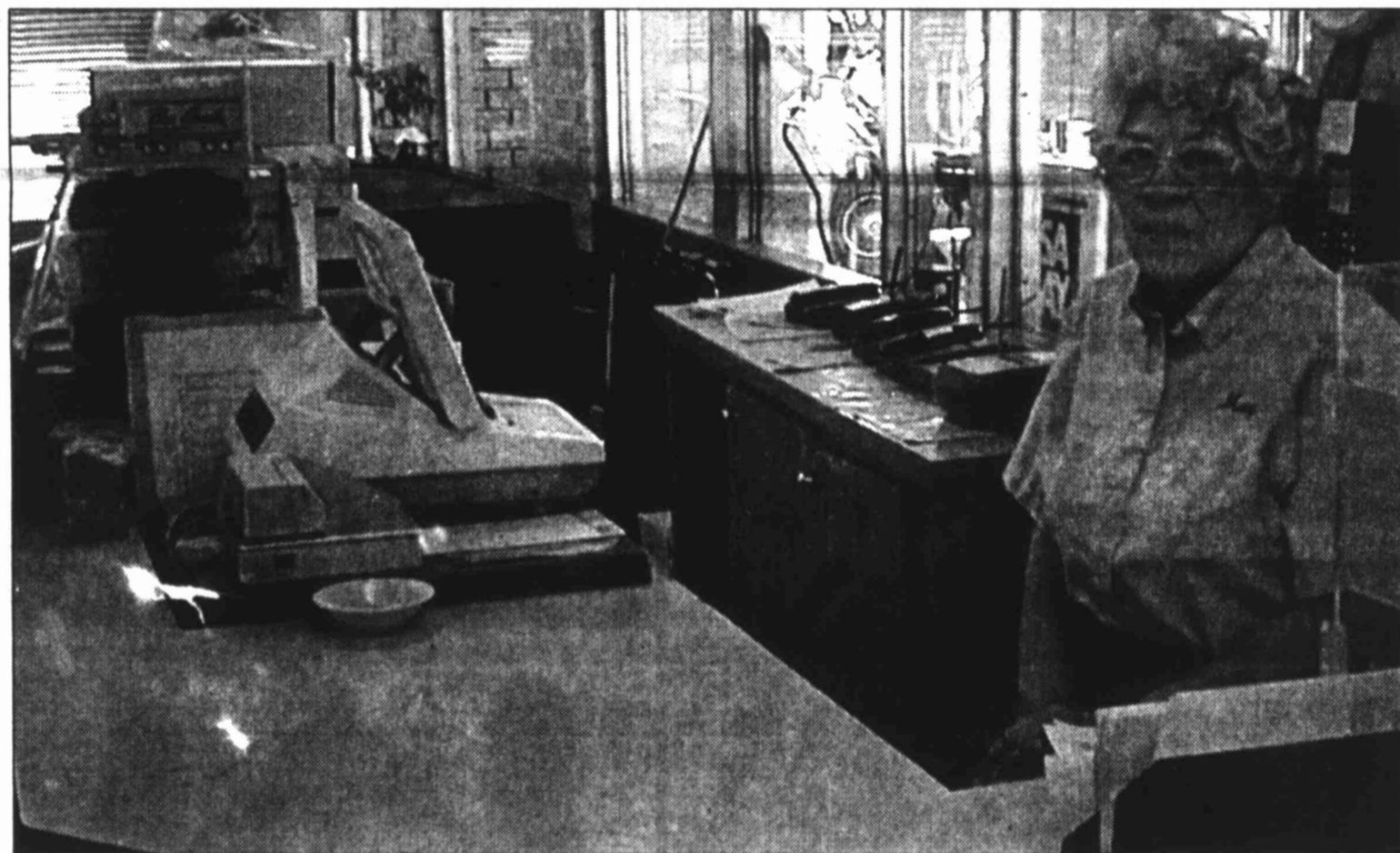
Rip's son Mark Griffin is now the company president, and the chain boasts truck and travel centers not only in Texas, but in New Mexico, Colorado, California, Arizona, and Wyoming. Another will soon be opened in Arkansas.

In all, there are 12 truck and travel centers, with two more on the way.

A recent milestone at Rip Griffin's has been the addition of one or more fast-food chain restaurants at the travel centers.

Customers can now choose between a full-service, sit-down dining experience or a well-known national fast-food facility.

Some centers also boast mid-priced national franchise lodging facilities for both travelers and truckers. Big Spring's center, for example, owns the Super 8 motel next door.



HERALD photo/Roger Cline
Mary Vasquez, cashier at the Rip Griffin Truck and Travel Center restaurant, is one of the many friendly faces visitors encounter.



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Allan's Furniture carrying on tradition of quality products

By ROGER CLINE
Staff Writer

Allan's Furniture may be a relatively new face in Big Spring, but Allan and Margie Johnson are carrying on the four decades of tradition of customer service the Carter family built. "We bought it from the Carters in October of 1995, Allan said. "Myself and Margie we basically took over the business and are

running it the same way the Carters did: Customer service and making everybody happy being our priority. Also, going out and getting the very best that we can get for the money." Johnson said getting the best means not taking the easy road of dealing exclusively with two or three companies. "We don't lock ourselves into just two or three companies, but we deal with 60

or 70 companies each month," he said, adding one exception. "I always try to go out and get the customer the best for their money, period.

"We are a La-Z-Boy gallery, because we believe La-Z-Boy is simply the best, by far, recliner available. We did lock ourselves in there."

The store carries a full line of furniture, he said.

"We specialize in solid wood furniture," he said. "Bedrooms, dining rooms, but we deal with other things also. Solid wood is what we like to sell people that come in here, but we also deal with companies that have been around a long time and do the veneers properly."

