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We're Always There

50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

WEDNESDAY

January 22, 2003

WEATHER

Tonight:



TONIGHT TOMORROW 22°-24° 35°-37°

INSIDE

SUPER CHICKEN

Members of the Garden City High School "Project Graduation" are taking orders for their annual Super Bowl Sunday barbecue chicken dinners. You can also purchase slaw and beans for a real super meal.

Page 5



CHAMBER SALUTE

What is the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce? How does it operate? Who makes up the board of directors? What services does it provide for our community? Find out the answers to these questions and more in the *Herald's* annual salute to the Chamber of Commerce.

COMING

SUNDAY

CELL PHONE CONTROVERSY

You see it all the time. People driving around town our out on the highway with one hand on the steering wheel and the other holding a cell phone to an ear.

This Sunday, the *Herald* explores the use of cell phones in vehicles. Is it safe? Should there be laws regulating it? Read what legislators, law enforcement officers and others have to say about this controversial subject.

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Vol. 99A, No. 66

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

Hawks climb to No. 2 in NJCAA poll

By TOMMY WELLS

Sports Editor Life just keeps getting better for the Howard College Hawks.

Fresh off a nail-biting 72-71 win over rival Midland College that came in front of the largest crowd to see a game in five years, the Hawks garnered another high Tuesday when they moved up a notch in the national junior college rankings.

The Hawks, courtesy of

free throw Monday night and a stunning loss by No. 1-ranked Okaloosa-Walton Community College, climbed one spot, to No. 2 overall in the latest National Junior College Athletic Association poll. The Hawks had entered the week ranked third their highest ranking in more than 12 years.

Howard College, under former coach Steve Green, was ranked No. 1

"In my career as a Division I coach, I could count on

one hand the number of bigger crowds I've seen."

Chris Jans, Hawks coach

in 1990-1991 — the same finished just 32 points season the team won a behind. school-record 20 straight games.

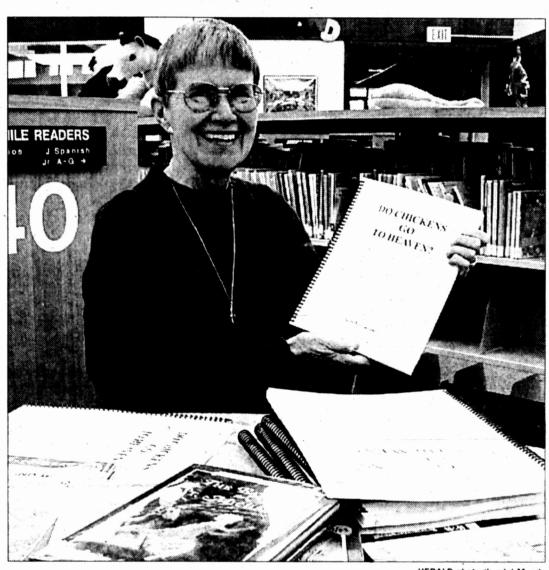
Southeastern Community College, which had been ranked No. 2 prior to Okaloosa-Walton's loss, moved into the top spot in this week's poll. Southeastern, 21-0, received eight of the 16 first-place ballots cast and racked up 133 points. Howard Collège received two first-place votes and

Okaloosa-Walton slipped to No. 3 despite receiving four first-place votes. Southeastern Illinois and Seward Co. Community College, in Liberal, Kan., rounded out the NJCAA Top 5.

Currently, Howard College and Southeastern Community College, which is based in West Burlington, Iowa, are the

See HAWKS, Page 3

"Do Chickens Go to Heaven?"



Big Spring author Bebe McCasland will sign copies of her newly published book "Do

Chickens Go to Heaven?" from 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Thursday in the children's section of the Howard County Library, 500 S. Main. The book is a collection of poems, stories, pictures and McCasland's own memories of 40 years at St. Mary's Episcopal School. Copies of the book are \$16 and can be purchased at the library.

Moore committee mulls funding some 4B projects, seeking ideas from public

By ROGER CLINE

Staff Writer

A committee of Moore Development for Big Spring is looking for innovative ideas to boost Big Spring's economy and improve the town's natural assets as well.

At its meeting Tuesday, the Moore Board's 4B Projects Committee discussed the possibility of using some of the corporation's 4A economic development funds — earmarked to provide economic incentives to attract and retain businesses and industries to the area — for 4B projects.

4B projects run the gamut of recreational, tourist and park faciliinfrastructure. affordable housing, water facilities and water conservation programs.

possibilities Some include stadiums, ball parks, auditoriums, amphitheaters, concert halls, learning centers,

'While we're sitting here waiting for somebody

to knock on our door. let's look at our own house and get it in order."

Tommy Churchwell

parks and park facilities and related roads, streets and water improvements that enhance any of the other items.

State law allows money from a 4A corporation like Moore Development to be spent on 4B projects, but requires that such projects be approved by popular vote.

full The Moore Development Board will hear a report from the

See MOORE, Page 3

Tickets still available for Thursday's Chamber banquet

By ROGER CLINE

Staff Writer

Tickets are still availfor Thursday evening's Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce Banquet.

The annual banquet is planned for 6:15 p.m.

"It's at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum, on the floor," said Chamber Executive Director Debbye ValVerde. "Use

the east ramp to get in. Tickets are \$20. They're still available. We'll have a few available at the door, but it's good to come by and pick them up at the chamber in advance. It just makes the line go quicker.'

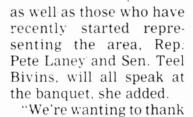
Moving Together Forward" is the theme this year.

