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"Reflecting a Proud Community"

Coahoma Masons set to honor Eleanor Garret

50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

TUESDAY

May 14, 2002

WEATHER

Tonight:



PARTLY CLOUDY

TONIGHT TOMORROW 65°-70° 88°-90°

WHAT'S UP...

WEDNESDAY

Optimist Club meets at 7 a.m. at the Howard College Cactus Room.

☐ Senior Circle Sit and Be Fit Chair Aerobics meets at the SMMC cafeteria at 10 a.m.

Downtown Lions Club meets at noon at the Howard College Cactus Room.

Duplicate Bridge Club meets every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at 1 p.m. at the Big Spring Country Club.

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

☐ Fraternal order of Eagles Aerie meets at 7 p.m. at the Eagles Lodge, 703 W. Third.

THURSDAY

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

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

☐ Coffee Club meets at 10 a.m. at Gale's Sweet Shoppe.

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

Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association meets at 5:30 p.m. at the RSVP offices, 501 Runnels.

American Legion Post 506 meets at 6 p.m. Call 263-2084.

☐ Rackley-Swords 379 Vietnam Vets of America meets at 7 p.m., 124 Jonesboro Road.

☐ Masonic Lodge 1340 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 2101 Lancaster.

FRIDAY

☐ AMBUCS meets at noon at the Brandin

□ ABC Club meets at noon at the Brandin Iron.

☐ The Greater Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon at'the **Howard College Cactus** Room.

☐ Spring City Senior Citizens Country and Western Dance will be 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. All area seniors are invited.

INSIDE TODAY...

*	
Classified	8-9
Comics	10
General	3
Horoscope	9
Landers	9
Obituaries	2
Opinion	4
Sports	6

Vol. 99, No. 160

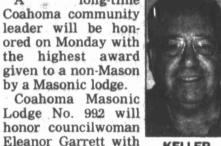
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By LYNDEL MOODY Staff Writer

long-time Coahoma community leader will be honored on Monday with

given to a non-Mason by a Masonic lodge. Coahoma Masonic Lodge No. 992 will honor councilwoman Eleanor Garrett with Community



KELLER

Builders Award at 6:30 p.m. in the Masonic Lodge located on the corner N. Avenue and College.

The award ceremony on Monday is open to the public.

"She is just a good, good, good person for the city of Coahoma," John Keller Jr., CEO of Lodge No. 992 said.

Recipients for the award are nominated through a committee process and then voted on by the entire lodge membership, Keller said. The award is based upon the recipient's work and impact on the city.

we think we have someone that deserves it at the time," Keller said. "This is not something we do every year, only occasionally.'

The last recipient awarded the honor was Coahoma Justice of the Peace Quail Dobbs. Garrett is a native of Coahoma and graduated from Coahoma High

School. She taught 35 years in the Coahoma Independent School District.

"She helped shape a number of May 4 election.

"We give this award only when young lives in the community," Keller said.

Although she terms herself a senior senior citizen, Garrett still attends Friday night in-town football games, her favorite sport.

During her teaching career, Garrett was also known to occasionally run up and down the football field lending her support to the Bulldog teams.

Garrett served as mayor of Coahoma for eight years and was reelected to the city council in the



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

The Machiavello family goes through a regular day of home school. Pictured front row, from left, are: Terri Machiavello; 6-year-old Bethany, a first grader; and 4-year-old Rebekah. Middle row: 8-year-old Jacob, a third-grader; 16-year-old Joshua, a high school sophomore; and 10-year-old James, a fourth-grader. Back row: 14-year-old Joseph, an eighth-grader, and 12-year-old Deborah, a sixth-grader.

Learning at home

By LYNDEL MOODY

Staff Writer

Each weekday morning Terri Machiavello rings the bell, signaling to Joshua, Joseph, Deborah, James, Jacob and Bethany school is starting.

The children may be outside playing or finishing clearing away breakfast dishes but once the chime of the bell is heard, it's time to file into the sun room for another class day.

The Machiavellos are one of the many families across America choosing home schooling instead of utilizing public education.

"We have good public schools in Texas," Terri said. "We have committed teachers who work very hard to help their students. This (home school) is just best for us.

Three of Terri's children, Joshua, 16, currently a sophomore; Joseph, 14, an eight-grader; and Deborah, 12, a sixth-grader, have been in both public and home schools. James, 10, a fourth-grader; Jacob, 8, a third-grader; and Bethany, 6, a first-grader; have only home-schooled. Machiavello also has a 4year-old daughter,

Rebekah. Home schooling her children offers her the ability to know exactly what her children are learning and the opportunity of making sure they are building a foundation of knowledge, Machiavello said

"If they don't understand something we don't move on," she said. "We work at it until they get it. I don't take a C or B paper.

Learning at home allows the children work at their own pace, as well as the ability to take frequent breaks to get a glass of

water or play outside. "We get done about 4 or 5

before supper," she said. "There's no homework because it's already done."

The family follows a school year but home schooling allows them to set their own holidays and if the family is on a trip, they can still pull out the books and have class.

The children don't have the opportunity to take part in some activities such as sports or band as other home school children in communities, Machiavello said, but her

See HOME, Page 2

County

Commissioners hope seal coat will solve leaks

By LYNDEL MOODY

Staff Writer

Howard County commissioners are crossing their fingers in hopes that a waterproof coating will do the trick in stopping leaks at the Howard County Library.

Commissioners approved a \$37,700 bid by Lee George Construction of Big Spring for a seal coating at Monday's regular commissioner's court meeting.

"Its a waterproof coating that will go over the entire parking lot area that is located over the basement area," said George, owner of the construction compa-

The library's downstairs meeting rooms have been plagued with water leaks during rains because of hairline cracks in the handicapped parking lot. The county has attempted to solve the problem with different methods but to no avail

"Part of the problem is they put in a concrete top over it (the parking lot) but concrete is not water proof," George said. "We went in and fixed the larger cracks but that left the hairline cracks. This coating will completely blanket the entire concrete area.'

George said the coating has a five-year guarantee and will take normal parking lot traffic.

Library officials and the construction company are hoping to the lay down the seal coat during the Memorial Day weekend, May 25-27, while the library is closed for the holiday.

In other library business, commissioners decided not to allow the library to close on Saturdays during the months of June and July until given more information on the matter. Howard County Librarian

Hollis McCright asked the

See **LEAKS**, Page 2

First Presbyterian women of Coahoma plan directory

By ROGER CLINE

Staff Writer

Need some help but don't know where to turn? Want to volunteer some time, but don't know what groups need help?

Presbyterian The Women's group of First Presbyterian Church of Coahoma is putting together a resource to solve these problems.

The "Human Services and Volunteer Directory" is now in the planning stages and the group plans to publish and distribute it in January, said Allene Bohannon.

"The main thing we're trying to do is have an updated book. It's the social services, the human services in our community. There are so many available that so many people do not even know about. So many people do not even know where to turn to get some

Bohannon said the group will hold a planning session and informational meeting at 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 22, at the church, 209 N. First St. in Coahoma.

The women plan for the directory to be an exhaustive list of Howard County's services. "I know of an instance

where a woman was abused and she went to her pastor and he didn't know where to go to get her help," Bohannon said.

The directory is designed to list programs for abused women, the needy, the elderly, the handicapped and anything else offered

county-wide. Bohannon said that the next step after the directory is published will be to begin

filling in the gaps. "We want to see if there are some spaces that are not filled, some services that our community needs," she

said. "We hope to be able to address those needs in the future. It'll be something to work for.' The women plan to

include information for volunteers in the book as well. "We want a place in it for volunteers," she said. "There's so many people that would like to do something today, and so many of

know where to turn to see if they could be used." Toward that end, the group has prepared a survey to send out for non-profit and service organizations.

them do not feel like they

have the skills or don't

"On the survey we're going to have a place for groups to list what volunteers they need," she said. "If they train, or the skills that are needed, or if they can do it at their own discretion, on their own time. If they can just drop in and

See DIRECTORY, Page 2



Herald photo/Marsha Sturdivant Daniel Crabtree, SouthWest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf graduate, and Ella Waldrup, mother of Phillip Waldrup, a SWCID student who died in 1999 of kidney transplant complications, discuss a book written by Waldrup, "The Life That Gave Back Life" during SWCID Awards Convocation. Proceeds from the book, which has been endorsed by Florence Henderson, among others, will be used to fund the Phillip Waldrup Scholarship for a SWCID student.

Geneva J. Reagan

Funeral service for Geneva J. Reagan, 81, of Big Spring is pending with Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Mrs. Reagan died Monday, May 13, 2002, at a local hospital.

HOME

Continued from Page 1

children have plenty of opportunity to socialize.

The family takes many field trips with other home school students during the year from a day at the YMCA to visiting a local

In February the family attended a home school day at the NASA Space Center in Houston with about 1,000 other home-schooled students from across the state.