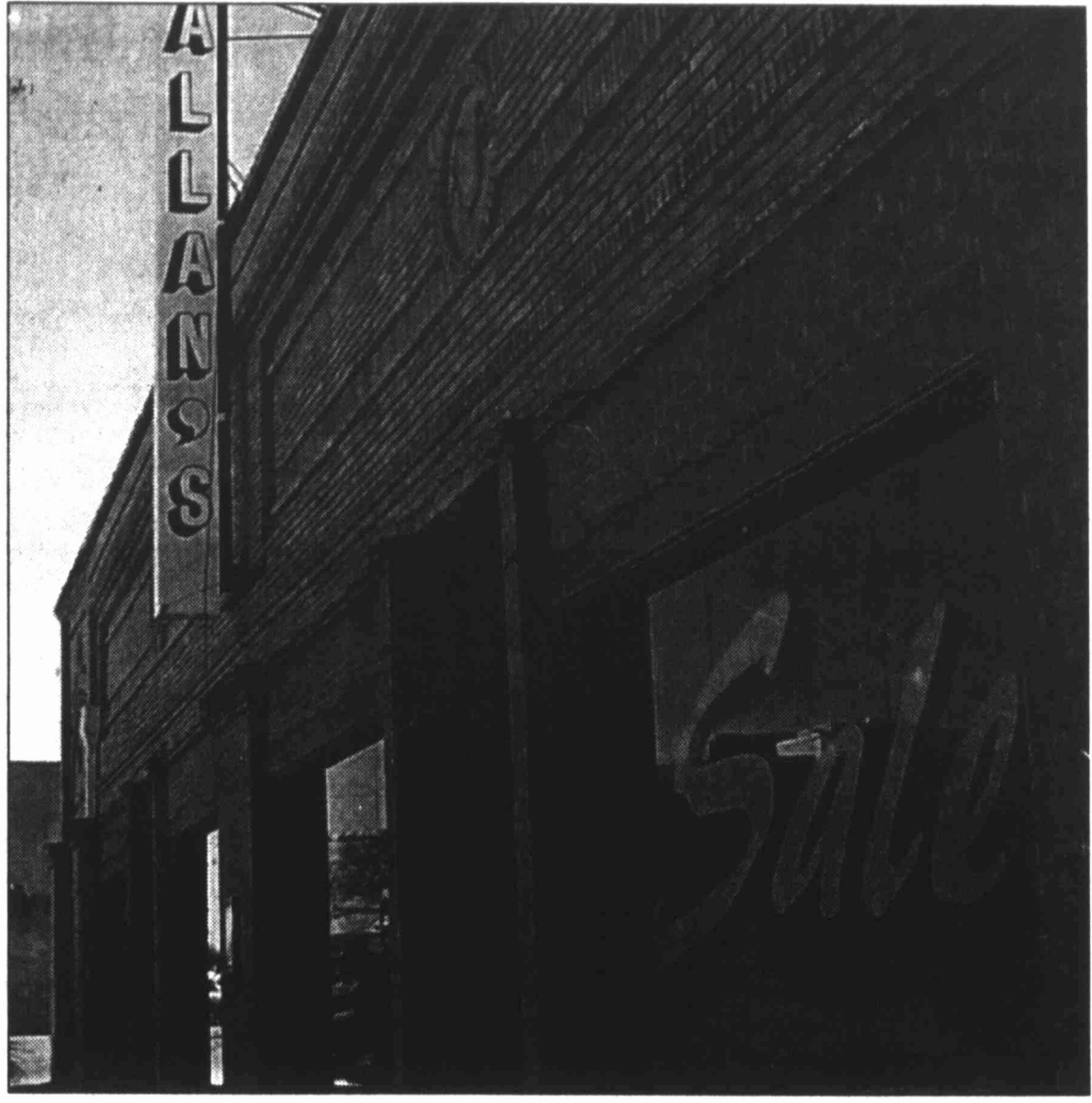
Leather furniture is a rapidly-growing trend, Allan said.

"We are starting to do more and more leather," he said.

"That is a national trend. Leather is just going to wear a lot longer, it's going to last and look a lot better longer. For everyday use you can't beat it."

Leather is for people who like products that last, he said.

"On average for every year people get out of cloth, they're going to get five years out of leather," he said. "Most people change living room sofas every five to seven years, with leather



HERALD photo/Roger Cline

Allan's Furniture is the Permian Basin's highest volume furniture store and offers the lowest prices anywhere in the area, said owner Allan Johnson. Allan's offers easy financing options and free delivery within 100 miles of the store.

products, he said. "We do all kinds of special financing," Allan said. "We are one of the nation's highest volume furniture stores. You cannot go anywhere in West Texas and beat our prices."

The company has low prices and finances the



HERALD photo/Roger Cline

As part of its wide range of furniture, Allan's Furniture is a La-Z-Boy gallery, offering a wide selection of the premium recliners. Allan Johnson said the store regularly deals with more than 60 companies a month, but chose to become a La-Z-Boy gallery because the product is the best available.

Let Jack Sherman Mazda help you zoom, zoom zoom

By JOHN A. MOSELEY
Managing Editor

MIDLAND — Zoom, zoom, zoom.

It's a catchy advertising gimmick. Or is it just a gimmick? From the reviews from a great many automotive critics, Mazda is living up to the sing-song phrase which begins its television commercials.

In fact, a "Behind The Wheel" column in the *New York Times* noted that "Mazda makes some good cars — on occasion, exceptionally good cars — that are all too often rendered invisible by the smoke and mirrors of rivals' better-financed publicity machines.

But in the coming year, Mazda's lineup will shine brighter even without the sort of public relations blitz that the company's richer competitors so routinely generate."

In fact, employees at Jack Sherman Mazda in Midland say the new Mazda MP3, the all-new Tribute, the Protege, Miata Roadster or 626 sport sedans are getting rave reviews from customers that are getting "all the excitement they can handle."

What's more, Jack Sherman sales manager Steve Spain stresses that all the dealership's new cars come with a three-year/50,000-mile warranty

and premium 24-hour roadside protection. And the dealership also provides free loaner vehicles anytime a customer needs to come in for warranted repairs.

Such treatment has proved successful for Jack Sherman Mazda. So much so, in fact, that the dealership was the district winner in Mazda's Gulf Region "Big Apple" contest last year, surpassing 11 other dealerships in the district. In fact, Jack Sherman outsold the Dallas, Fort Worth, Houston and San Antonio markets and was the No. 1-rated Miata dealership in the region.

As a result, Spain won a trip for two to New York City along with a group of 27 leading sales managers and three general managers from the region.

Spain, however, is more than just a Mazda salesman. He's an avid owner of a Mazda Miata.

In fact, his current Miata is his fourth since 1992. He is a co-founder and active member of the Tumbleweed Miata Club of West Texas and Southeast New Mexico, which now boasts almost 90 members and 50 of the roadsters. Spain is also a member of the Leadership Council for the national Miata Owners Club.

The Tumbleweed group is one of just five Miata clubs in Texas and even has its own Web site listing a

schedule of regular rallies and events held each month.

Jack Sherman is the official dealer sponsor for the Tumbleweed Club and has received national recognition for its support of Miata owners.

"The club's beginning was pretty simple," Spain said. "As both a dealer and Miata owner, I decided to get together with a couple of our Miata owners for a picnic in 1997.

"We sent out invitations and made a lot of phone calls to the Miata owners that had purchased their

cars at Jack Sherman Mazda or had them serviced there," he added.

"We also contacted the Miata Club of America to get a list of folks from our area code and zip codes that were members of the national organization. From that we information we contacted people inviting them to our first gathering, and to our surprise, 17 Miatas showed up. Everyone furnished their own lunch and we drove to the Balmorhea State Park."

Spain said the club's favorite rallies usually

involve shorter drives and two or three organized overnight trips each year.

"We seem to migrate 55 miles to the Sky-Vue Drive In Theater in Lamesa three or four times a year," he explained, adding that a couple of times West Texas weather seemed to provide conditions in keeping with the movies.

"While we were watching 'Seven Years in Tibet' one night, the weather turned bitterly cold and we all ended up huddling in our cars with the heaters running during the movie's

Tibetan mountain scenes.

"On another occasion, while we were watching one of the great dust storm sequences in 'The Mummy Returns,' one of those true West Texas sandstorms arrived that sent us running for cover."

He noted that this year's schedule will have the club's members making a weekend run to Ruidoso, a statewide reunion rally in Central Texas and a "Miatas Invade the Vortex" rally in Sedona, Ariz., as well as their usual closer-to-home runs.

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COME ON IN FOR A SENSE OF THE EXOTIC OUTDOORS AND A FRIENDLY SMILE

DOMINO'S

Continued from Page 11F

won't be able to use it and will sell it off, Williams said.

"Most of it we can't use because it's not compatible with Domino's," he said. "But it's going to be new signs, new counters, a whole new look. And of course we like the parking lot."

Another plus sign for Domino's is it has already found a buyer for the old building.

"The (Big Spring Government Employees) Credit Union next door is going to buy this building," he said. "They're going to level it and turn it into a big parking lot."