Former area state legislators Rep. David Counts and Sen. Robert Duncan

"This is not just for chamber members. This is for the entire

community"

Debbye ValVerde. Chamber executive director



Counts and Duncan for all they've done for our community and we want to welcome Bivins and Laney," she said.

The event will also provide an opportunity for

as well as those who have local businesses to promote themselves.

"We have 35 chamber members that have decorated a table in order to promote themselves," ValVerde said. "The businesses that have decorated a table, they are not going to sit at their table because they are promoting their business.

See BANQUET, Page 3

Superintendent search

Big Spring ISD trustees will meet Thursday to map out a game plan

By LYNDEL MOODY

Staff Writer

Big Spring Independent School District trustees will discuss how to fill the superintendent's position during a

specially called meeting Thursday. "There are several ways to go about this process," said Frank Long, board president. "We will

discuss two three options. "The **Texas** LONG

Association School Boards has a search committee who goes out and brings in all the applications. We will be looking at options like that and other options like posting locally and through Region 18," Long added.

The meeting follows the unexpected announcement Superintendent Murray Murphy on Jan. 14 that he will retire at the end of the school year.

Serving for two years as superintendent, Murphy's tenure has been fraught with a divided board as well as several controversial issues. Murphy cited discord among the board as his motivation for leaving the posi-

Trustees will meet at 3 p.m. in the high school board room, 707 11th Place.

Contact Staff Writer Lyndel Moody at 263-7331, ext. 234, or by e-mail at newsdesk@crcom.net

Workshop set to address concerns of retiring public school employees

By LYNDEL MOODY

Staff Writer

All area school employees considering retirement in the near future are encouraged to attend a free pre-retirement workshop.

"This involves different ways to decide how your annuity will be allocated from the Texas Retirement System," said Big Spring resident Janice Bond, Retired Teachers Association District 18 second vice-president.

The workshop is geared toward addressing questions and concerns of teachers, bus drivers, cafeteria workers, staff members or anyone involved with the TRS system.

"People who plan to retire in the near future should come hear what the TRS representative has to say about the benefits available and how different

INFORMATION

What: Texas Retirement System workshop.

Where: Center for Energy and Economic Diversification Building, Midland.

When: 8:30 a.m. to noon, Saturday, Feb. 8.

To register: Call Martha Kallus at (915) 682-2846 or by e-mail at mdkallus@nwol.net no later than

aspects of the plan can be affected by the individual choices that you make about them," said Martha Kallus, TRTA District 18 president.

Participants will also have an opportunity to question resource specialists about other aspects of

See TRS, Page 3

Obituaries

Shirley Lucas

Shirley Lucas, 66, of Big Spring, died Tuesday, Jan. 21; 2003, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center following a lengthy illness.

Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral

Arvin Hart

Arvin Hart, 87, of Big Spring, died Monday, Jan. 21, 2003, in Odessa.

His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home of Big Spring.

Adele Tibbs

Adele Tibbs, 90, of Big Spring, died Wednesday, Jan. 22, 2003, in a Big Spring care facility.

Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home of Big Spring.

Support groups

WEDNESDAY

☐ AA open discussion meeting from noon to 1 p.m. at 615 Settles. Noon Open 12 and 12 Study meeting, 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

THURSDAY

☐ Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.; Women's meeting; 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Non-Smoking closed discussion meeting, 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

☐ Fibromyalgia/Chronic Fatigue Support Group meets at noon at the Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center.

□ AA open discussion meeting from noon to 1 p.m. at 615 Settles. Noon Open Big Book Study Meeting, 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

SATURDAY

☐ Open Discussion Meeting, 615 Settles noon to 1 p.m. Open Podium/Speakers Meeting 615 Settles 8 p.m. to 9 p.m. Open Birthday Night No Smoking

meeting last Saturday of each month at 8 p.m.

SUNDAY

☐ Alcoholics Anonymous meets from 11 a.m. to 1noon at 615 Settles. Open meeting 5 p.m. to 6 p.m.

☐ 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.

MONDAY

☐ Alcoholics Anonymous meets from noon to 1 p.m. at 615 Settles. Open meeting on fourth floor at VA Medical Center from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

☐ TOPS Club TX 21 (Take Off Pounds Sensibly), weigh in at 5:30 p.m. and meeting at 6 p.m. at Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center, 306 West Third.

☐ New Voice Club support group for laryngetomees and families. For more information, call 267-2800.

☐ The Big Spring Military Support Group meets at 6 p.m. the first Monday of the month at the VA Medical Center. The January meeting will be Monday, Jan. 13. For more information, contact Holly Moore at 263-8106 or Treva Hall at 263-8574.

TUESDAY

☐ TOPS Club TX 1756 (Take Off Pounds Sensibly), 5:30 p.m. weigh-in, 6 p.m. meeting, Birdwell Lane Church of Christ, 11th and Birdwell, Call 263-2786 or 263-1340 for more information.

Take note

□ A RETIREMENT RECEPTION for Margy Thompson-Bradberry, chief juvenile probation officer for the 118th District Court, will be held on Friday from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. on the third floor of the Howard County Courthouse.

Thompson-Bradberry has served in the position since 1982 and has received numerous awards in juvenile probation. She has received the prestigious Amador Rodriguez Lifetime Achievement Award.

For more information on the reception, call Sylvia Dominguez at 264-2240.

☐ THE SECOND ANNUAL KEY CLUB talent

show will be held 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 30, in the high school auditorium. Admission is \$2 in advance and \$3 at the door.

Tickets are available from Key Club members or at the high school, 707 11th Place.