"They get just as much or more social contact, but all in a positive manner," Machiavello explained. "They see other people in public schools, but the social contact is a lot more negative.

Machiavello said home schooling takes discipline and flexibility on the entire. family's part.

"Its not what you want to do to get up in the morning every day," she said. You have to be self-disciplined. I'm real proud of how the kids are doing.

"You have to have flexibility," she added. "The door bell or the phone rings ... I know some home school mothers who will not answer during school, but my husband (David) is a pastor, (of Philadelphia Primitive Baptist Church.)"

Machiavello, who has a bachelor's degree in music education and substitute taught in public schools. said numerous minutes during day in public school are lost from getting the children in line, prepared for class or to a drink of water.

The family follows the Abekka curriculum, a curriculum Machiavello learned about when she taught at a Christian School. She said she feels confident her children are receiving the education they need.

Joshua is currently taking college classes at Howard College.

"You don't have to have a degree to teach your children," she said. "A lot of it you learn from the course.

LEAKS

Continueed from Page 1

commissioners to allow the library to close because of low customer turnout.

"We've had several people concerned about this," said

NALLEY-PICKLE & WELCH **Funeral Home**



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MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME

& CHAPEL 24th & Johnson 267-8288

Geneva J. Reagan, 81, died Monday. Graveside services will be at 10:00 AM. Thursday at Trinity, Memorial Park. The family will recieve friends at the funeral home on Wednesday from 6:00 to 8:00

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

MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$12:50 monthly Howard & Martin Counties. \$13.25 elsewhere. The Herald is a member of the Associated Press, Audit Bureau of Circulation, American Newspaper Association and West Texas Press

Periodicals postage paid at Big Spring, Texas, 79720-9998. POSTMASTER: Send changes of address to: Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, Texas. 79720. Commissioner Croocker.

McCright said she based her recommendation on staff reports of lower customer turnout during summer months.

'We don't plan to bring it back to the commissioners this year," McCright said. 'We plan to keep a head count this summer."

In other business, commissioners voted to apply for a \$14,714 grant from the state to help with the indigent defense expense program.

Senate Bill 7 passed by the legislature changes the time frame courts have to appoint a defense attorney for indigent cases, noted Jackie Olson, Howard County auditor.

"Because of they passed the bill, they thought it may cost counties some more money so they appropriated some funds," Olson said, adding that she will not know until the end of the fiscal year whether the county will spend more on indigent defense as a result of the change.

Howard County Judge Ben Lockhart will be taking some time off.

"This is first time I am going to take a vacation longer than three days,' Lockhart said.

Commissioners agreed to appoint a local attorney during the judge's temporary absence while he attends the Council of Governments National Convention and visits family in Arizona

"I appreciate it and my wife appreciates it more," Lockhart quipped.

In other business, commissioners:

· hired a new clerk for to help with the workload at the justice of the peace

 inspected the fairbarns and grounds.

DIRECTORY

Continued from Page 1

do it an hour or two a week, or if they need to have regular hours.

The directory will also hopefully include services provided by area churches, she said

"This time we even want to see if we can get the churches involved and see if they'll cross boundaries," Bohannon said. "Usually churches just have their services for their own congregation. We want to see if we can get them available for anyone in the community that needs help.

The project germinated during a church Bible study and flowered after the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the

Pentagon, Bohannon said. 'We had done a study of Esther in the Bible," she "In it, she saves the Jewish people. One person. A young girl. When she saves them, they have a big celebration, Purim, to celebrate just the fact that they're alive and how wonderful it is.

The study instilled the notion that one person can make a difference, she said.

"Since 9-11, we have really wanted to do something," she added. "Our president has asked that we each one

Bill do 1,000 hours of volunteer work.'

The project has been met with great response so far, Bohannon said.

"It's been wonderful," she said. "We have really met response in the community, and people we have talked to have said it is so needed.'

For more information call Bohannon at 393-5322, Marilyn Read at 267-2362 or Nancy Jones of the Retired Senior Volunteer Program at 264-2397.

New AOL Time Warner chief has plenty to worry about

NEW YORK (AP) ← When Dick Parsons officially takes over at AOL Time Warner on Thursday, explaining why the hugely ambitious merger of America Online and Time Warner has not yet paid off will be the least of his wor-

Parsons, by his own admission, has a "stark and clear" challenge to deal with right now: a disastrous slump in the company's stock price.

The stock is down 75 percent since the merger was announced in early 2000, leading the company to take a \$54 billion paper loss last month — the biggest quarterly loss in U.S. corporate history. The drop-off has already hacked the value of the world's largest media company nearly in half since the beginning of

But AOL Time Warner's problems go far deeper than that. Its main growth engine, the AOL online service, is sputtering; investors have grown weary after months of broken promises and bad surprises; a shake-up of top management only now seems to be settling down; and the entire media sector is mired in an advertising

And now, in its moment of weakness, AOL Time Warner must grapple with several key challenges: laying out a clear growth plan for AOL's expansion into high-speed services, and striking deals with AT&T and the Newhouse family to clear up the structure of two messy cable partnerships, a legacy of Time Warner's deal frenzy in the

"These are solvable problems," said Larry Haverty, an analyst for State Street Research. "They're pushing the right levers, but it's horrendous trying to predict when an outcome dependent on negotiation will take place. On the other hand, the more the market mistreats them, the more likely it is they'll figure what they need to do."

DUNLAPS Your Fashion Headquarters 111 E. Marcy 267-8283



Elyse Salazar and Lexi Churchwell were among the Skining Stars at the Dance Gallery Spring Recital

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SBC Comms

TXU Corp

Total Fina

Wal-Mart

AMCAP

Silver

Unocal Corp

Europacific

Prime Rate

Sears Roebuck 54 +2

RECORDS

Record high 104 in 1960

Record low 39 in 1942

Precip. Monday 0.00

Sunrise Wednesday6:48 a.m.

Sunset Wednesday 8:37 p.m.

FIRE/EMS

mery of EMS and Fire

Department activity

The following is a sum-

12:25 a.m. — 1900 block of

Simler, medical call, one

Scenic Mountain Medical

1:52 p.m. — 1800 block of

Alabama, medical call, one

5:31 p.m. — 2500 block of

W. 24th St., traffic accident,

two patients transported to

patient transported to

patient transported to

Month to date 0.00

Year to date 4.30

Monday's high 75

Monday's low 53

Average high 84

Average low 57

77.86 + .13

38.51 + .09

15.34 + .24

27.27 + .22

306.2 - 308.2

4.55 - 4.61

4.75 %

BRIEFS

to 3 p.m.

Delivery will be available from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Plates are \$7. Carry out is also available.

Everyone is welcome. Call

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

263-4016 before 3 p.m.

THE COAHOMA LIONS **CLUB** has postponed its annual City Wide Garage Sale out of respect for the Relay For Life event.

It will now be held on Saturday, June 1.

If you would like to participate and have a garage sale in Coahoma register at The Little Sooper Market.

Deadline to register is Saturday, May Registration fee is \$15.

ARE YOU PREGNANT? DO you have a baby? WIC serves pregnant and breastfeeding women and children younger than 5.

child qualifies for free food, nutritional counseling and medical screening, contact your nearest WIC clinic or call 263-9777.

CHURCH, 1209 Wright, has free food for the area needy from 10 a.m. to noon every Thursday.

MARKETS

Noon quotes prov Jones & Co.	ided by Edward
AT&T	13.73 + .1
Archer-Daniels	14.1202
Atmos Energy	23.24 + .03
BP PLC ADR	52.52 + .47
ChevronTexac	o 89.9317
Citigroup	45.28 + 1.04
Cornell	13.02 + .02
Dell	26.52 + 1.16
Du Pont	46.04 + .39
Exxon Mobil	40.39 + .38
Halliburton	16.64
IFCO Systems	.2 + .01



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TEXAS LOTTERY

AMERICAN LEGION POST 506, located at 3203 W. Hwy 80, will have a barbecue Saturday from noon

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

About 85 to 90 meals are prepared, packaged and delivered within the city limits of Big Spring. If you can volunteer, please call

To see if you or your

SPRING TABERNACLE

POLICE The Big Spring Police

Department reported the following activity from 8 a.m. Monday until 8 a.m. today

 JEFFREY PAUL **CARTER**, 39, of 1202 Jeffery Road was arrested on a charge of evading arrest or detention using a vehicle. GONZALO

PICK 3: 7,7,2

CASH 5: 1,4,8,21,37

GONZALEZ, 23, of 2900 84.55 + 2.36Cherokee Boulevard was 29.84 +1.32 arrested on a charge of pub-9.43 + .03Patterson Ener 33.96 - .16 lic intoxication. JULIAN RAMIREZ 52.29 -.27 **ALVARADO**, 36, of 206 Phillips Petro 61.1 +.14 N.W. Fourth Street was 32.8 + .75arrested on a charge of pub-54.17 + .03lic intoxication.