Williams said he grew up

mainly in Arizona and California as an Air Force brat.

"I worked for Domino's Pizza for probably 10 years before I decided to franchise, and when I was looking around, I actually went to two or three towns, and when I came to Big Spring, I fell in love with the people and that's what sold me on it," he said. "I ended up here. I've been here for 12 years now. I met my wife here and we have four kids now. They were all born while I lived here."

Domino's offers pizza, wings, breadsticks, salads and drinks delivered hot or cold as appropriate. For more information or to place an order, call 267-4111.

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By LYNDEL MO
Staff Writer

Customers re town personaliz Franklin and S lished West Te for more than 4 "I like to get



Franklin and So The business pr tlong work and

City e

By ROGER CLIN
Staff Writer

The city of B focusing on imp From double the dirt roads o renovating the parks and swif from hiring a r manager to re replacing h roofs on city bu

Two of the ma city is improv finances and i state-of-the-art for police offic fighters.

Gary Davis of and Company c lic accounting f ed the city's an the Feb. 26 c meeting and tol that the city's i is close to an level.

The audit sho



Officer Lance Te ment's new laptr field rather than

Cullif into y

By ROGER CLIN
Staff Writer

IRA — It's 1 store.

The "Colors" Colors Greenh refer to paints, in the garden, in flowers, said Peggy Cullifer.

The business three miles e south of Snyder short hop down

They've been multihued tou gardens for Cullifer said. "Cullifer's Co

Customers receive hometown service at Franklin and Son

By **LYNDEL MOODY**
Staff Writer

Customers receive hometown personalized service at Franklin and Son, an established West Texas business for more than 40 years.

"I like to get to know peo-

ple, know their names," said Reggie Franklin, one of the owners of Franklin and Son Inc.

In 1961, Delbert Franklin opened the business in Stanton, selling gasoline both retail and wholesale. Son was added to Franklin

and Son when Terry, Delbert's son, joined the business in the 1970s.

Reggie, Terry's son, joined the business in 1992. The business expanded to open a store in Lamesa in 1996 and a year later in Big Spring at 408 Runnels St.

From fixing flat tires in the shop or out in the field, brake jobs, alignments air conditioning work and work with antifreeze, Franklin and Son offers a variety of services to fix or keep a customer's vehicle in top-notch condition.

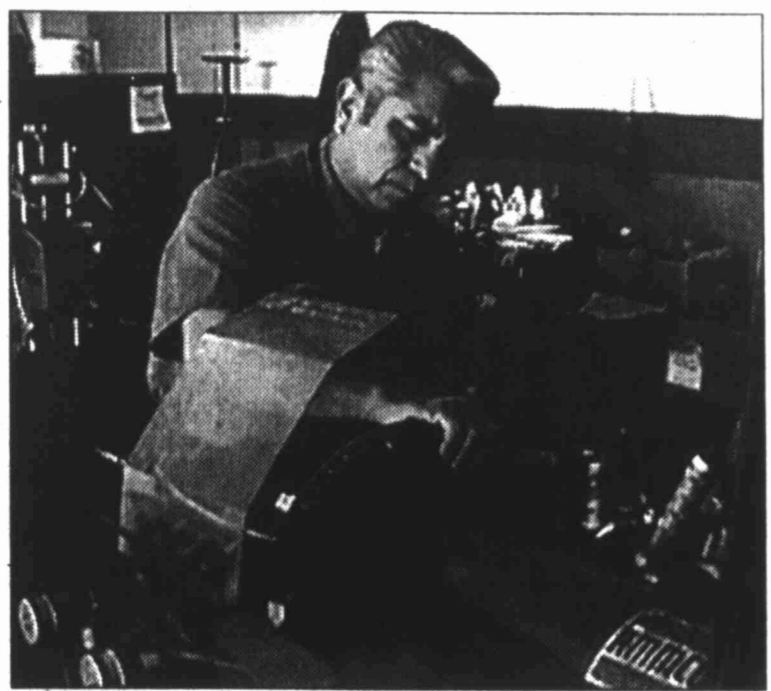
A new service the company has been offering in the past few years is tire sectioning, Reggie said.

Franklin and Son can take a commercial tire that has been damaged, clear out the damaged section, place new rubber and reshape the tire. The tire is almost like new, Reggie said, and the service is considerably less than purchasing a new tire.

For customers looking for new tires, Franklin and Son offers a wide variety of personal cars to commercial, off the road vehicles and more. In the near



HERALD file photo
Franklin and Son Inc., 408 Runnels St., celebrated five years of business in Big Spring this year. Reggie Franklin, the grandson of the original owner of the store in Stanton, runs the Big Spring store.



HERALD file photo
Franklin and Son employee Sal Calvio performs a brake job. The business provides service from fixing tires to air conditioning work and alignments.

future, the store plans to install a larger alignment rack to accommodate larger vehicles.

Now celebrating its fifth year in Big Spring, Reggie

said he has enjoyed meeting and serving the community.

Whether it's Reggie, his mother, Bonnie or Terry, a Franklin is just about always at the Big Spring

store to answer any questions from customers.

"If a customer has a problem, they don't have to far to go to speak to someone at the top," Reggie said.

City employees, council working hard to make community proud

By **ROGER CLINE**
Staff Writer

The city of Big Spring is focusing on improvement.

From double-coat paving the dirt roads of the city, to renovating the city ballparks and swimming pool, from hiring a new air park manager to repairing and replacing hail-damaged roofs on city buildings.

Two of the main areas the city is improving is in its finances and in providing state-of-the-art technology for police officers and firefighters.

Gary Davis of West, Davis and Company certified public accounting firm, presented the city's annual audit at the Feb. 26 city council meeting and told the council that the city's general fund is close to an acceptable level.

The audit shows that the

general fund now contains \$2,198,525, a little more than two months operating expenses.

"We're at about two months right now," Davis said, adding that the council should continue building the fund to three months' operating expenses, or \$3 million to \$3.2 million."

City Financial Director Peggy Walker said the city has come a long way.

"We had several years where we had really insufficient fund balances," she said, adding that in 1995, the general fund dipped to \$85,000.

"Providing an initial balanced budget makes a huge difference," Walker said. "In some previous years because of large expenses that we've had to undertake we haven't always worked within a balanced budget.

Any time that your expenses exceed your revenue, you're dipping into your fund balance."

All department heads must now present and maintain a balanced budget, she said.

"What we do now is we make sure all our budgets are balanced when we present them to council," she said. "The council is aware of this and they've been very considerate and helpful in keeping the budget balanced."

Once the budget is approved, the city departments have to stick to it,

Walker said. "Budget monitoring throughout the year has been a key factor," she said. "Holding each individual department head responsible for their budget. Just because you want some-



PEGGY WALKER **GARY FUQUA** **BRIAN JENSEN**

thing, if it's not budgeted, you can't just run out and get it."

City Manager Gary Fuqua said modern technology is helping department heads keep abreast of the situation.

"(The budget's) on computer now, where each department head can access the budget and look and see where it's spent and how much they have left in each area," he said. "Before, department heads were allowed to overspend an account without having to do anything about it. Now, if they overspend in an account, they have to find money in another account to transfer over to pay for that. We try to turn in realistic budgets that they can live with throughout the year. Of course there are always emergencies that come up."

cover it."

New technology is constantly being developed to make public servants' lives safer and more efficient.