Lottery

The winning Cash Five numbers drawn Tuesday by the Texas Lottery:

1-6-27-31-32

Texas Two Step numbers drawn Tuesday:

4-15-20-33

Bonus number 11 Estimated jackpot: \$200,000

Pick 3 numbers drawn Tuesday night: 3-3-2

Pick 3 numbers drawn Tuesday afternoon: 7-0-7

Police blotter The Big Spring Police Department reported the fol-

lowing activity from 8 a.m., Tuesday until 8 a.m. today: • JARVIS ALEXANDER, 21, of 538 Westover Road was arrested on two local warrants.

• VICTOR LOREDO, 21, of 3906 Gail Highway was arrested on a local warrant.

 ADAM ABRAHAM JUAREZ, 25, of 1310 Stanford was arrested on a local warrant.

• ABEL YHARTE GOMEZ, 17, of 1600 State St. was arrested on two local warrants.

 ASSAULT CLASS C/FAMILY VIOLENCE was reported in the 1300 block of Sycamore.

 MINOR ACCIDENT was reported in the 1000 block of South Birdwell Lane, the 2500 block of West 15th

• DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE was reported in the 1900 block of South Johnson and the 2200 block of Morrison Drive.

• LOUD PARTY/NOISE was reported in the 2600 block of Wasson Road and the 1100 block of South FAILURE TO STOP AND RENDER AID was

reported in the 2000 block of West FM 700. A red 1998 Mercury Cougar reportedly sustained \$2,000 damage in the incident, while a white 1984 GMC 1500 reportedly sustained \$1,500 damage. • BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE was reported in the

300 block of Washington Boulevard. A side door of the vehicle was left unlocked and a purse or wallet worth \$10 and jewelry worth \$125 were reported stolen.

The Big Spring Police reported the following activity over the weekend:

• ASSAULT/FAMILY VIOLENCE: 3

· ASSAULT: 2

• BURGLARY OF A HABITATION: 5

BURGLARY OF A MOTOR VEHICLE: 4

• CRIMINAL MISCHIEF: 7

• DRIVING WHILE LICENSE INVALID: 3

• FORGERY: 1 • ROBBERY: 1

• THEFT: 17

- Convenience store thefts: 15 — Beer thefts: 1

— Gasoline drive-offs: 14

• INCIDENTS: 17 • ARRESTS: 21

• ACCIDENTS: 7

- Major: 1

- Minor: 6

Sheriff's report

The Howard County Sheriff's Office reported the following recent activity:

• TERRY DON SMITH, 43, of 1100 Hickory was taken to the Howard County Jail after being arrested by Department of Public Safety Troopers Saturday on a charge of driving while intoxicated — second

• VICTOR LOREDO, 21, of 3906 Gail Highway was taken to the Howard County Jail after being arrested by Big Spring Police Tuesday on a charge of criminal mischief \$50 to \$500.

• POSSIBLE PROWLER was reported in the 100 block of Hoosier.

• HARASSING PHONE CALL was reported in the

700 block of Todd Road. DOG PROBLEM was reported on Eubanks Road.

• CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 6200 block of Craig Road. Mailboxes were damaged in the incident. Criminal mischief incidents were also reported in the 4500 block of Callahan and the 300 block of Jeffery

 VANDALIZED VEHICLE was reported on Highway 461.

• LOOSE GOATS were reported on Old Colorado City Highway.

· GRASS FIRE was reported in the 2400 block of Williams Road.

• THEFT was reported in the 5800 block of Gates. • GASOLINE DRIVE-OFF was reported in the 100 block of North Broadway.

• VICIOUS DOGS were reported in on North Fourth

· MINOR ACCIDENT was reported on South Highway 87.

Weather

Tonight - Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 20s. Northeast winds 5 to 15 mph.

Thursday — Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 30s. Northeast winds 5 to 15 mph.

Thursday night — Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 20s.

Friday — Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 40s. Saturday — Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 30s. Highs in the upper 50s.

Sunday — Mostly clear. Lows in the mid 30s. Highs in the mid 50s.

Monday — Mostly clear. Lows in the upper 30s.

Highs in the mid 60s. Tuesday — Clear. Lows near 40. Highs in the lower 60s.

Here is a summary of Big Spring Fire Department EMS activity for Tuesday:

2:57 a.m. — 1800 block of U.S. Highway 87 North, medical call, one patient transported to the VA Medical Center.

11 a.m. - 1800 block of U.S. Highway 87 North, medical call, one patient transported to the VA Medical

11:52 a.m. - 600 block of Tulsa, medical call. one patient transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

Bulletin board

If you have items for the Bulletin board, contact the Herald Features Desk at 263-7331, ext. 238 or email jmoseley@crcom.net.

TODAY

The West Texas Republican Club, noon, Big Spring Country Club, Driver Road. The program will be an identification of the many Republican candidates who are campaigning for the 19th U.S. congressional seat vacated by Larry Combest of Lubbock. To reserve a meal, call Irene Medellin at 264-0946.

Line Dancing, 1 p.m., Spring City Senior Center, Industrial Park, 267-6966 or 267-1628.

Duplicate Bridge Club, 1 p.m., Big Spring Country Club, Driver Road.

Eagles Lodge Ladies Auxiliary, 7 p.m., Eagles Lodge, 203 W. Third.

THURSDAY

Gideon International, Big Spring Camp, U42060, 7 a.m., Herman's Restaurant, 1601 Gregg St.

Coffee Club, 10 a.m., Gale's Sweet Shoppe, 1706 E. FM-700.

Kiwanis Club, noon, Howard College Cactus Room,

Duplicate Bridge Club, 1 p.m., Big Spring Country Club, Driver Road.