Texas Instrument 31.6 +1.33 ROBERT RUBEN **SANCHEZ**, 37, of 400 Settles was arrested on a 58.22 + 3.18charge of public intoxica-**Wal-Mart/Mexico** 30.84-31.65

ROBERT

WOODWARD, 32, of 2608 Langley was arrested on a charge of public intoxica-· MICKEY DON BAR-

BER, 29, of 2628 Langley was arrested on a charge of public intoxication. · THEFT was reported:

- In the 1800 block of South Lancaster. Items worth \$34 were reported stolen from a store at the location.

- In the 1400 block of South Nolan Street. A gasoline-powered weed trimmer worth \$15 was reported stolen.

 UNAUTHORIZED USE OF A VEHICLE was reported in the 800 block of Lorilla Street. A white 1992 Buick Century was reported stolen and recovered.

 BURGLARY OF A **VEHICLE** was reported in the 1100 block of West Interstate 20. A briefcase worth \$50 and a Palm 5 personal digital assistant worth \$430 were reported stolen from a white 2001 Toyota MR-2.

 MINOR ACCIDENT was reported in the 500 block of South Birdwell Lane and the 1700 block of South Gregg Street. MAJOR ACCIDENT

was reported in the 2500 block of East 24th Street. LOUD PARTY/NOISE was reported in the 1900 block of South Nolan Street NEIGHBOR DISPUTE

was reported in the 1500

block of Kentucky Way. DOMESTIC DISTUR-BANCE was reported twice in the 2000 block of South Gregg Street and in the 1000 block of Stadium Avenue, the 3300 block of Fordham Avenue and the 200 block of West FM 700.

..Ext. 230

.Ext. 225

Ext. 256

..Ext. 255

SPRING HER

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915-263-7335 (Circulation calls only) (Fax) 915-264-7205

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Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce

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Thursday, May 16, 2002 Open House from 1:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m.

Business After Hours 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Door Prizes * Bring a Guest * Bring Your Business Card

Refreshments Business After Hours is a program of the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce and is specifically designed to

There is no charge to attend.

encourage networking and to showcase sponsors.

TEXAS

BIG SPRING

Tuesday, Ma

Reliant ack

HOUSTON (A questionable tra ing volumes an cent over the la

tive officer told The trades w ees" trying to appear larger Letbetter said i

The two man are no longer v said. The emple benefit financia said. "These transa

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Recording of SAN ANTON officials told the of 911 calls at t

Queen Isabella retrieve. Now, the cor County sheriff's "I couldn't fin the dispatch cer Tuesday's editi

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Tons of roadw ing a gaping tra It was never re they told dispate Also, witnesse dicted each othe ed by streetlight Thousands of

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Sept. 14.

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You'll find

*Excludes Gara

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And Real Estat

TEXAS BRIEFS

Reliant acknowledges questionable deals

HOUSTON (AP) - Reliant Resources Inc. participated in questionable transactions that artificially inflated its trading volumes and boosted the company's revenues by 10 percent over the last three years, the company's chief executive officer told investors.

The trades were the work of "some misguided employees" trying to make the company's trading operation appear larger than it was, chairman and CEO Steve Letbetter said in a conference call with investors Monday.

The two managers primarily responsible for the trades are no longer with the Houston-based company, Letbetter said. The employees, whom he would not identify, did not benefit financially or otherwise from the transactions, he

"These transactions are inconsistent with our company

philosophy," he said.

Shareholders reacted by dumping the stock. Reliant shares fell \$2.06, or 17.2 percent, to close Monday at \$9.94 on the New York Stock Exchange. The company's stock has declined 73 percent since its 52-week high of \$37.50 last

The transactions, involving so-called round-trip power and gas transactions with the same trading partner for the same price, have come under scrutiny since the collapse of Enron Corp. Dynegy Inc., which is under investigation by the Securities and Exchange Commission, has acknowledged its own use of round-trip trades, which make a company's trading volume appear higher.

These type of transactions are not still occurring at Reliant and will not occur in the future," Letbetter said.

Reliant has decided to suspend a standard accounting procedure that allows it, and other energy traders, to report the full estimated value of a multiyear contract as revenue, rather than booking the gains over time as the cash actually comes in.

Recording of bridge collapse calls missing

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — In February, Cameron County officials told the attorney general's office that a recording of 911 calls at the time of last September's collapse of the Queen Isabella Causeway was available, but difficult to

Now, the communications director for the Cameron County sheriff's department says he can't find the tape.

"I couldn't find the recording," Frank Culver, who heads the dispatch center, told the San Antonio Express-News in Tuesday's editions. "I guess our system was down, or it wasn't working properly, or something like that."

Culver blamed a power outage or a faulty system for the lost information

The Express-News requested the 911 recording in November to gather details on one of the worst maritime accidents in the history of the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway. Eight people died shortly after 2 a.m. on Sept. 15 when a

towboat and its four barges rammed into a support column of the causeway, which connects South Padre Island to the mainland at Port Isabel.

Tons of roadway collapsed into the Laguna Madre, leaving a gaping trap for unsuspecting motorists.

It was never reported how many people called 911 or what they told dispatchers.

Also, witnesses and government officials have contradicted each other on whether the causeway was illuminated by streetlights the night of the crash.

Thousands of residents on South Padre Island were isolated while construction crews worked overtime on a \$10 million repair job

Activists present petition on golf resort

SAN ANTONIO (AP) - After City Council members voted to support building a golf resort on environmentally sensitive land, opponents vowed to take the issue to the

people. Determined community activists ended up with the signatures of more than 83,000 people who want to vote on whether the resort should be built over an Edwards Aquifer recharge zone.

The activists would succeed in overturning the council's decision if at least 68,023 of the signatures in their petitions are of valid registered voters in San Antonio. If a public vote is ordered, the council could schedule it as early as

"The people of San Antonio have spoken," said Father Walter D'heedene, representing sister activist organizations Communities Organized for Public Service and the Metro Alliance. "This (petition drive) says the people are not in favor of the way the city negotiated this deal. There

are a lot of questions remaining." Council members approved a deal early Friday with an Austin-based developer that wants to build the resort on land that drains into the aquifer, which has been the city's sole source of drinking water.

Opponents of PGA Village started the petition drive within hours of the council's vote.

Former Andersen partner admits knowing shredding was illegal

B. Duncan, the government witness whose very freedom could depend on how well he paints former employer Arthur Andersen LLP as guilty of obstruction of justice, stands at center stage as the company's trial approaches its climax.

Duncan, 43, was the chief auditor on the Enron Corp. account who pleaded guilty to the same charge April 9 with the understanding that prosecutors might recommend a sentence far closer to the minimum - zero years — than the maximum 10 allowed by law if he

cooperates. That effort been in earnest Monday aturnoon when he fingered Ander on before his seat was even

said in a monotone. "I instructed people on the (Enron audit) team to follow the document retention policy, which I knew would result in the destruction of documents.

Prosecutors allege a reminder of the firm's policy, distributed via e-mail Oct. 12 by in-house attorney Nancy Temple, amounted to an implicit order to destroy documents as a Securities and Exchange Commission investigation loomed into Enron's spectacular meltdown last year.

Defense attorneys counter there was no such intent and that the policy merely calls on workers to keep germane material and discard redundant or unnecessary papers, computer files and

cent, too, and pleaded guilty only because of excruciating government pressure.

Duncan's much-anticipated appearance was the first time he has spoken publicly about Enron's downfall and his role. He appeared before Congress earlier this year but elected to invoke his Fifth Amendment right against self-incrimination.

Much of the testimony in the trial, which entered its second week Monday, has touched on Andersen's documents policy, which even longtime employees have testified was little-known and never discussed until last October. Temple pleaded the Fifth last week.

Duncan, scheduled to return Tuesday, initially met with the Justice "I obstructed justice," the other materials. Andersen Department Jan. 14 and was

HOUSTON (AP) - David Lake Charles, La., native contends Duncan is inno-fired the next day. He agreed to plead guilty April 6 and to help prosecutors in Enron/Andersen their

In addition to testifying about document destruction, Duncan was expected to shed light on the intricate financial web Houstonbased Enron spun as it became one of the country's largest corporations, at least on paper, before declaring bankruptcy Dec. 2.

Andersen could face probation for five years and a fine of up to \$500,000 if convicted. It also could be fined up to twice any gains or damages the court determines were caused by the firm's action and would be barred from auditing publicly traded companies likely putting the firm out

Jury told of other slayings during sentencing phase of Hankins trial

his father in the head, Terry Lee Hankins placed air fresheners around the body still in the recliner.