Jensen said firefighters will soon be getting a taste of that new technology with the advent of Personal Alert Safety Systems.

The device is worn by each firefighter, and sounds a loud alert if he stops moving for a period of time while fighting a fire.

"We budgeted those last year, but this year they're a lot more important with everything that's happened at the trade center," Jensen

said, adding that after the terrorist attack, the devices were mandated by the legislature.

"Senate Bill 382 has the guidelines to make firefighting safer," he said.

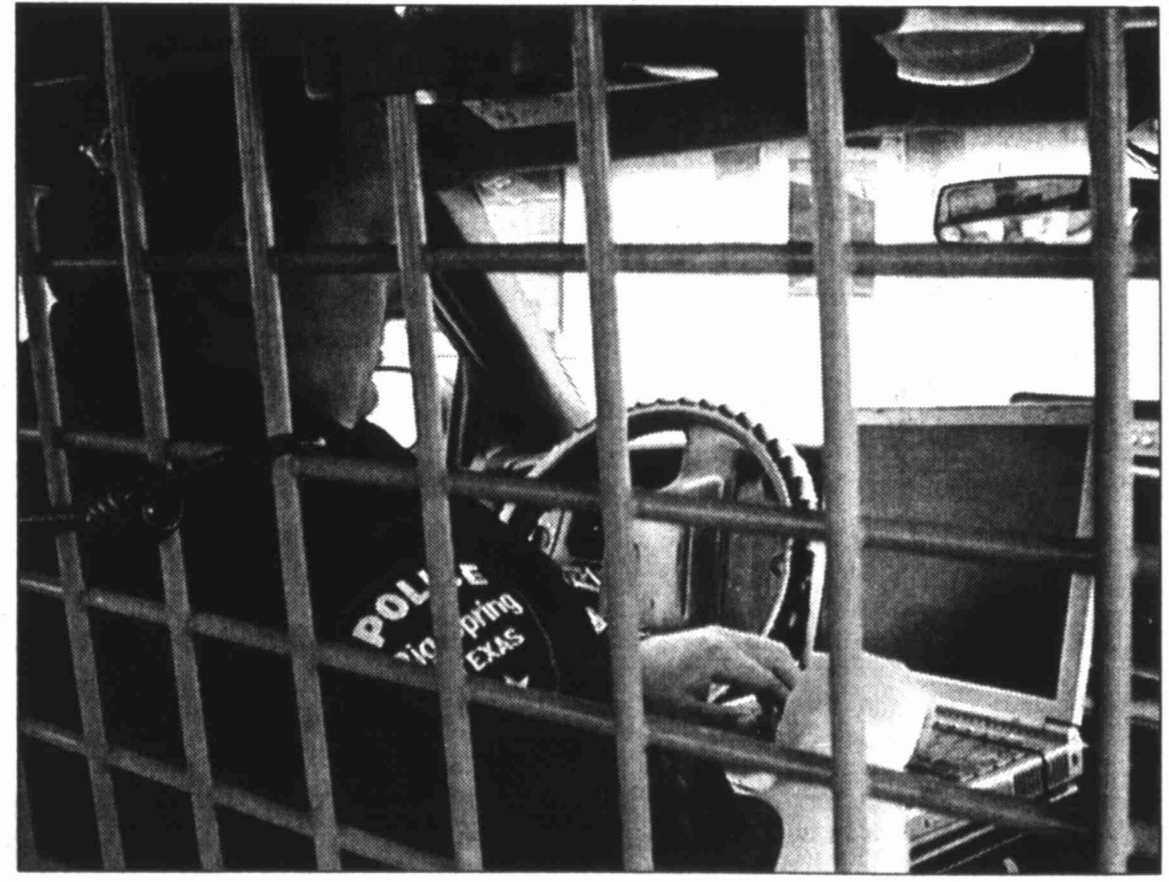
Big Spring's police force isn't being left behind in the technology race.

Lieutenant Drew Bavin said video cameras, laptop computers and digital cameras in the patrol units are making the officers' jobs easier.

Video helps the police make cases against suspects, he said.

"Basically it's an investigative tool, you might say," he said. "When you're talking about a DWI offender or any offender for that matter, you've got another

See CITY, Page 14F



HERALD photo/Roger Cline
Officer Lance Telchik of the Big Spring Police Department works on one of the department's new laptop computers. Officers can use the computers to write their reports in the field rather than having to return to the police station to write them.

Cullifer's Colors brings beauty into your home or your garden

By **ROGER CLINE**
Staff Writer

IRA — It's not a paint store.

The "Colors" in Cullifer's Colors Greenhouse doesn't refer to paints, but to color in the garden, in the form of flowers, said co-owner Peggy Cullifer.

The business is located three miles east of Ira, south of Snyder and just a short hop down FM 1606.

They've been providing a multihued touch to local gardens for 11 years, Cullifer said.

"Cullifer's Colors is the

place to go for great color in your gardens," she said. "We would love for you to stop in and see our top-quality bedding plants, grown in our greenhouses."

With her husband Mark, Peggy specializes in both old favorites and new additions.

"We bring you something new every year," she said.

Among the nursery's offerings are annuals, perennials, vegetables and hanging baskets.

The business also offers a variety of bedding materials, green plants and much more.

Even though the Cullifer's Colors is a short drive from Big Spring, Peggy says the trip is worthwhile.

"It's definitely worth the short drive," she said, adding that Big Spring residents may even find the outing a relaxing break from city life.

Peggy said those desiring more information about Cullifer's Colors should feel free to call for more information. The number is (915) 573-4479.

"Remember," said Peggy, "at Cullifer's Colors, we have your color!"

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All-American has changed names, but not quality of service

By ROGER CLINE

Staff Writer
All-American Dodge-Jeep-Chrysler on FM 700 in Big Spring has a new face, but the dealership has been around for a long time.



MACK KESSLER

The company changed names in January when Fiesta Dodge-Chrysler-Jeep was purchased by the Oregon-based Lithia Motors Corporation, said site manager Mack Kessler.

"The dealership was purchased Jan. 15 by Lithia Motors Corporation," he said. "Lithia is actually a publicly traded corporation. It's on the New York Stock Exchange."

"They are primarily on the West Coast."

Kessler said Lithia owns about 75 dealerships nationwide and sells roughly 26 vehicle brands throughout the franchises.

"Lithia Corporation was started in 1946 as a single-point Dodge store in Medford, Ore.," he said.

"They've grown from there. About six years ago they went public, along with several other groups of dealerships around the United States. Lithia is the only one that has consistently shown a profit, since it was incorporated, every quarter. Its stock is a little more stable than some of the others."

Three other dealerships in West Texas were part of the deal in which Lithia bought the Big Spring dealership.

"Lithia came in, they bought this store, they bought what is now All-American Chrysler-Jeep-Dodge over in Odessa, they bought All-American Chevrolet down in San Angelo, and they also bought the autoplex down there," Alexander's Autoplex," Kessler said.

"They're continually working together to buy more stores. Basically the stores they buy are stores they see a potential in of doing business."

Kessler said he was raised in Texas, but had moved away for business.

"I came back to Texas to take over this store," he said. "I had been in Las Vegas, but I'm from Texas. I grew up in Seymour, up around Wichita Falls."

Other employees are mostly local, with several remaining from before the purchase, he said.

Lithia is working to standardize its business practices.

"Lithia's way of doing business is a little bit different. Every store does business the same way. We have standards that we have to adhere to," he said. "Every used car that we sell has a minimum of a three month or 3,000 mile powertrain warranty."