Arts, Craft and Quilting Club, 6 p.m., Howard County Library, 500 S. Main.

Masonic Lodge 598, 7:30 p.m., 219 Main.

Signal Mountain Quilting Guild, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 118 Cedar, call 267-1037 or 267-7281. Bring a lunch

AMBUCS, noon, Brandin' Iron Inn, 3101 S. Highway 87.

Greater Big Spring Rotary, noon, Howard College, HC Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

Duplicate Bridge Club, 1 p.m., Big Spring Country Club, Driver Road.

A retirement reception for Margy Thompson-Bradberry, chief juvenile probation officer for the 118th District Court, 2 p.m.-4 p.m., the third floor of the Howard County Courthouse. Thompson-Bradberry has served in the position since 1982. For more information on the reception, call Sylvia Dominguez at 264-2240.

Spring City Senior Citizen's Country and Western Dance, 7:30 p.m.-10:30 p.m., Spring City Senior Center, Industrial Park. All area seniors are invited.

SATURDAY

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

Hangar 25 Air Museum, McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Potton House, 200 Gregg, a restored historical home is open form 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is \$2 for adults and \$1 for children and senior citizens.

Eagles Dance, 8:30 p.m., Eagles Lodge, 704 W. Third. Members and their guests are welcome.

SUNDAY

Hangar 25 Air Museum, McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark, 1:30 p.m. to 4 p.m.

MONDAY

Senior Circle, Sit and Be Fit Chair Aerobics, 4 p.m., SMMC. People 50 years of age and older are invited to participate, call 268-4721.

TUESDAY

Intermediate Line Dance class, 9 a.m., Spring City Senior Center, 267-1628.

Big Spring Rotary, noon, Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

Evening Lions Club, noon, Spring City Senior Center, Industrial Park.

Big Spring Band Booster, 6 p.m., Big Spring High School band hall, 707 11th Place. All band parents are invited to attend.

SPRING HE

Reflecting A Proud Community

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Wednesda

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The work held on Satu from 8:30 a. the Center fo Economic D Building. Th located at and FM 17 Midland Airport.

Contact Lyndel Mood ext. 234, or newsdesk@cr

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only two ranked unbeathe NJC Southeastern ranked D College (20-2 wins. The Hawk

the polls — a wins — have the team's fa local reside not having an players, the more than Monday's gar Midland. Hov are expectin again be larg when the Frank Phillip Plains.

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> Big Spring ISSN 074 USPS 00 BY THE MONTH H **Evenings and Sur** monthly; \$93.42 ye 10% discount for y MAIL SUBSO \$12.50 monthly Ho Counties, \$13.25 el The Herald is a r Associated Press, Circulation, Americ

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retirement issues and learn about possible upcoming legislation that

may impact TRS benefits.
Anyone planning to attend must register for the workshop by Friday. To register, call Kallus at (915) 682-2846 or by e-mail at mdkallus@nwol.net

The workshop will be held on Saturday, Feb. 8, from 8:30 a.m. to noon at the Center for Energy and **Economic Diversification** Building. The building is located at Highway 191 and FM 1788, north of International Midland Airport.

Contact Staff Writer Lyndel Moody at 263-7331, ext. 234, or by e-mail at newsdesk@crcom.net

HAWKS

Continued from Page 1

only two remaining ranked unbeaten teams in NJCAA. the Only Southeastern and No. 10ranked Dixie State College (20-2) have more

The Hawks' climb up the polls — and mounting wins — have helped boost the team's fan appeal to local residents. Despite not having any hometown players, the Hawks drew more than 2,000 fans to Monday's game with rival Midland. Howard officials are expecting crowds to again be large next week when the team hosts Frank Phillips and South Plains.

"It's been a long time coming," said HC Sports Information Director Stan Feaster. "It's nice to see that many people coming out. I think it's only going to get bigger and bigger as we go along.'

The support didn't go unnoticed by the team. Howard College head coach Chris Jans, a former Division I coach at Idaho, said the crowd was one of the largest and most vocal he had seen in his career.

"The fans were incredible. They were very loud and supportive," he said. "I told the team in the locker room to look around and appreciate everyone. In my career as a Division I coach, I could count on one hand the number of bigger crowds I've seen."

The fans should be out in full force at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum on Monday. The team, assuming it can fend off New Mexico in Hobbs on Thursday, could be gunning for its school-record 21st straight win. The following Thursday will also be big for the Hawks as South Plains, which is coached by Green, comes calling. The Texans are ranked No. 15 in the nation and could be the Hawks' biggest rival for the Western Junior College Athletic Conference title.

BANQUET

Continued from Page 1

Anybody will sit anywhere they want."
Man and Woman of the Year will be announced during the evening. Great Western Dining

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will provide catering for the event; dinner will include carved roast beef, roasted chicken breast. green beans and wild rice.

ValVerde emphasized that the banquet is a community event. "This is not just for chamber members," she

said. "This is for the entire community. You do not have to be a chamber member to attend our banquet."

For more information call the chamber at 263-

Contact Staff Writer Roger Cline at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at newsdesk@crcom.net

MOORE

Continued from Page 1

committee at its meeting at 6:15 p.m. today.
The board meets at at the corporation's offices,

215 W. Third St. In addition, the direcwill consider December 2002 financials and investment reports.

On Tuesday, several members of the committee expressed a desire to proceed cautiously so as not to curtail the Moore Board's 4A economic development projects.

"We threw out all the ideas to the committee on what we can do, which is pretty broad with a 4B corporation," said committee chairman Tim Blackshear. "But at the same meeting we threw out the idea that there's only about a half-million dollars that we can use for any type of project. If you start splitting that in half, you basically cut your ability for economic development in half."