He mowed the grass around the Arlington mobile home and paid the lot's rent, telling managers his father had moved to another state with relatives.

The body of Earnie Hankins, 55, was not found until Aug. 31 — the day after his son was arrested in connection with the recent shooting deaths of his estranged wife and two stepchildren.

Police knew nothing of the elder Hankins' death — or that of his daughter Pearl "Sissy" Sevenstar - for nearly a year, until Terry Lee Hankins confessed to all five slayings.

The statements were read during the punishment phase of his capital murder trial for his two stepchildren's deaths. Prosecutors are seeking the death penal-

The jury deliberated less than 30 minutes Monday before convicting Hankins of killing Kevin Galley, 12, and Ashley Mason, 11, in their Mansfield mobile home on Aug. 26.

The death of Tammy Hankins, 34, whose body was found with her children's in their trailer Aug. 29, was not included in the indictment but was mentioned throughout the trial. During the punishment phase, which started Monday afternoon and was to continue Tuesday, prosecutors for the first time told jurors that Hankins also was charged with killing his

father and half-sister. Arlington police Detective

FORT WORTH (AP) — In Jim E. Ford said Hankins near Ashley's body: "I guess the 11 months after shooting admitted he fatally bludgeoned Sevenstar, 20, in late September or early October 2000 in their Arlington duplex after a fight. He and Sevenstar had the same father and their mothers were sisters, according to his confession.

> "'I may have had sexual intercourse with Sissy on the day I killed her," Ford said, reading from one of Hankins' statements. "'It is possible I did have sex with her at the time of the murder."

Hankins placed Sevenstar's body in a storage trunk, which two days later he put in a car parked in a fenced area at his father's Arlington automotive shop, Ford testified.

Hankins said he shot his father in the first week of October 2000 in the elder to jurors Monday afternoon Hankins' Arlington mobile home, after an argument during which the father pointed a gun at him.

"'I shot him in retaliation," Ford said, reading from Hankins' statement. "'I think I just snapped and

Investigators testified Monday that on Aug. 31, a day after Hankins' arrest, they found Earnie Hankins' body in his recliner and found Sevenstar's body in the storage container in a

A calendar found in the elder Hankins' trailer was turned to October 2000. Investigators also said they found a certificate from Universal Life Church indicating Terry Lee Hankins had been ordained in December 1998.

During closing arguments Monday morning, prosecutor Sheila Wynn read to jurors part of a note found

to sum it all up, I'm guilty of murder, incest, hatred, fraud, theft, jealousy and

Hankins' hair also was found in Ashley's hand, and bullets at the scene came from a gun found when Hankins was apprehended

Defense attorney Robert Ford said the arrest warrant lacked sufficient evidence to show probable cause to take Hankins into custody. Therefore, he said, jurors

should disregard his confession and other evidence gathered after his arrest.

"There is a significant, distinctive difference between reasonable suspicion and probable cause to arrest," Robert Ford said.

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NOTICE

As part of the total Big Spring ISD Summer School Program, the district will offer Spanish Summer school for Spanish speaking children entering Kindergarten or Grade 1 in 2002 - 2003. This program is designed for Spanish speaking Kindergarten or grade 1 students in need of language arts/math instruction in Spanish.

Dates: Wednesday, June 3, 2002 - Friday, June 28, 2002 Times: 8:30 A.M. - 1:00 P.M. Place: Moss Elementary

The regular Optional Extended Year Summer School program will run concurrently to this program.

For registration information: Call Administration Office, Mr. Richard Light, Bilingual Director

Como parte del programa escolar de verano, El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Big Spring ofrecera la Escuela de verano en Espanol para los ninos que hablan espanol y que ingresaran a el Kindergarten o el Primer grado en el ano escolar 2002 - 2003. Este programa esta disenado para los estudiantes que hablan espanol y van a ingresar aKindergarten o a el primer ano. El programa ayudara a los estudiantes a desarrollar desarrollar destresas en Esnanol en las materias de lenguage y de matematicas.

Miercoles 3 de Junio, 2002 A el Viernes 28 de Julio, 2002 Horario: 8:30 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.

Lugar: Escuelar Primaria Moss

El programa regular de Escuela de Verano, de Ano Extendido se llevara a cabo al mismo tiemmp que este programa.

Para informacion de matriculas favor de llamar a el Senor Light, Directora del Programa Bilingue. Telefono: 264-3600.

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-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Ken Dulaney

John A. Moseley Managing Editor Bill McClellan News Editor

OUR VIEWS

Remembering the fallen, but not forgotten

merican flags flew at half-staff today, Peace Officer's Memorial Day, honoring those who've sacrificed their lives in the line of duty.

Perhaps few of us knew today was set aside to honor police and other law enforcement personnel who'd made the ultimate sacrifice. But we should have.

After all, the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11 made 2001 one of the deadliest ever for police.

Last year, 230 officers across the nation were killed in the line of duty. Not since 1974 have there been more fatalities.

The number is sobering. After all, Sept. 11 accounted for just 72 of those deaths of officers. The fact that more than twice as many died across this nation during the rest of the year should give us pause to consider just how dangerous a profession law enforcement can be

And we should be thankful there are those who feel called to put their lives on the line for us each and every day.

Obviously, there is no challenge too difficult and no danger too great for our police officers to respond. If you need help, they come.

It's as simple as that.

What we all should remember is these men and women aren't any different than us, but are willing to go into harm's way to make sure our lives are safer.

That's what makes them heroes.

Your Views

LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor

street address for verification purposes.

ter per 30-day period per author.

· Limit your letters to no more than 300 words

· Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a

We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.

· We reserve the right to limit publication to one let-

Letters that are unsigned or do not include a tele-

· Letters from our circulation area will be given pref-

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.

phone number or address will not be considered.

We do not acknowledge receipt of letters.

TO THE EDITOR

In honor of Mother's Day I would like to thank my wife Yolanda for being with me through the good times and bad times for the past 15 years.

In December of 1998 I had cancer surgery and she took care of me until I got well and went back to work

Every morning she would change my dressing before she got ready for work. While she was at work she would call to check on me

Throughout all the surgeries, the chemotherapy and radiation treatments and despite having run out of time she could take off at work she has always been there taking care of me.

I really don't know what I would have done without her. She is the

Sign your letter.

greatest wife and Mom. She loves all our children, grandsons and granddaughters. I ask God to bless her every day because she is a good person.

She also cares very much for the patients she works with at the Big Spring State Hospital where she is a direct care worker.

I would also like to thank all the volunteers of the cancer group espe cially Lawanda Hamm who is a very nice lady, the drivers who take me to my treatments, the other cancer survivors and the staff at Allison Cancer Center

A special thanks goes to all my co-workers who have called and asked how I am doing.

YSIDOR "IZZIE" GONZALES BIG SPRING

is a set of Rich Lady Red toenails waiting to get out. No matter how mundane and comfortable our lives and loves, no matter how

idden down deep

in every woman

RHETA

ugly our feet, we crave exotic exis-

Ask your wife, or for that matter your mother.

tences.

That simple fact explains the success of GRIMSLEY a whole new JOHNSON genre of liter ature, heavy on romance but NOT

something I call the "Intelligent Woman's Guide to Gourmet Living" books. They all feature the women we meant to be will be, once were. Independent, sassy, ultra-Complicated women.

romance novels per se.

feminine-but-strong women. Women with their own agendas, boys on the side. Women whose own families have to learn to put up with, even celebrate, certain eccentricities

I've got a headache

stomach ache, back ache, feet ache,

and I don't

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on the

floor!...

Rebecca Wells' "Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood" is one such example. In this book, a group of gutsy Louisiana women remain lifelong friends. And the friendship has flair, attitude, cocktails, convertibles, out-

landish outings You would never look at these Ya-Ya mothers and see mousy matrons. You would see passion.

After the book appeared, all over the nation Ya-Ya clubs sprang up. There's a Web site: Gumbo Ya-Ya. Women want to be like the Ya-Yas. So they meet and party and celebrate individuality and friendship. It has to be healthy.

Now there's to be a Ya-Ya movie. It premieres in Atlar 2 June 7.

Kainy Newbern of Taleigh, N.C. — a Carolina Ya-Ya, an extra in the movie, a successful businesswoman who with her husband writes and sells personalized romance novels (really) — this interesting, unorthodox woman is going to the premiere on the train, courtesy the movie company. (Yes, just like the Ya-Yas, who took the train to Atlanta to see

the premiere of "Gone With the Wind.")

The Ya-Ya Sisterhood in every woman

I know Kathy from writing about her customizednovel business - it recently was featured in People magazine, the absolute ultimate in pop culture — so I just had to talk to her about this amazing invita-

"I knew I was a Ya-Ya long before the book ever came out, because I always keep champagne chilled in the fridge and a bathing suit in my car trunk, just in case," Kathy says.