"That's standard on every used car that we sell, regardless of the year and the make. Of course if the car still has longer than that on its warranty, the customer gets that too."

"The dealership still offers the same brands as Fiesta did, Kessler said. "We have Chrysler, Dodge and Jeep," he said. "And of course Dodge trucks, which is the majority of what we sell out here. More people are interested in trucks out here than anything else."

The company is putting some money back into the business, he added.

"We're already working on some improvements to the facility," Kessler said. "We've done some remodel-

ing inside. Basically we've just done some cosmetic stuff, some painting and cleaning up and that kind of thing."

Lynn Alexander, former owner of the dealerships involved in the January deal and a Lithia stockholder, said the deal is good for both customers and employ-

ees. "We're going to offer a 401(k) matching program, hopefully better health insurance, an employee stock purchase plan and for upper management, stock options," he said. "We think it will create a better employee, a more enthusiastic employee, and that will

turn into better customer service."

The dealerships familiar to local customers will remain in place, he added. "(Customers) need to know that we're not going anywhere," he said. "They're going to keep doing business with the same people."



HERALD photo/Roger Cline
Oregon-based Lithia Motor Corporation recently bought Fiesta Dodge Chrysler Plymouth Jeep in Big Spring and renamed it All-American Dodge Jeep Chrysler. The dealership is located at 502 E. FM 700.



HERALD photo/Roger Cline
All-American Dodge Jeep Chrysler sales representatives Jim Pearce, left, Charlie McKaskle and Bullet Burchett are eager to help those in the market for a new or used car find the best vehicle for their wants or needs.



HERALD photo/Roger Cline
The Chrysler PT Cruiser, left, and the Dodge Neon are two of the many models of automobile offered by All-American Dodge Jeep Chrysler.

Dwain Fox handles all types of accounting work

By ROGER CLINE

Staff Writer
Dwain Fox, who has a local certified public accounting practice at 1101 S. Main in Big Spring, has about 17 years experience in the accounting field, he said.

"I've actually been in this line of work since 1985," he said. "I've been certified since 1988, and I've been in this location since August of '98."

Personal service is what separates Fox from the larger "name-brand" tax preparation and accounting services, he said.

"I like to get to know my clients. I want to know their families, their kids," he said.

"I want to know them on a first-name basis. If they come and talk to me, I want to take the time to sit down and talk to them and get to know them a little bit and just really know what their wants and needs are."

Getting to know his

clients can have advantages in helping him see possible financial strategies that may not have occurred to the clients themselves, he said.

"It seems to me that there's a lot of people out there that do tax work that want you to bring everything in, you never see the person, they take what you've got and put it down on the return," Fox said.

"A lot of times there's more than one way you can do something. I like to work for my clients. I don't like to just take what they give me and spit it out on a form. I like to work for them."

Fox offers a lot of the services that the big companies do, and some they don't.

"I'm a CPA," he said. "We do, of course a lot of tax work for corporations, partnerships, individuals, fiduciaries."

"Really, there's not a lot of tax returns that we don't do. That's of course probably biggest part of what I do."

Payroll tax reports, infor-



HERALD photo/Roger Cline
Certified Public Accountant Dwain Fox operates his firm out of this interesting geodesic dome building at 1101 S. Main St. Fox offers personalized tax and accounting services for businesses and individuals.

mation returns such as W-2s, 1099s, sales tax and state unemployment tax are also on Fox's palate.

"We also do bookkeeping and financial statement compilation," he said. "I also do consulting regarding computers and accounting

software. We also do some installations on the software and training."

Consulting work is also a big part of the business. "Really any kind of business consultations we do," he said.

CITY

Continued from Page 13F

piece of evidence right there."

While the video camera won't stop an officer from being attacked during a traffic stop, it will provide strong evidence about the incident.

"You're going to have a video of what's going on," he said. "If somebody gets violent or something, you're going to have that video. If he was to get into a car pursuit or something like that, he could turn it on."

Laptop computers are beginning to eliminate offi-

cer down time due to writing reports, he said.

"All the officers that work on the street have laptops in their cars. They can do their police reports out in the field on that laptop," he said.

The past system of having officers return to the station to write reports cut down on their time in the field.

"They're not available for any kind of calls if they're here. They're going to have to get in the car and go to the scene," he said.

"If they're out in the field doing their reports, they're right there in the car ready

to go. They don't have to leave their area or district to come do a report."

The laptops have other benefits as well, said Bavin. "We can do them faster on the computer than we can do by hand," he said.

"They make a neater report."

"Once those reports are put into the database or they're on the system, we don't have to turn around and have record clerks retype those reports to submit them to the courts. Once it's online and everybody's using it, we're going to eliminate a lot of pieces

of paper."

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HERALD Staff

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"Culligan w business in B offer water soft osmosis syste first in Big Sp tled water," Wright, owner

When Wrigt the business i no employees; work and ded

Scenic

New

to be

By LYNDEL MO
Staff Writer

2001-2002 has Mountain Me alive and buzz construction pr faces, new pr equipment, all ter serve Big surrounding co

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According to emergency ro the project wi 6,000 square already 4,000 emergency area

Included in t adding a large eight exam roo a pediatrics roo room, traum decontaminati negative pressu

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The larger sp better serve p ing immediate Scenic Mount about 1,200 pati on average, or and 50 a day, Currently a pa of stay is les hours from t patient enter

Scenic Mount cafeteria serves the community

Culligan offers quality water, sprinkler systems

HERALD Staff Report

A visitor to the Crossroads area would probably notice three things quickly: The rugged, dusty terrain, the beautiful sunsets and the bitter taste of the water.

Residents boast of the first two West Texas trademarks, but Crossroads residents have learned to live with the taste of the water — of have they?

Culligan Water Conditioning, 1509 E. FM 700, has been providing a solution to the problem of water quality for more than 57 years.

"Culligan was the first business in Big Spring to offer water softener, reverse osmosis systems, and the first in Big Spring with bottled water," said Richard Wright, owner.

When Wright purchased the business in 1978, he had no employees; but with hard work and dedication to his

customers, the business has grown and currently has 12.

The company provides rentals, sales and service of household and commercial water conditioning equipment as well as bottled water delivery.

Quality maintenance of a reverse osmosis drinking water system is extremely important and includes properly sanitizing and disinfecting each system in addition to filter changes.

"We perform 100 percent of the maintenance on our RO rental systems," Wright said.

Culligan takes pride in providing the best maintenance and service around, with most service calls answered within 24 hours.

Culligan customers with rental equipment are entitled to two free bags of ice per month, provided their account is current.

A drive-thru is available for customers who prefer to buy RO water by the gallon.



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody
Culligan employee Cory Cook adjusts a water sprinkler head. Richard Wright, the owner of Culligan, also owns Wright Sprinkler Systems, which offers irrigation system installation and repair.

Wright also owns Wright Sprinkler Systems, which offers irrigation system installation and repair.

"We have three licensed irrigators on staff and are

certified to test backflow prevention assemblies," Wright said.

"We're a full service company and we're real nice people," Wright said.

Farm Bureau agents proud of their success and services they offer

By JOHN A. MOSELEY
Managing Editor

Virtually everyone wants to be the best at what they do, but only a few achieve that aim.

That's true not only for individuals, but businesses and organizations, as well.