The committee is seeking input about what types of 4B projects the people of Big Spring would like to Blackshear added.

"The committee will be talking with people and people will need to get hold of some of the members of that committee if they have some ideas for projects they want to see done," he said. "Of course it will have to go through the committee to the full Moore Development Board before it can go to the City Council.'

After the meeting, the committee opened up the floor to comments from the public.

Development Moore member Tommy Churchwell spoke in favor of letting the public vote on 4B projects.

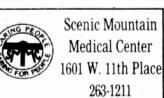
"Let's don't say 'no' to change before we even know what the change possibly might be and what the outcome and enhancements might bring to Big Spring," he said. "Let's keep an open mind. Let's ask the public to bring forward some projects that would create economic development."

The point of 4B projects

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288

Shirley Lucas, 66, died Tuesady. Services are pending.



Pizza Inn. **Kids Eat Free Wednesday Night** With Adult Purchase **Call For Details**

1702 GREGG

263-1381

is to improve the economy, he said.

"Let's not lose sight that we're looking for a return on assets," he said. "We're looking to make money here, not just to be pretty. We've got some unique situations at the park and we think that some of those could be enhanced and people would want to come here and bring some money in to town to spend. That's just another way to build economic development."

4A projects have had a chance, and don't seem to be working, he said.

"We're not taking anything away from 4A, but if you look at the economy and you look at businesses, I don't see a lot of expansion going on," he said. "While we're sitting here waiting for somebody to knock on our door, let's look at our own house and get it in order."

Duane Thomas, also a Moore board member, had a bit more conservative approach.

"I'm totally open to 4B projects, in conjunction perhaps with some other entities participating," he said. "My biggest fear is that we'll exhaust all our

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tax dollars on 4B projects and don't have the ability to get invited to the party on the 4A economic development playing field. If you do that we're going to be at a huge disadvantage at not only maintaining our existing business but expanding and creating new jobs and new busi-

nesses coming into town." Thomas said Big Spring has a real problem retaining young people after graduation, and creation of jobs through 4A projects will encourage more of Big Spring's young people to stay in town.

"One of the biggest fears that I have is that we have a big problem in retaining the high school and the college-age kids and young people that are graduating," he said. "The only way that we're going to retain those kids, in my opinion, is to create the jobs that come about through 4A projects. I want my 15-year-old to have the ability to come back to Big Spring and make a good living and raise a family here. The only way we're going to

be able to do that is through 4A tax dollars."

The **4B Projects** Committee includes Blackshear, the chairman, as well as John Currie, Lee George, Katie Grimes, Liz Lowery, Mark Morgan, Drew Mouton, Jimmy Newsom, Niklasch Mike and

Richard Steel.

For more information or to suggest a 4B project. call Moore Development for Big Spring Inc. at 264-

Contact Staff Writer Roger Cline at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at newsdesk@crcom.net

Due To Unfortunate Circumstances

Spring City Auction will not hold an auction Thursday, January 23, 2003

Will resume auctions on Thursday, January 30, 2003

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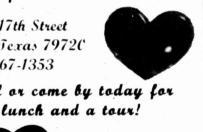
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"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for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

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

Hank Bond

John A. Moseley Managing Editor

Bill McClellan News Editor

OUR VIEWS

Let's all attend **Chamber banquet** Thursday night

ll we should need to do is point out that the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce Banquet is Thursday, and we'll see you there — "'nuff said.'

But in case you're trying to decide between the banquet and the latest reality television series, we'll offer our opinion. The show at The Dorothy will be more rewarding and you'll be with people you like.

On Thursday, we'll be recognizing the many business men and women who work so hard to make our community great. We'll recognize an organization — the Chamber of Commerce which is dedicated to helping make our city a better place for shoppers, tourists and those of us to live here.

One of the highlights of the banquet each year is the naming of the Man and Woman of the Year. These are people who have worked hard for their community because they believe in it. They are true leaders, true role models, true champions.

We'll also be honoring special guests Sen. Robert Duncan and former Rep. David Counts, who served Howard County well for so many years in Austin. And we'll welcome Sen Teel Bivins and Rep. Pete Laney, who will representing us at the capitol for years to come.

The banquet begins at 6:30 p.m. and will feature a sit-down style dinner.

We hope you will come out and join us as we salute some wonderful folks and a great organization.

Tickets are \$20 and may be picked up at the chamber office, 215 W. Third, or reserved by calling 263-7641.

We'll see you there. 'Nuff said.

Your Views

TO THE EDITOR:

As a parent and a taxpayer in Howard County, I am very concerned with recent events involving the board of trustees of the Big Spring ISD.

It is very disturbing that in a period of approximately six months, this school district has lost its top two central office administrators and one very good campus administrator. It is disheartening to know that these individuals' departures were due, in part, to the inability of some board members to allow these administrators to perform the jobs for which they were hired.

It is time for the parents and concerned citizens of BSISD to demand that this school board stop micro-managing

school district and perform in the capacity for

which they were elected. The individuals who have been educated and trained to administer a school district need to be allowed to do their jobs without undue interference from those who are not trained as educators. Concerns and complaints by groups of parents should not be mediated and solved by the school board but directed through the proper channels to the proper school administrator.

This has been and still is a great school district for children. Let's just make sure we remember why it exists.

> BILL BLACK **BIG SPRING**

LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

 Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721. They can also be e-mailed to jmoseley@crcom.net

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

When we are bewildered because a door has closed in our life. Help us, Lord through our faith know that you will open your window of light, showing us the way.