"I adore all things sparkly, bright and festive. Halloween and Christmas are my favorite holidays the first for dress-up opportunities, the second, for gift-receiving opportunities.

Kathy has the perfect Ya-Ya mindset.

And she appreciates the more serious side of Ya-Yaness, the friendship part. Not every woman remains in a small, Southern town and keeps the same group of girlfriends forever, she says. But being a Ya-Ya can help you feel the comfort of abiding female friendships.

When she read that the movie from her favorite

the nurse on the

floor...

book was being filmed in her own state, Kathy naturally drove the two hours to Wilmington for the extra casting call. She was first

in line.

On the set near Wilmington, Kathy spotted "Ya-Ya" director Callie Khouri, who endeared herself to all women forever by once writing the screenplay for "Thelma and Louise." (That story was sort of Ya-Ya to the extreme.)

Kathy even exchanged smiles with actress Ashley Judd, who plays the main heroine, the young Vivi.

Vivi isn't the perfect mother, but she might be the perfect woman. And her daughter ultimately learns to appreciate that distinction.

Meanwhile, look for Kathy Newbern dressed in 1940s garb at a big Cajun party before Vivi's Jack goes off to war.

She'll be the one to the left of the boiling pots near the picnic table.

She'll be the one smiling.

ADDRESSES

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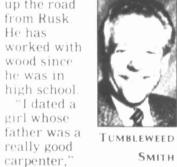
JOANN STAULCUP - Home: 263-

JOANN SMOOT - Home: 267 6965; Work (BSISD): 264 3600

Pete Terry's big rocking chair

ete Terry lives at Ponta (PonTAY), a small community in

County, just up the road from Rusk He has worked with wood since he was in high school "I dated a girl whose



says Pete. "1 hung around him and learned a lot. He had a little shop and taught me about tools. Then I started getting my own just here and there. Along the way, I acquired a love for

woodworking. He makes all kinds of things. One of his specialties is ball point pens made of East Texas woods. He makes cages for laboratory rats. He makes tables and cabinets and fine furniture. One thing he made is

truly unique. "I made a 10-foot rocking

chair. Ten feet tall, seven feet wide. I made it out of solid cedar. The chair sits in a field

near his home. "There's a man who lives not too far from here who has a sawmill. I had some

cedar logs and I needed them sawed up and he needed a 10-foot rocking chair. So we did some swapping-out. "The sawmiller's wife

wanted that big chair to sit by her swimming pool. So she got her chair and I got some sawed-up cedar.

Pete says when the man came over to get the chair, he loaded it onto a big flat bed truck. "It looked neat and

turned a lot of heads. People just stopped in their tracks to see that big chair going down the road.

Pete's wife thought that big chair was just wonderful, so Pete made her one. That's the one by Pete's house. That chair is gigantic. It's one story tall and

has enough lumber in it to build a small house "I just tried to make it as

I pictured a chair from my childhood. It was at my grandfather's house. After I built the big chair. I was over at my mother's house one day and saw that actual chair. The big one turned out to look just like my grandfather's chair, only bigger. People driving by notice

that chair. "Yeah, all the time. I

have people stopping by to take pictures. There was a group of college students, maybe 15 or so, and they all got on it at one time and had their picture made.

I asked Pete if the chair actually rocks. "I wouldn't advise it.

Those college kids got scared when it went to rocking.' He puts lights on the chair at Christmas time.

"I've thought about building a night stand with a lamp next to the chair. I'd turn on the lamp at night."



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Republicans offer Sept. 11 Bush photo for \$150 donations

WASHINGTON (AP) -Capitalizing on President Bush's drawing power, the Republican National Committee aimed for a record \$30 million fundraising bonanza Tuesday congressional Republicans sought to reward donors with a Sept. 11 photo of Bush aboard

Air Force One. The photo of Bush calling Vice President Dick Cheney from the presidential plane just hours after the terror attacks is part of a three-picture set the National Republican Senatorial Campaign and its House counterpart promises to anyone who donates \$150 or more to attend their joint fund-raising dinner next month.

The photos depict "the defining moments of 'The First Year' of the George W. Bush presidency," a fund-raising mailing says.

The pictures show "the gritty determination of our new president at his inauguration; a telephone call from Air Force One to Vice President Cheney the afternoon of Sept. 11, 2001; and President Bush's historic State of the Union speech before a joint session of Congress that united a nation and a world," it

In an accompanying letter, Cheney tells prospective donors the dinner has special meaning this year.

"It is an opportunity to honor President Bush for his courageous leadership during this historic time and to thank you for making that leadership possible through your steadfast support of President Bush and his agenda," Cheney

Larry Noble, executive director of the Center for Responsive Politics, a campaign watchdog group, said use of a Sept. 11 photo and other pictures of Bush on the job, "though not as expensive," reminded him then-Democratic President Clinton's use of overnight stays in the

White House Lincoln Bedroom and other trappings of his office to reward donors. "They really came in say-

ing they were going to clean up fund raising and politics and not be involved in the same kind of behavior the Clinton administration involved in." Noble said of the Bush White House.

"I think we saw from the first days in office they were doing all the same things.

Cheney drew criticism from campaign watchdog groups a year ago for holding a reception for about 400 top Republican donors at the vice presidential mansion on the eve of the RNC gala.

Bush political adviser Karl Rove was criticized in January by Democrats for telling the RNC that Republicans could campaign this year on their

efforts to fight terrorism. A National Republican Congressional Committee

spokesman defended the inclusion of a Sept. 11 photo in the donor pack-

"These pictures are of historic moments from the president's first year and are living testimony of his courage under fire, and leadership," the NRCC's Carl Forti said. "It is frankly offensive that anyone would suggest otherwise.

White House spokeswoman Anne Womack did not immediately respond to messages left at her office Monday evening seeking comment.

A Republican official said the photos were licensed and therefore not believed to be the work of an official White House photographer.

The fund-raising solicitation for the June 19 Republican congressional dinner came as the RNC anticipated raising about \$30 million at its black-tie presidential gala Tuesday night at the Washington Convention Center. That amount would shatter the single-night previous record set in 2000 by Clinton and then-Vice President Al Gore.

The estimated RNC total, provided by a Republican official on condition of anonymity, would easily exceed the \$26.5 million Clinton and Gore raised at a Democratic National Committee barbecue.

Bush and Cheney helped raise \$24 million at the RNC's black-tie gala last

Such fund-raising records would be difficult to break if a new law prohibiting unlimited campaign contributions from companies, unions and others to national party committees survives numerous legal challenges and takes effect after this fall's election.

The RNC, in its lawsuit contends the soft money unconstitutionally interferes with states' rights and the party's ability to take part in the polit ical process. Party committees use soft money for overhead and party-building activities around the country such as get-outthe-vote drives.

RNC gala organizers offered tables of 10 to individuals and political action committees for \$15,000 and to corporate donors for \$20,000.

Those who committed to raising \$500,000 or more were honored as dinner cochairmen, while those who raised at least \$250,000 were vice chairmen of the event at the Washington Convention Center.

Republican "Eagles" those who donate at least \$15,000 annually to the RNC — were invited to meetings with administraofficials earlier tion Tuesday.

High court affirms phone competition plan

divided Supreme Court cleared the way Monday for competitors to fight for the \$110 billion local telephone business against companies that emerged from the Bell System breakup — a ruling that probably will give consumers more choice.

Most Americans who were promised competition in 1996 have seen neither options nor lower phone bills. But the Supreme Court said the government's plan to open the market is reasonable and should be given a chance.

Time will tell if competition hopes were an illusion, the court said.

The ruling would keep costs low for companies such as WorldCom and AT&T Corp., which pay fees to piggyback on a local telephone companies' calling networks.

A conglomeration of for-Bells, including Verizon Communications, wanted the ability to charge other telephone companies higher fees for using their lines. The court said no.

"Competitors and consumers dodged a bullet," said Mark Cooper, with the Consumer Federation of America.

He said residential customers could save \$10 a month when competition Commission

WASHINGTON (AP) - A becomes nationwide. It is Michael Powell said the rulavailable now mostly in larger markets like New

York. The defeat at the Supreme Court for the former baby Bells sends the fight back to Communications

Commission, which has struggled for a way to satisfy all sides while giving choices to users. So far, less than 10 percent of the old Bell system is being leased by rival companies for residential service, consumer advocates have said.

The court ruled 5-3 in 1999 that the FCC could set pricing rules. Justice Stephen Breyer, joined by Justice Antonin Scalia, said Monday the court was giving the FCC too much authority with the latest ruling. Justice Clarence Thomas endorsed only part of the decision.

The issue was the 1996 Telecommunications Act, which requires local phone markets to be opened.

Justice David Souter wrote for the majority: "We cannot say whether the passage of time will show competition prompted by TEL-RIC to be an illusion, but TELRIC appears to be a reasonable policy for now, and that is all that counts."