So, it is not without a little bit of pride that Brandon Luce, agency manager of the Howard-Glasscock office of the Texas Farm Bureau, discusses the success his agents have accomplished during the past year.

Three of the Howard-Glasscock agents — Ronnie Palmer, Richard Atkins and Quade Weaver — were honored with "Master Agent" designation in 2001, placing them in the top 10 percent of Farm Bureau agents.

Palmer, who has been associated with the agency since October of 1980, earned the "Master Agent" designation for the 11th time last year. In addition, he finished as the No. 7-ranked agent in annuity sales within the 10-state area served by the Southern Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company.

Atkins, who has been with the agency for seven years, earned "Master Agent" status for a fifth consecutive year; and Weaver achieved the "Master Agent" honor in his first year with the company, one of only two agents in the state to do so.

As a result, the Howard-Glasscock Farm Bureau office was honored as a "Master Agency" for a third time and finished the year ranked No. 11 in annuity sales by Southern Farm Bureau Life.

"I feel there's a great deal of expertise in this office. People that call us or walk in the door are going to get the best service possible ... not only from the agents, but everyone here in the office," Luce said, noting that secretaries Deanie Burdette and Linda Hoffman have been with the Farm Bureau for 20 years and three years, respectively.

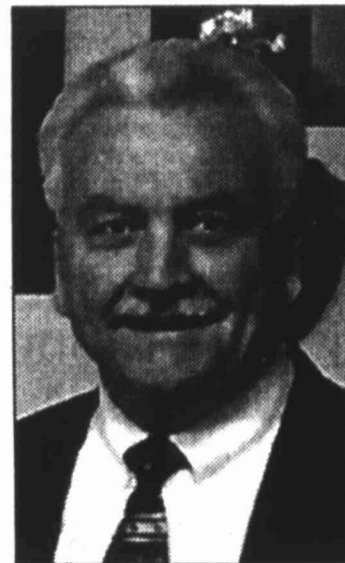
"That's important, because our Farm Bureau members are what make the difference," he said. "We always want to thank our members because they're the ones to make it possible to have all these achievements."

Luce, who began his career with the Farm Bureau in Brazos County in 1995, moved to Big Spring as an agent in October of that year and was named manager of the agency in 1997, noted that the Howard-Glasscock Farm Bureau boasts approximately 1,550 members who depend on the agency for their home, auto and life insurance, in addition to annuities and long term care insurance.

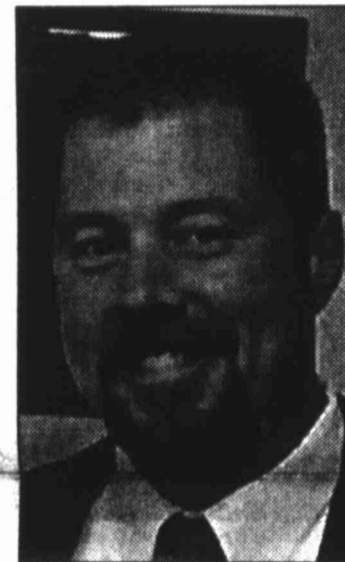
Long term care policies, which provide the cost of nursing home care for the elderly, are becoming one of the most requested forms of coverage.



BRANDON LUCE



RICHARD ATKINS



QUADE WEAVER



RONNIE PALMER

"I'd say it's definitely a popular new product," Luce said.

"In most families these days, both the husband and wife are both working and there's nobody home to take care of elderly parents."

"And with average nursing home costs running between \$80 and \$90 a day, people are interested in paying us pennies on the dollar to keep long-term nursing home care from liquidating their parents' estate."

Scenic Mountain Medical Center

New construction, new programs to better serve the Crossroads area

By LYNDEL MOODY
Staff Writer

2001-2002 has seen Scenic Mountain Medical Center alive and buzzing with construction projects, new faces, new programs and equipment, all added to better serve Big Spring and surrounding communities.

Emergency Room

A \$1.8 million construction project to dramatically increase and renovate the hospital's emergency room is under way with completion scheduled in July.

According to Judy Roever, emergency room director, the project will add about 6,000 square feet to the already 4,000-square-foot emergency area.

Included in the plans are adding a large trauma bay, eight exam rooms including a pediatrics room, OB/GYN room, trauma room, a decontamination area and negative pressure room.

Each exam room will have an overhead exam light and walls, not curtains, with separate exam areas. The waiting area will be more spacious and include a play area for children. The Big Spring EMS/Fire Department will benefit from an alcove designed for them to complete their paper work.

Plans call for a patient confidentially booth where patients can inform the person registering them of their chief complaint.

The larger space will help better serve patients seeking immediate medical care. Scenic Mountain handles about 1,200 patients a month on average, or between 30 and 50 a day, Roever said. Currently a patient's length of stay is less than two hours from the time the patient enters the emer-



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody
Judy Roever, director of the emergency department at the Scenic Mountain Medical Center, left, Danny White, registered nurse, and Bernie Wall of FJW Group of Arlington, a construction business, review plans for the new emergency room currently under construction.

gency room until discharge or admittance.

The new emergency room will be a closed unit to offer stronger security. The construction work is under general contractor F.J.W. Group of Arlington and about 30 individual companies are expected to be subcontracted.

The estimated local economic impact from the construction work is about \$500,000, including lodging in restaurants, utilities, fuel, hardware and supplies.

The hospital plans to hold an open house upon completion of the renovations.

To better serve the patients that use the emergency room, the hospital follows a program called ER+ (plus). Patients are given a

pamphlet explaining the step-by-step stages of what to expect during their hospital visit from the time they arrive to the time they are discharged, and their financial responsibilities.

Patients with the most severe injuries or illness are seen first. Patients able to walk in under their own power will be assessed by a nurse through a process called triage. Patients arriving by ambulance will be taken to an exam room for immediate treatment.

Once a patient is released, the hospital gives the patient a survey form. Patients can use the form to give feedback on the hospital's performance. "This gives us an idea on how to improve," Roever said.

Magnetic Resonance Imaging Machine

Another large investment is the permanent magnetic resonance imaging machine in place since August. The machine is a 1.5 Tesla, the strongest magnet on the market, said Marie White, MRI technician.

The MRI unit is a versatile, powerful and sensitive tool used to allow early diagnosis of many diseases with no radiation exposure or invasive procedures.

Before the new MRI, the hospital used a mobile unit that came to the hospital once a week. A MRI takes about one hour for each patient and the hospital could only see about eight patients each week.

Now the hospital averages about seven to nine patients a day.

"We have a full patient load," White said.

The new equipment

See SMMC, Page 16F



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

Scenic Mountain Medical Center's Yellow Rose Cafe is not just for hospital employees. The cafeteria serves a variety of food for breakfast and lunch and the cafeteria staff encourages the community to come out and enjoy a meal.

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Porter Henderson Implement happy to be in Big Spring

By **LYNDEL MOODY**
Staff Writer

It looks like Porter Henderson Implement Co. is here to stay in the Crossroads area.

After purchasing the John Deere dealership in July, the business moved into the old Feagin's Implement building in September after long-time owners Gibson and Eveleta Feagin decided to retire and sell their business.

The interior of the building, located on 3011 Highway 87, has changed dramatically since September.

Porter Henderson has extensively renovated the building, adding new flooring, knocking down and adding new walls.

"I think everybody has been excited by the new facility," said Bo McDaniel, manager for the Big Spring Porter Henderson store. "This company has a good reputation around West Texas and we have had a good reception from this community."