Hyacinths are just the beginning

friend gave me hyacinths for my birthday, not to mention a long moment in a sombrero and the spotlight as seven smiling Mexican

waiters serenaded. I blushed, then rushed home and found a college-era scrapbook where I had copied an old master's rhyming wisdom: "If of thy

RHETA GRIMSLEY **JOHNSON**

moral goods thou art bereft, And from thy slender store two loaves alone to

thee are left, Sell one, and with the dole

Buy hyacinths to feed thy soul."

I guess I've always bought into the philosophy of soul-feeding. No matter how humble the rental house, no matter how small the paycheck, I always had hyacinths on a tabletop in January. They were the grim month's redemption.

I am about to be 50. In a way it feels no more significant than, say, 42 or 39. It's certainly not as troubling as 40. With 50 there's a certain contentment, an acceptance of myself that eluded me earlier.

I yam what I yam, as Popeye might say.

Life churns on with a frightening consistency. I love the same flowers, the same movie stars, the same states, music and food as I did when I was 20. Hyacinths, Paul Newman, Mississippi, Hank and fried oysters all have timeless appeal.

I hate the same things, too - gated communities, litter, cell phones in restaurants, pious politicians, pretensions.

When you are young. older people feel obliged to tell you that you'll surely and dramatically change, that your life's experiences somehow will mold you into someone else: them. Change might be true for some, might even be the norm, but I can honestly say my basic beliefs remain the same as when I was 12, or 20. Maybe it's because I was born stubborn; maybe it's because I was right. Maybe it's a little of both.

At 50, I am not old or young, but suspended somewhere in between. I can wear purple, paint

the town red and battle the blues with good music. I know who my friends are, recognize my enemies and realize that most people out there could care less one way or the other. I am equally wary of praise and criticism, I write only for myself and I sing loudly in the shower. Sue me.

I have been mostly lucky. I have been to Paris, been loved, been healthy, been well-paid for something I love to do. I have been unlucky as well. I have been lonelv. divorced and occasionally sad. I can mush on at either pole of the human condition.

There are irritations attached to aging, certainly. It's not fun, at any age, to have a teenager wearing his baseball cap backward slam a store door in your face. Tends to make a body feel invisible.,

And I've never been wild about the Southern sign of respect that involves saying "ma'am" and "sir" to someone who might only be 20 minutes older than you are. Sounds great coming from toddlers, but when a hulking young man salutes you with that horrible honorific it is

another matter.

I suppose at 50 there should be some grand resolve to accomplish something more professionally, to see something I haven't seen, to mend fences - or at least mend my old peacoat.

I feel none of that constructive motivation, instead a kind of liberation that frees me up for more contemplative pursuits. More porch-sitting, more guitar-strumming, more hyphenated activity all-around.

The hot whips of panic are off my back, and deadlines are less frequent. I will never look or be 20 again, but youthful good looks came with their own set of problems. How do you think I got all these wrinkles?

No. 50 is an age I can live with comfortably, a station worth getting off the train for, a sweet surrender to earned benefits.

Besides, did I mention? Kim Basinger was born the same year I was. Yes ma'am, that's right, Kim. We've been feeding our souls with hyacinths for the exact same number of decades. (Hope she's handling it gracefully, too.)

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Making beautiful music

had been told several times about Clover and Rachel Carroll of Milano. People around Cameron and Rockdale said I ought to

interview them: So I called them. Clover answered on about the second ring. I told him I wanted to do an interview with him and



SMITH

would it be OK if I. came over. He said "We're in Colorado right now. You want to drive

up here?"

Obviously they have a cell phone. And use it. I told Clover I'd love to come up there, but thought it'd be better if we met later at a more convenient place.

We decided to meet at Hulen Mall in Fort Worth. I was on my way to East Texas and he said he needed to work that area to try to get some business.

Sound like a salesman?

You betcha. Clover is a musician and he books his own appearances and sells his CDs. Clover plays guitar, Rachel plays bass and they both sing. They also write songs.

The CDs are what got me interested in the two. A DJ at KRXT in Rockdale played me a couple of cuts from their CD Texas Routes. In between the songs are brief sound bites from older people he has interviewed. "They've got some wonderful stories to tell," says Clover. "Some of these are kin folks, some are people I've met." The interesting CD has 14 sound bites.

Another thing that intrigued me about the CD is the Barbecue Song.

Clover and Rachel wrote a song about some of their favorite BARBE-CUE places. They name them in the song. There's plenty of them. It is one of their most requested songs. Some people say they want to eat at all the barbecue restaurants mentioned in the song.

Clover and Rachel met me at the foyer of

Foley's, then went to their van for a visit. Both are just out of college. Clover studied law enforcement and Rachel studied computer graphics. They played music on the side while working at regular jobs. When Rachel lost her job at a dot com firm, they decided to go into music full time.

They've been at it well over a year now and stay busy. They play on week ends and work the telephone to get bookings during the week. They sleep in their van, which carries their instruments and sound gear.

"We're taking a business-like approach to this," says Clover. We like it and want to keep doing it for a long time. We've studied business books and have made a commitment to this line of work. So far, it's been successful. But we work at it. A lot of musicians just have talent. But that's not enough. You've got to have some business sense."

I have a feeling they'll do music as long as they want to.