Federal Communications

ing "brings much-needed additional certainty to the legal landscape.'

Verizon spokesman Bob Bishop said the companies that lost in the court case hope Powell "won't reflexively follow these bankrupt policies of the past." Bishop said the FCC's plan has not worked, and changes should be considered.

BellSouth Inc. spokesman Bill McCloskey said the "decision maintains an unfortunate status quo: BellSouth must continue to provide pieces of its network to competitors at below-cost prices. This status quo discourages investment by both us and our competitors, resulting in poorer choices for customers.

In addition to the fees issue, justices ruled that regulators could require the Bell spinoffs to make more network connections available to competitors.

The decisions on the two 'which were designed to break open the Bells' lock on local customers, are now the law of the land," said Michael Salsbury, WorldCom general counsel.

Mark Rosenblum, an AT&T vice president, said the ruling should "sharply Chairman reduce the uncertainty"

involved in getting into new markets.

The ruling had little effect on stock prices Monday. Analysts said that's because the court only affirmed what is being done now, and barriers remain to competi-

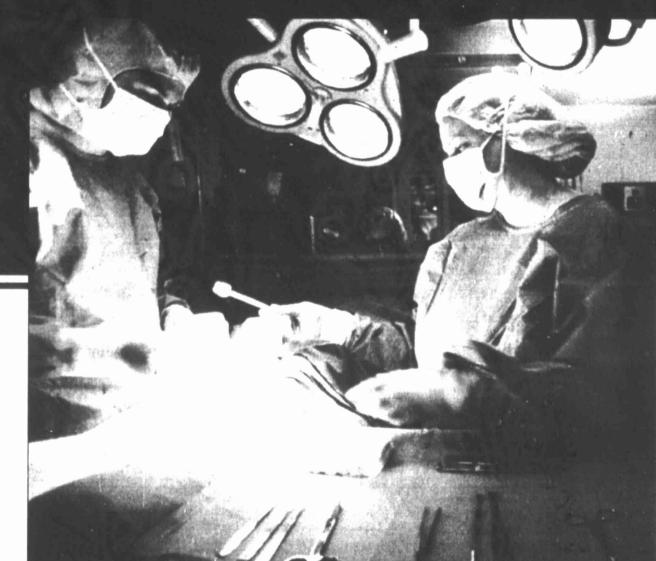
"For many new local competitors, the ruling is akin to completing a fourth-andlong pass for a first down while trailing late in the game. It keeps the drive alive, but they still have a long way to go to score,' said Blair Levin, a Washington-based telecommunications analyst.

Adam Thierer, who hantelecommunications dles issues for the libertarian Cato Institute, said the decision "is based on Romper Room economics: sharing is better than competing." It will discourage companies from building their own networks, Thierer said.

Sandra Justice O'Connor, who has stock in AT&T and WorldCom, did issues mean that FCC rules, not participate in the case.

The cases are Verizon Communications v. FCC, 00-511; FCC v. Iowa Utilities Board. 00-587: General Communication Inc. v. Iowa Utilities Board, 00-602; AT&T Corp. v. Iowa Utilities Board, 00-590; WorldCom Inc. v. Verizon,

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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

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Not certified by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization

At Scenic Mountain Medical Center, we believe the quality of healthcare should be as good as the

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The capital investment program will include MRI, ER construction, Cardiac Cath Lab and physician recruitment.

The Scenic Mountain Medical Center capital improvement program. In Big Spring, we're creating a better hospital and a better community.

OUR HOSPITAL OUR COMMUNITY

MEDICAL CENTER

1601 West Eleventh Place, Big Spring, TX 79720 • (915) 263-1211

Page 6 Tuesday, May 14, 2002

IN BRIEF

Regional semifinals softball games set

The Big Spring Lady Steers and Coahoma Bulldogettes have now finalized their regional semifinal softball playoff games for Friday.

The Lady Steers will take on Fort Worth Brewer's Lady Bears at 6 p.m. Friday in a Class 4A showdown at Abilene Christian University's softball facility.

Ticket prices will be \$3 for adults and \$2 for students.

The Bulldogettes will face a familiar Class 2A foe in Eula's Lady Pirates at 7 p.m. Friday in Snyder.

Forsan All-Sports Banquet is Thursday

Forsan High School will hold its annual All-Sports Banquet at 7 p.m. Thursday in the school's cafeteria.

The banquet will honor all high school athletes who participated during the 2001-2002 school year.

Tickets, priced at \$10 each, can be purchased at the high school office or reserved by calling 457-2223.

Lady Steers hoops camp scheduled

Big Spring Lady Steers head basketball coach Jimmy Avery will conduct the Lady Steers Fundamental Basketball Camp from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. June 10-13 in the Big Spring Junior High School gymnasium.

The camp is open to current first- through eighth-graders.

The camp will provide girls with an opportunity to develop individual basketball skills through one-on-one and group drills in a positive, educational environment.

Avery and his staff will provide camp instruction. Campers will be divided into appropriate age groups.

The camp fee is \$45 and will cover instruction, a camp T-shirt, a camp photograph and certifi-

Send applications and fees to Avery in care of Big Spring High School, 707 11th Place, Big Spring, 79720.

For more information. call Avery at 264-3647 or 264-0403.

Big Spring ISD offers physicals Saturday

Big Independent School Athletic Department will offer the opportunity for anyone in the sixth through 11th grades to receive athletic physicals.

The physicals are required for students who wish to participate in athletics entering the seventh, ninth or 11th grades, or those who have not already had one.

The requirement for current sophomores to undergo physicals is a new one, according to BSHS athletic trainer Andy Rankin, who also noted a new revised form must be used for the physicals.

Forms should be available from coaches and trainers, as well as from local physicians.

Physicals will be given on Saturday in the BSHS auditorium. The fee is

Sixth graders will have physicals at 9:45 a.m., eighth graders will be examined at 10:30 a.m. and those currently in the ninth through 11th grades will also be examined at 10:30 a.m.

Midland officials drop remaining charges against Benson

cials dropped the remaining two misdemeanor charges against Texas running back Cedric Benson on Monday after deciding there wasn't enough evidence in the case.

Midland City Attorney Keith Stretcher said he dropped the charges after a review of evidence indicated authorities "could not meet our burden of proof" in drug paraphernalia and alcohol possession charges against Benson.

In a statement released by the university, Benson apologized to his team and the school for any negative publicity but said he had

exonerated.

"This was an unfortunate incident, but I was confident that the truth would come out in the end. It has been a tough couple of weeks for me," Benson said.

"My number one concern all along was the example that I set for kids. I've worked extremely hard to maintain a positive image and to set a good example and I want to continue to do that," he said.

"We are glad to see the trust we had in him held true," said Texas coach Mack Brown. "I'm proud of

move on with his life."

Benson, 19, and Melanie Robinson, 20, were arrested at Robinson's Midland apartment April 27 when police responded to a call about loud music.

Both defendants were charged with possession of less than two ounces of marijuana and drug paraphernalia and being a minor in possession of alcohol.

The drug possession charge against Benson was dropped last week for lack of evidence. It was the only charge against him that could how he has handled this difficult have led to jail time. The other released," he said.

MIDLAND (AP) - Midland offi- remained confident he would be situation and now he's ready to charges carried maximum fines of up to \$500. The case against

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story idea? Call John Moseley at 263-

Robinson is continuing. Police have released few details of the arrest despite formal requests from news organizations under Texas open records laws.

Attorney General John Cornyn's office on Wednesday ordered Midland police to release a more

detailed report on the arrest. Stretcher said the city has com-

plied with the order. "We have released all the documents that the Texas attorney general has determined should be

Kings bring a quick end to Mavs' run SACRAMENTO, Calif. coach Don Nelson said. "I'm

(AP) — The celebration at really rooting for them Arco Arena was joyous and deafening. It was also muted by the Sacramento Kings' conviction that they're good enough to celebrate a whole lot more this spring.

Chris Webber and Mike Bibby each scored 23 points Monday night as the Kings advanced to the Western Conference finals for the first time since 1981, beating the Dallas Mavericks 114-101 to win the best-ofseven series in five games.

. At the final buzzer, the Kings had a group hug, while team owner Gavin Maloof jumped and danced with the team's cheerleaders on the court as the crowd cheered deliriously. Moments later, however,

the chant of "Beat L.A.!" reverberated. The Kings will play the winner of the the cowbell chorus behind semifinal between Los their bench in Dallas, not semifinal between Los their bench in Dallas, not Angeles and San Antonio, even the Mavs' high-octane and Sacramento expects offense. nothing less than a show

down with Shaq and Kobe. "I don't want to get caught up thinking about this win," said Webber, in a conference final for the first time in his nine seasons. "Hopefully we have a longer road ahead. It feels good right now, but we still have

more work to do. "Four years ago, we came together with the goal to win a championship. We've

stuck with it. The two-time defending NBA champion Lakers lead their series 3-1, with Game 5 tonight at Staples Center. Also, Boston will attempt to close out Detroit in Game 5 of their Eastern Conference semifinal. New Jersey can finish Charlotte in Game 5

on Wednesday night. Fill-in starter Hedo Turkoglu had 20 points for the Kings, who averaged more than 114 points in this entertaining series.