The company primarily

sells John Deere farm equipment consumer products but customers can find a wide selection on other tools and lawn equipment. The company rents or sells parts and offers finance on all equipment.

And Porter Henderson is a full service company with experienced technicians ready to diagnose equipment problems.

Customers receive a two-year, bumper-to-bumper warranty for most equipment they purchase at Porter Henderson. Most everything else sold in the store has a one-year parts and labor warranty.

The company will soon be selling a new John Deere tractor that is 250 horse power with a triple length steering system, a very comfortable seat, and has the capability to have three sets of tires on the back and two on the front. The new model is expected to be released by mid-summer. Other new products coming soon to the store will be new telehandlers.

Top-notch products and excellent customer service

keep customers coming back to Porter Henderson.

"We have experienced parts personnel," McDaniel said. "We sell good products, we have good people and we are in a great facility."

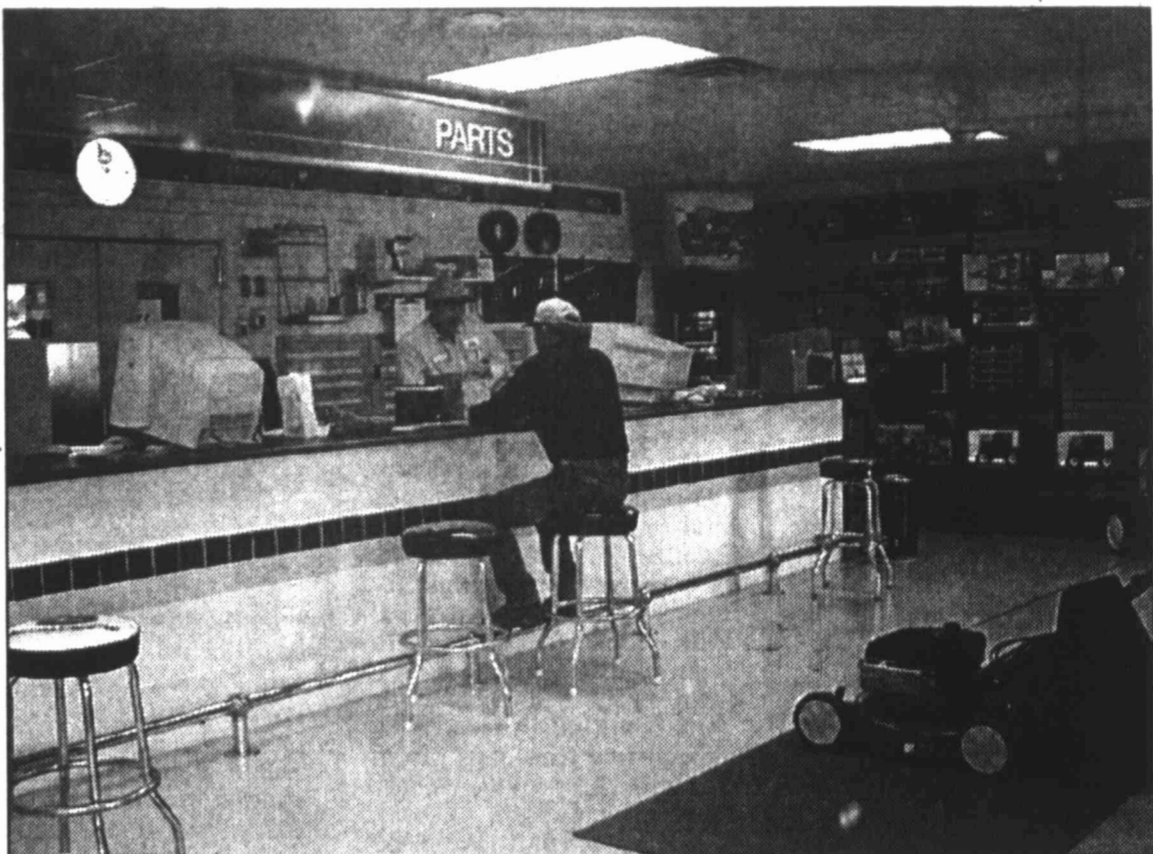
Area farmers and local residents who haven't had a chance to see all the new changes to the store will soon be invited to come to an open house.

"As soon as the farmers are through with planting we plan to have a big open house and we invite the community to have a look at the new renovations," McDaniel said.

In business since 1943, the company began when Porter Henderson and two other businessmen purchased the John Deere dealership in San Angelo.

In 1954, Porter Henderson became the sole owner and now the family business is run by Porter's two grandsons, Jeb and Joe Henderson.

The company has a store in San Angelo, one in Ballinger and now a branch in Big Spring.



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

Porter Henderson Co. employee Joe Zant helps customer Richie Tubb with a question. The company took over the Feagins Implement building, 3011 Highway 87, in September and has extensively remodeled the structure. Area farmers and residents will be invited to view the changes in an open house to held after planting season.

Edward Jones can access up-to-the minute information for its many investment clients

Special to the Herald

People say you can't have your cake and eat it, too, and in most cases, that's probably true.

However, the financial services firm Edward Jones does a pretty good job of giving its clients the best of both worlds — up-to-the-minute investment information and a personalized, face-to-face approach.

Visitors who aren't familiar with Edward Jones, the largest financial services firm in the United States in terms of offices, might be surprised by a visit to the Big Spring Edward Jones office. That's because they won't find an office full of stockbrokers with phones to their ears.

Instead, they'll probably find just one investment representative and one support person. On closer inspection, they'll discover

an unmatched satellite system that allows these individual investment representatives to keep in touch with Wall Street and the floor in the New York Stock Exchange.

"That's what Edward Jones is all about," said Jimmy Newsom, the Big Spring Edward Jones investment representative. "We go to those communities across the nation where farmers, ranchers, business people and retirees welcome one-on-one investment information that might be difficult to get if Edward Jones weren't there."

Ted Jones, son of the firm's namesake and founder, originated the firm's branch office concept. He recognized early in his sales career that people in rural areas have money for which they, too, need advice.

What he couldn't have imagined, however, is how

easy technology would eventually make it to deliver that advice.

In 1989, Edward Jones installed a \$30 million satellite network that relays data and video among the branch offices, New York and the firm's headquarters in St. Louis.

Edward Jones clients can place orders and within 20 seconds know the price paid, including commission. In addition, they can access their Edward Jones securities and money market accounts, as well as their accounts with several leading mutual funds.

"I want my clients to know that just because I know their names doesn't mean I don't know what's happening on Wall Street right now," Newsom said. "They don't have to sacrifice personal service in order to get up-to-date investment information."



HERALD photo

Edwards Jones representative Jimmy Newsom, left, stands with his staff Silvia Cisneros, middle, senior branch office administrator, and Glenda Wright, marketing specialist. The office is located at 708 Main Street in Big Spring.

SMMC

Continued from Page 15F

allows the hospital to give faster results and service more patients.

Central Scheduling

Other programs that help speed service include central scheduling. To help cut down on miscommunication between departments, doctors and patients, all procedures are scheduled through central scheduling. "It is a one-stop scheduling procedure," said Tommy Flores, supervisor of registration/scheduling.

Central scheduling takes care of all pre-certification procedures, insurance and paperwork.

"It cuts down on the confusion," Flores said. "It makes it quicker and easier for the physicians and the

patients."

Special Delivery Childbirth Classes

To help alleviate the confusion some first-time parents experience, the hospital offers special delivery childbirth classes.