ADDRESSES

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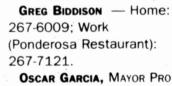
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JOANN SMOOT — Home: 267-6965; Work (BSISD):

What's new at the library... with Hollis Mc Cright

hile wandering the found a "new" mystery

author, Veronica Black: She writes the "Sister Joan" series. Joan became to be a nun rather late in life (28 years old) comparatively



HOLLIS **McCright**

speaking and so she has a different perspective of life in the cloister. Activity centers upon the

convent located in the

county of Surrey in England. Somehow, Sister Joan gets involved in murder and mayhem and it is a struggle between her spiritual responsibilities and the secular life. The Library has all but two of the series (we lack the first and last volume). So, if you enjoy English mysteries, check these out. All volumes begin with "A Vow of ..." and the ones that we do have can be found under the author's name, Veronica Black, in the Mystery

Section. Have you recently had a baby and are struggling with losing those extra pounds? From Debra Waterhouse, author of the "Outsmarting" series

and a registered dietician, comes a wry and lucid explanation of just why it's so hard to lose those "pesky, persnickety, postpartum pounds." Noting that it is counterproductive even to try to lose that baby bonus around your middle and thighs for the first few months after delivery, she advises how to achieve a slow, steady, and long-lasting reversal of the weight gain without frustration. This book will be useful for new mothers, those still struggling even as their "baby" enters school, and surprise! perimenopausal women, who face much the same problems as postpartum women. Her newest book is "Outsmarting the Female Fat Cell-After Pregnancy'

the New Book Shelf. It seems like we still are getting books about the events of Sept. 11, 2001. One of the latest offerings is "Men of Steel: The Story of the Family That Built the Word Trade Center," by Karl Koch III with Richard Firstman. "I knew almost immediately why the towers collapsed the way they did. And I sat there and cried. I wept for the thousands I knew must have died. And I wept because we built the damn things." Like millions of people around the world, Karl Koch III watched in dis-

and it can be found on

belief as the World Trade Center collapsed right before his eyes on the morning of Sept. 11, 2001. But the sadness that tormented him in the days and weeks that followed was fueled not only by the compassion and anger that most of us felt but also by his intimate connection with every beam and column in the Twin Towers. This is the story of Karl Koch III's family company, the Karl Koch Erecting Company, which built the towers of the World Trade Center. The initial bid (in 1966) on the World Trade Center, Bob Koch effectively won the biggest steel job in history. Read his story. Look on the

Harold Robbins has been around almost 50 years in some form or another! The latest offering is "Sin City." Robbins' death in 1997 hasn't kept him from publishing, as many of the works-in-progress he left behind have been completed by author or authors unknown. In the latest, the overblown machismo has been toned down, but the style is still Robbins' and the story is still populated with the usual Robbins characters: wealthy, beautiful people; sexy but submissive women; and the hero, a handsome, poor, tough guy who makes it big. Jack

New Book Shelf for this

"Lucky" Riordan is the illegitimate and unwanted son of millionaire Howard Hughes. The tale begins in the 1960s when an adult Riordan returns to Vegas, seeking his fortune in the gaming industry. His street smarts stand him in good stead as he shrewdly acquires wealth and power. As usual, the plot is spiced up with loads of sex and women, but with the addition of Mob entanglements adds a twist to the story. Fans of Margaret

Truman will enjoy her latest Capital Crimes Novel. The case of Chandra Levy is in the background of your mind in "Murder at Ford's Theater." The body of congressional intern Nadia Zarinski turns up outside the stage door of Ford's Theatre, D.C. Nadia worked in the office of Sénator Bruce Lerner, ex-husband of Clarise Emerson, head of Ford's Theatre and nominee for chair of the National Endowment for the Arts. When Clarise determines that her son, Jeremiah, was the last to see Nadia alive, an appeal is made to former attorney Mackensie "Mac" Smith to represent him. However, there are other suspects as well: Theater controller Bernard Crowley; aging, past-his-prime British actor and artistic director Sydney Bancroft; and

Senator Lerner himself. As usual, the location takes center stage, and the fun lies in seeing how the Lincoln theme pulls the plot threads together and brings weight to the proceedings. Fans of Truman will enjoy reading her latest offering. **Howard County is**

open from 9 to 6, Monday to Friday and 9 until 4 on Saturday. The Internet /Video room closes 1/2 hour before closing. The Library is located at 500 Main St. Our phone number is 264-2260. Web site is www.howard-county .lib.tx.us; our e-mail address is howardcounty@hotmail.com.

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Project Graduation cooking up Super Bowl feast

By LYNDEL MOODY

Staff Writer

St. LAWRENCE Members of the Garden City High School "Project Graduation" are now taking orders for their annual Super Bowl Sunday barbecue chicken din-

"Last count I heard we have ordered 560 chicksaid Martha ens," Schwartz, prize committee member. "We're going to be sick of chickens."

The annual fund-raiser offers barbecue chickens for \$6 apiece, plus pints of cole slaw and barbecue sauce and quarts of pinto beans for \$2 apiece.

"We'll also have a bake

What: Barbecue chicken dinners to go. When: 11 a.m. Sunday. Where: St. Lawrence Catholic Church.

Cost: \$6 per dinner; \$2 each for pints of slaw and quarts of beans.

For: Fund-raiser benefitting Garden City High School Project Graduation.

sale," Schwartz added.

"These dinners offers football fans a way to enjoy Super Bowl parties without the stress of cooking and at the same time contribute to a good cause," Schwartz said.

Volunteers will begin be picked up about 11 newsdeska crcom.net barbecuing the chickens during the early morning

hours Sunday at the St. Lawrence Catholic

> Lawrence. "They'll start about 3 or 4 in the morning," Schwartz said.

Church Hall in St.

Glasscock County and Midkiff residents can pick up their orders at the St. Lawrence Catholic Church Hall.

The seventh annual Graduation' funds an all-night chemical free graduation party held on the school grounds.