The Kings closed a playoff series at home for the first time since 1964. They also backed up their run to the NBA's best regular-season record with a convincing victory over a Mavericks team with plenty of offensive firepower.

"They were a better team than we were," Mavericks to come back.'

because I love the style of basketball they play. Can they beat the Lakers or San Antonio? I don't know, but I sure hope so, because if they can do it, maybe we can too, someday."

In front of a crowd that seemed louder than the Mavericks' customized team plane, the Kings got the last of three straight victories despite the absence of second-leading scorer Peja Stojakovic. He hasn't played since the third quarter of Game 3 because of a sprained ankle.

Webber also limped to the locker room in the third quarter after spraining his left ankle, missing several minutes. But no distraction in this series seemed to bother the Kings — not the health of their All-Stars, not

After all, the Kings have been playing this style for four seasons during the most exciting time in franchise history — and the payoff finally has arrived.

"We didn't let anything distract us, and that's hard in a series like this," said Bibby. "We got a lot of motivation from stuff that some people thought we couldn't

All-Star Dirk Nowitzki recovered from his struggles with 32 points and 12 rebounds, and Michael Finley had 26 points for the

"It's good to go through this process so they'll learn from it," Nelson said.

Turkoglu, thrust into Stojakovic's starting spot, had several big baskets in the second half. Bibby, who became an offensive force in the series, clearly outplayed Steve Nash, who had 12 points and nine assists.

"Me and Steve hadn't even made vacation plans yet because we didn't feel like we were down 3-1," said Dallas' Nick Van Exel, who had just six points. "Throughout the series, we didn't feel like they could ever beat us. We never thought we wouldn't be able

Injury-riddled Twins still on top after knocking off Royals, 3-2

Big Spring's Whitney Hufford follows through after ripping a leadoff single in the third

inning of the Lady Steers' area playoff series opener. The Lady Steers have now advanced

to the Region I, Class 4A semifinals and will face Fort Worth Brewer's Lady Bears at 6

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

p.m. Friday in Abilene.

No one would say the Minnesota Twins are lucky to be in first place. No team with this many injuries by the middle of May could be lucky.

Cleanup hitter David Ortiz, the sixth Twin to spend time on the disabled list, came back Monday and drove in the tiebreaking run with an eighth-inning double in a 3-2 victory over Kansas City in the only game in the AL

But starting pitcher Brad Radke pulled a groin muscle throwing a pitch to Mark Quinn in the second inning and figures he'll miss at least one start.

"You wonder if someone's trying to slap the new manager around," first-year manager Ron Gardenhire

Radke, who had given up just one hit in his two innings, said he missed one start with a similar injury four years ago.

"Our team's cursed with injuries," Radke observed. 'We can just try to over-

come it.' Radke did not come out for the third inning, throwing just 19 pitches.

In National League games, it was: San Francisco 7, Atlanta 6; Arizona 11, Pittsburgh 0; Los Angeles 3, New York 2 in 13 innings; St. Louis 3, Chicago 0; Houston 17, Philadelphia 3; Cincinnati 5, Milwaukee 0; h Colorado 7, Florida 3; and San Diego 7, Montreal 3.

Ortiz, who had missed 18 games following surgery to remove a bone chip in his left knee, was 1-for-4. After Jason Grimsley (1-2) walked Doug Mientkiewicz in the eighth, Ortiz doubled off the wall in right-center for what proved to be the winning

"The knee didn't bother me at all," he said. "It feels fine. When I went on the DL and had to stay home and just watch the games on TV, it was really frustrating. But it just made me work harder to get back.

J.C. Romero (3-0) pitched 2 2-3 innings of one-hit relief for the victory that put the Twins ahead of the Royals 241-240 in the all-time series. Eddie Guardado worked a

perfect ninth for his league-

Questions still linger over Texas track record book

officials promised to clean up their

record book, it's still a little messy. Hand-held stopwatch times are mixed in with electronic times and this year due to high winds that questions linger over just who really did run some of the fastest races in state history.

The question for UIL officials is whether to adjust the record book to reflect solely electronic times, based either on records that exist or by converting hand-held times to an accepted standard, or leave everything the same.

Changing the times would alter state and national records in some of the most prestigious events, including the boys' 100 and 200 meters.

Doing nothing would only raise more questions each May during

the state championship meet. The question was raised after the

University Interscholastic League records were awarded despite being slower than the previous handtimed records.

It didn't flare up during the meet would have nullified most records. UIL officials decided then to

rewrite the record book to reflect times from both hand-held stopwatches and marks provided by more accurate electronic means. But Athletic Coordinator Peter Contreras couldn't find electronic records for several events.

Meanwhile, some hand-held times are so low that some question if they'll ever be legitimately challenged

For example, Henry Neal of Greenville owns the state and national record in the boys' 100 meters with a 1990 stopwatch time of 9.9 seconds.

Dallas Roosevelt's Roy Martin set

A year after state meet last year when two state the national record in the 200 with a stopwatch time of 20.0 seconds in 1985

Contreras said Monday the UIL has electronic times on both athletes (10.15 for Neal in the 100 and 20.13 for Martin in the 200).

The UIL went with fully automatic timing at the state meet in 1992 but had the technology for it much

He said those times weren't sent to the National Federation of State High School Associations because only hand-held times were accepted then.

Contreras said he will resubmit Neal's and Martin's electronic times to the national federation this year. Both times would remain national records, he said.

"Hopefully it will convince them to accept them and list them ... so our book makes more sense," Contreras said

John Gillis, national federation assistant director and editor of its sports record book, said it will consider any documentation the UIL provides.

The standard policy is that only electronic times that are clearly faster than hand-held times will justify a new record.

Hand-held times are given some leeway as some were rounded up to the tenth of a second, meaning actual times could be faster than those reported, Gillis said.

As for converting hand-held times, the accepted standard is to add .24 seconds. No such adjustments are made for national record purposes, Gillis said.

Conversions are "really a means of comparison," Gillis said. "It's not meant to be used to come up with a definitive time for national records. "We don't accept converted

times."





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want.

need to do to relax.

Tonight: Beam in what you

*** Allow another to

express his or her feelings.

You need to deal with the

unexpected. Consider an

opportunity. Take another

look at a situation. You will

find that your perspective

changes dramatically. Be

careful when mixing

finances with friendship in

the next few days. Tonight:

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

you want, though you will

have to side step a hassle or

two. Don't let your nerves

cause a mistake or unneed-

ed problem, especially in

the next few weeks. You

might want to discuss a

change involving career

goals. Tonight: Go with the

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

what you want. Think

through a decision that

involves your personal life

as well as one who lives at

a distance. Confusion sur-

rounds information right

now. Double-check your

sources, especially at work.

Tonight: Work as late as

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov.

21) **** You can drive a

hard bargain when you

want to. Use your ability to

read between the lines with

others. Seek out informa-

tion that you might deem

as significant. News from a

partner and/or friend could

startle you. Tonight: Catch

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-

Dec. 21) **** Work with

another and get to the root

of a problem. Someone

might dump an unusual

amount of information on

you in the next few weeks.

Take your time making

financial decisions, as

much as you would like to

move past a matter or be

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-

Jan. 19) **** Deal with oth-

ers openly, looking for solu-

**** Think in terms of

*** Aim for more of what

Take a break.

moment.

need be

a movie

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

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GARAGE SALES ☐ Big Spring Women's Bowling Association is

having a Garage Sale: Sat. 18th, 8-5 at 3601 Dixon. Help Support Women's Bowling Assoc. Lots of items. Q Garage Sale: Furniture & Contents of a 2 Bdr home + a nice

Thur. 5-16-02 paper for listing. Huge Garage Sale: 2208 Williams St. Antiques, toys, shoes of all sizes, women and children clothes.