The classes teach practical aspects about childbirth from cesarean deliveries to pain medication and endorphins. The classes last about four to five weeks.

"We go over all of the changes that take place in a woman's body during pregnancy and birth by teaching breathing techniques, pain management and even breast feeding," said Donna Mills, RN, director of women's services.

And when that special day arrives, the hospital offers to place a picture and birth

announcement information on its Web site with its Tiny Toes program. Relatives and friends who can't make the big event can log on at home and see the newest addition to a family.

Before babies leave, the hospital offers screening to catch any hearing problems early before the child may begin to show speech or language problems.

To celebrate each birth, the hospital offers new parents a candlelight dinner at the hospital cafeteria before the mother and child are discharged.

Yellow Rose Cafe

The Yellow Rose Cafe is not just a place for the hospital staff.

"We have a lot of people beginning to visit us," said David Crockett, food service

director. "I encourage everyone to come out to the Yellow Rose Cafe and enjoy a great meal. The food is great."

The cafe offers a variety of choices each day from burgers and fries to fresh and grilled sandwiches, vegetables, desserts and a salad bar. The cafe will soon add a soup bar.

Also, customers can find an assortment of beverages from coffee to cappuccino, soft drinks, bottled water and more.

The hours of service are: from Monday through Friday, breakfast from 7:30 a.m. to 9 a.m., lunch 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Saturday, all you can eat breakfast from 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m., lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Sunday, lunch only from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The cafeteria also prepares about 100 meals each Monday through Friday for its Mobile Meals program. Volunteers take the meals to homebound residents.

Other services include catering for all occasions and nutritional counseling.

For more information about catering or nutrition counseling, contact Crockett at 268-4577.

Senior Circle

Melanie Brewer, the Senior Circle advisor, is a new addition to the Scenic Mountain Medical Center staff. Brewer joined the staff in December, replacing Pam Stephens.

Brewer is not new to the hospital. Her husband, Jacob, is the director of the hospital's rehab center. They have three children,

Brianna, 5, Brittany, 4 and Brooklyn, 1.

A three-year resident of Big Spring, Brewer is excited about the new opportunity.

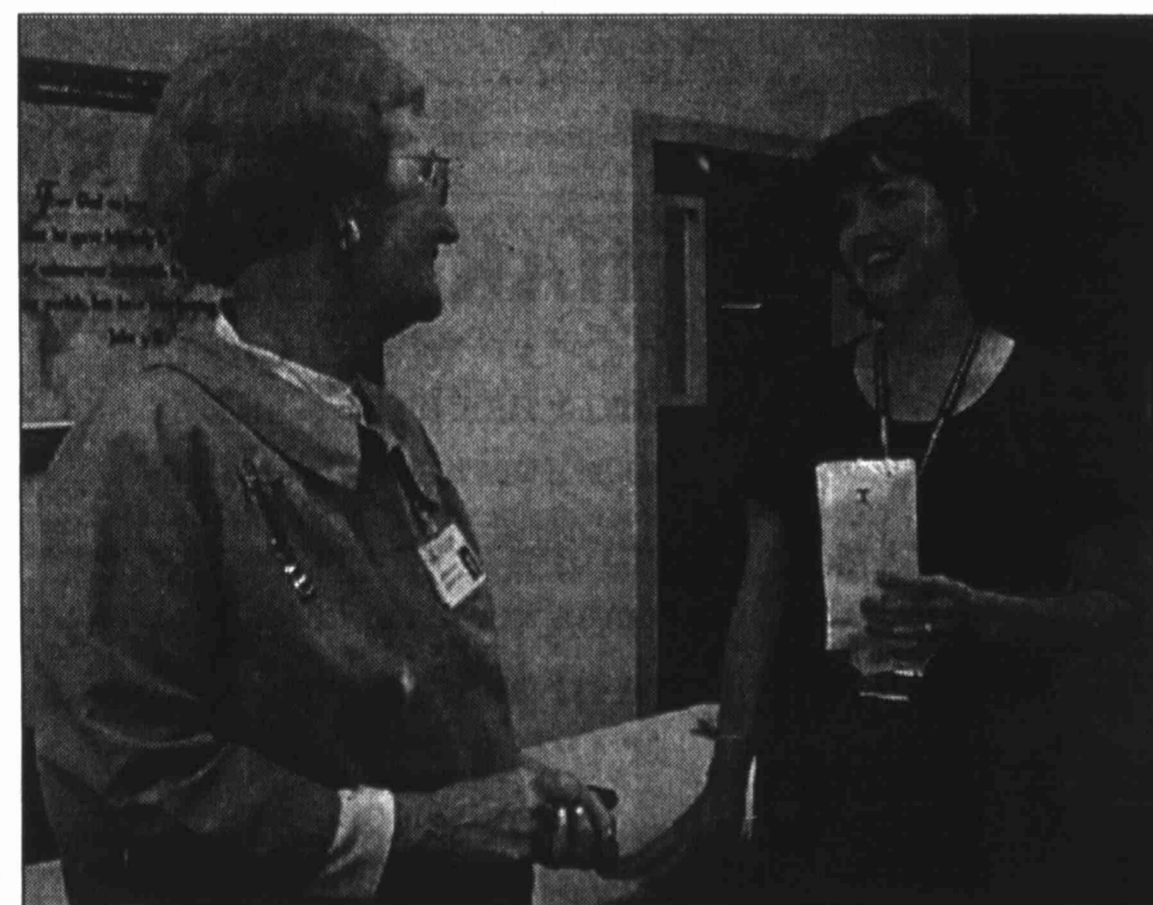
"I love to work with people, especially those of senior age," Brewer said. "I enjoy planning events and activities."

Senior Circle offers a number of services to seniors 50 years or better, from crafts to health seminars, physical fitness classes and volunteer hours.

"The group's greatest objective is to offer a place of fellowship and fun," Brewer said.

A year's membership is \$15 and includes discounts at several businesses in town.

For more information, call Brewer 268-4721.



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

Melanie Brewer, Senior Circle advisor, visits with a volunteer of Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Brewer took the position in December and is excited about her new position.

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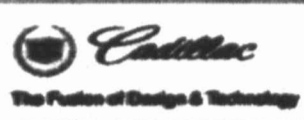
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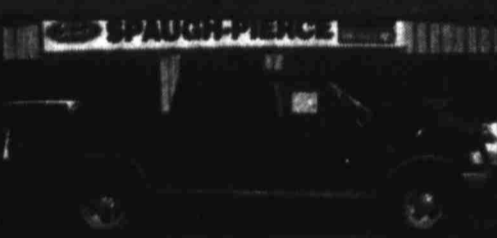
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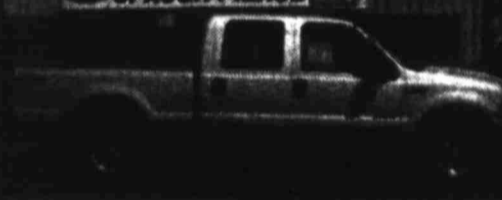
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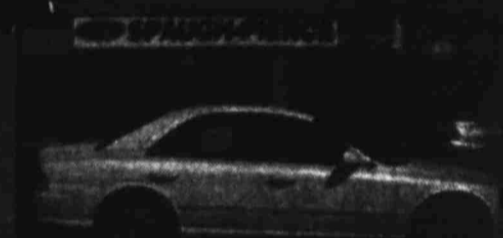


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