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263-5000

Wednesday, May 15:

You often could change your mind this year, as you have a tendency to mull over ideas for a long period of time. Use your strong communication skills, networking and making new friends, both professionally and emotionally. Use care with bosses or those in charge, because problems could arise out of the blue. Stay in control of your life, keeping a strong handle on your finances and emotions. You often could be an emotional spender. If single, you will meet people easily. You will enjoy relating this year, but by August, you will want to settle in. You could have a very cozy winter. If attached, you and your mate will find a lot more to talk about and share. CAN-

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

CER could feel like a broth-

ARIES (March 21-April 19) **** Unexpected developments stop you dead in your tracks. Work with others carefully when dealing with matters about the homestead. Afterward, you can resume what had been on your "to do" list. Confirm any meetings Misunderstandings run rampant. Tonight: Happy to be at home.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) **** Speak your mind, especially in the face of a reversal or sudden change. Not everything is as you think. Consider upset as an opportunity for you to gain. Discussions allow more insight. Do be careful with a money matter in the next few weeks. Tonight: Swap war stories over munchies.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) *** News from a distance sends you into a bit of a tizzy. Information that comes forth could have long-term financial implications. Think about what supportive of another. you want. A financial mat- Tonight: Listen to a loved ter takes precedence. You one. could be more confused than you realize. Tonight: Craziness seems to ensue.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) **** When hitting a snafu, don't hesitate to head in another direction. Your sense of humor creates a lot more possibilities than you carefully with an important

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FOR RENT 310 East 21st Street Available now, corner lot. 3bdr. 2 bath rock home. CH/A, fenced or 268-9755 yard, 1 yr. lease required. No indoor pets. \$550/mo. plus security deposit. Owner/

tions. Chaos could ensue where you least expect it. What might be expected from your work could change dramatically. Deal

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY for realize. Others respond, and association in your life. nervousness falls to the wayside. Do whatever you

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) **** Your behavior might surprise a loved one. Think through a decision involving a key relationship or budding romance in the next few weeks. If you can, avoid any impulsiveness with others. Expect a blast from your past in the near future. Tonight: Do something ultimately relax-

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) **** Allow more of your imagination in your work. Lighten up about a family

Tonight: Where the people

member or key associate who might be off-kilter or will be in the near future. Chill out and consider what might be best for all of you. Take an overview. Tonight: Let your more childlike side dominate. **BORN TODAY**

Former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright (1937), Latin rock and pop singer Trini Lopez (1937), NFL player Emmitt Smith (1969) Jacqueline Bigar is on the

Internet http://www.jacquelinebigar.com.

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Holding children accountable is greatest favor from parents

Dear Ann Landers: This letter is for those wellmeaning parwho repeatedly bail their children out of trouble. I know some

parents who



LANDERS

did this for their 24-yearold son. He has been arrest ed for underage drinking, possession of illegal drugs and driving under the influence. This young man bragged to his friends about his parents paying nearly \$30,000 in attorneys' fees to get him off the hook

Last September, this young man killed my beautiful 25-year-old daughter in a motorcycle accident. He was drunk, had no valid driver's license or insurance, and was driving over 100 mph when he hit a concrete median. My daughter was riding on the back of his bike and was thrown into a ditch and killed instantly. Don't tell me she should have known better. The accident was not her

arrested, guess' who bailed do you say, Ann him out — again. It has been eight months, and he has served no jail time. He is living with his parents and has all the comforts of home. Meanwhile, my only daughter is gone forever. My life will never be the same, yet this man has his parents taking care of his every need. He has suffered no legal consequences for his actions.

I want these parents to know what happens to the victims and their families. If this young man had learned about the consequences of his behavior ear lier in life, maybe my daughter would be alive Sad Mother in today. Minnesota

Dear Mother: My heart goes out to you. While your daughter may not have caused the accident, she showed reckless disregard for her own safety. Nonetheless, you are right that too often parents keep their children from dealing with the consequences of their behavior. They believe they are being protective, but in reality, they are teaching that child to be irresponsible.

The greatest favor parents can do for their children is to hold them accountable for their actions and see that they suffer the consequences. Bailing them out every time they get into trouble only guarantees more trouble.

Dear Ann Landers: Please tell your readers, again, that shoving wedding cake into the bride's face is not funny.

My daughter's beautiful wedding was ruined when her new husband (after being egged on by his father and uncles), smashed a piece of cake into her face and smeared it into her hair. My daughter was stunned. They had agreed beforehand that this practice was immature and they would not do it. Her makeup and hairdo were a mess. and her lovely beaded gown was ruined. When she began to cry, her new husband and his family started to laugh and take pictures.

I was heartsick to see her in such distress, sobbing uncontrollably. When I offered her a tissue, the groom and his father told me to "butt out" because smashing the cake is a "tradition" at weddings.

My daughter and new son-in-law fought all night. The groom refuses to apologize and insists that my When the young man was daughter overreacted. What Dismayed Mother in San Jose Calif

Dear Mother: I have often said this "tradition" is masked hostility. It is bad enough when the bride agrees to the practice, but there is no excuse for a groom to surprise his beloved by ruining her hair and makeup, laugh at her misery and take pictures of her humiliation. I know there are couples who think cake-smashing is good fun, but it should never be forced upon an unwilling victim.

I hope your daughter has the name of a good marriage counselor handy. I predict she's going to need

Do you have questions about sex, but no one to talk to? Ann Landers' book let, "Sex and the Teenager, is frank and to the point Send a self-addressed, long. business-size envelope and a check or money order for \$3.75 (this includes postage and handling) to: Teens, c/o Ann Landers, P.O. Box 11562, Chicago, Ill. 60611-0562. (In Canada, send \$4.55.) To find out more about Ann Landers and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at www.creators.com.

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THIS DATE IN HISTORY

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

Today is Tuesday, May 14, the 134th day of 2002. There are 231 days left in the vear

Today's Highlight in History

On May 14, 1948 (by the current-era calendar), the independent state of Israel was proclaimed in Tel Aviv.

On this date:

In 1643, Louis XIV became King of France at age 4 upon the death of his father, Louis XIII.

In 1804, the Lewis and Clark expedition to explore the Louisiana Territory left St. Louis.

In 1904, the first Olympic games to be held in the United States opened in St. Louis.

In 1942, Aaron Copland's "Lincoln Portrait" was first performed, by the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra.

In 1942, the Women's Auxiliary Army Corps was

established.

In 1955, representatives from eight Communist bloc countries, including the Soviet Union, signed the Warsaw Pact in Poland.

In 1973, the United States launched Skylab 1, its first manned space station.

In 1975, U.S. forces raided the Cambodian island of Koh Tang and recaptured the American merchant ship Mayaguez. All 40 crew members were released safely by Cambodia, but some 40 U.S. servicemen were killed in the military operation.

In 1980, President Carter inaugurated the Department of Health and Human Services.

In 1998, singer-actor Frank Sinatra died at a Los Angeles hospital at age 82.

Ten years ago: Former Soviet President Mikhail S. Gorbachev addressed members of the U.S. Congress, appealing to them to pass a bill aiding the people of the former Soviet Union. Former football player Lyle Alzado died in Portland, Ore., at age 43.

Today's Birthdays: Opera singer Patrice Munsel is 77. Sen. Byron Dorgan, D-N.D., is 60. Rock singer-musician Jack Bruce (Cream) is 59. Movie producer George Lucas is 58. Actress Meg Foster is 54. Actress Season Hubley is 51. Rock singer David Byrne is 50. Movie director Robert Zemeckis is 50. Actor Tim Roth is 41. Rock singer Ian-Astbury (The Cult) is 40. Rock musician Cecil DeVille is 40. Rock musician Mike Inez (Alice In Chains) is 36. Fabrice Morvan (ex-Milli Vanilli) is 36. Actress Cate Blanchett is 33. Singer Danny Wood (New Kids on



36 Leave

quickly

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49 Tooth

51 Gorge

48 Too thrifty

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53 Royal crown

54 Adam Bede

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26 Donut

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Chagall 37 John Ritter's

38 Straight man

family name

42 Mrs. Charles

43 Junior

45 Coquettish

47 T-bone.

margin, sometimes

52 Makes an appearance

sign

Newsday Crossword

64 Artillery need 65 Down East

66 List of

choices

67 Nautical pole

68 Irregularly wom

69 Steel source 70 Caged talker

DOWN

71 Subsequently

1 Blossom holders

2 Angry with

3 In the same

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4 Liquid measure

5 Endured 6 "Cheerio!"

7 Leif's father 8 Become

understood

dad

39 Baseball

40 Make into law

watcher

46 Tickled pink

for one 48 Furry wear 50 Winning

57 Real-estate

60 Leave quickly 63 At any time

GET MOVING by Richard Silvestri Edited by Stanley Newman

9 Personal assertion 10 Leave quickly

11 Away from aweather

12 Daytona

entries

13 Scout specialty

21 Sports fan 25 Tit for

27 Buddhist

sect 28 On the nose

30 Workshop item

31 City of India

cue cards

33 Sunday

celebration

32 Use

34 Dismounted 35 One way

to learn -

55 Salon job 56 Take the tiller **57** Highway

hauler

58 More than 59 Letterman

rival

61 Federal agent

62 Israeli dance

16 14 15 17 18 19 22 20 23 24 25 35 36 40 42 43 45 50 53 54 55 60 61 62

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