To pre-order a dinner, contact Schwartz at 397-2268 or Rose Pelzel at 397-2224 or 397-2762.

Contact Staff Writer Lyndel Moody at 263-7331. chickens will be ready to ext. 234, or by e-mail at

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Direct inquiries to Jo Helen Rosacker, Sid Richardson Memorial Fund, 309 Main Street, Fort Worth, Texas 76102, and include qualifying employee's name, Social Security number, company, and dates of employment.

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remodeling.

Crane rolls to win over Buffaloes JV

The Crane Golden Cranes earned a 58-44 victory over Forsan Buffalo junior varsity Tuesday night in Forsan.

Leading scorers for Forsan were Michael Paredez and Jeremy Bedwell. Both players scored 13 points in the game.

The Forsan JV routed Crane, claiming a 41-21 win. Lacy Eggleston and Kalea Robbins both netted 10 points in the game.

'Hawk Talk' will air Feb. 12 on KBST

Hawk Talk, a live radio show dealing with Howard College sports, is scheduled to be broadcast on KBST 1490-AM on Feb. 12.

The show, which is slated to begin at 9 a.m., will be hosted by Sam Stephens.

Big Spring slated to host Levelland Friday

The Big Spring Steers and Lady Steers will continue their District 4-4A march on Friday when they host Levelland in the BSHS gym.

BSHS varsity The girls squad, 17-9 overall, will'start at 6 p.m. The Steers are set to begin play at approximately 7:30 p.m.

Football banquet set for tomorrow night

The Big Spring Quarterback Club will be holding its annual football banquet on Thursday in the junior high cafeteria.

The event will honor all the Big Spring High School football players from the past season. The banquet will start at 6:30 p.m.

Tickets to the catered banquet are now available for \$10 apiece at Dakota's Flowers.

For more informacontact Jim Clements at 267-1069.

By TOMMY WELLS

Over their first 16 games, the

Howard College Hawks offense resem-

bled a tornado rolling across the West

Texas plains — devastating everything

in its path. Prior to the Christmas

break, Howard College won by an

average of more than 25 points a night.

Hawks have won by less than seven.

wrong with the Hawks?

Over their last three games it, the

Why the big difference? What's

The answer may be simpler than one

thinks. It's the level of competition

and the overall wear and tear of a long

"Coming in (to the Midland game).

we didn't feel we were playing our best

basketball," said Hawks head coach

Chris Jans. "We've struggled of late to

keep our intensity up the entire game.

We know we have some things to work

It's a scenario that Jans is hoping

Midland cured. The unranked

Chaparrals pushed the Hawks to the

brink Monday before falling 72-71 on a

last-second free throw by sophomore

"I have to tip my hat to them," he

said. "They came in and were very

well prepared but we were ripe for

Jans is hoping the scare works in the

someone to come in here and do that."

on and get together as a team."

Jared Fears.

Sports Editor

Hawks' skills camp continues Jan. 25

The Howard College Hawks coaching staff and players will continue their Skills Camp on Saturday in the coliseum.

The cost for the camp, which runs three more Saturdays from 11 a.m. to noon, is \$10 per person.

For more information contact Hawks head coach Chris Jans at 264-5044.

Hunter safety class slated for Feb. 8-9

A hunter safety class will be available for local residents on Feb. 8-9 in the Big Spring **Chamber of Commerce** offices.

Boyce Hale will conduct the classes, which are being sponsored by Dibrell's Gun Shop.

For more information contact Hale at 267-6957 or 267-7891.

Lady Steers up District 4-4A ledger to .500

By TOMMY WELLS

Sports Editor

SAN ANGELO - The Big Spring Lady Steers are still alive and kicking. The San Angelo Lake View Maidens aren't.

Big Spring pulled into a tie for the third-place playoff berth Tuesday night by turning 15 Lake View turnovers into a 32-27 victory in the newly renamed Ben Norton gym.

"We didn't play very well,' said 3.

Big Spring head coach Gary thing.'

With the win, the Lady Steers upped their season record to 17-9 and, more importantly, tied the Frenship Lady Tigers in the District 4-4A race with a 3-3 record. Frenship suffered a loss state-ranked Levelland Tuesday. They fell to 16-11 and 3-

Alex Watkins and Lindsay second to send the game into the the game and that's the main, get off to a strong start against Lake View, Watkins pushed in two shots from the field and Phillips added another to lead the Lady Steers to a 6-5 first-

quarter advantage. LaKenya Wrightsil inflated the BSHS lead to four, at 12-8, late in the first half, but watched on as the Maidens' Erin Jacobs buried a three with 22 seconds left in the

Miller. "But we managed to win Phillips helped the BSHS girls half with Big Spring holding a 12-11 lead.

After battling to a 22-20 ledger in the third, Big Spring salted the game away in the opening minutes of the fourth. Phillips. Krystle Long and Wrightsil helped the Lady Steers reel off the first eight points in the frame and sprint to a 30-20 cushion.

Big Spring will return to action Friday by hosting Levelland.

Lake View slips past Big Spring

By TOMMY WELLS

Sports Editor

SAN ANGELO — Ever have one of those days when absolutely nothing went your way? Big Spring head coach Jim Kinnear did Tuesday.

Kinnear, fresh off watching his team turn in a spirited performance against the Andrews Mustangs, could do nothing but watch on as San Angelo Lake View reeled off a 22-11 run in the second quarter and rolled to an 82-48 victory in a showdown between the district's two winless teams.

"It just wasn't our night," said Kinnear. "We just couldn't get going."

Lake View didn't have any problem. In fact, Earl Walker looked a lot like the Energizer Bunny to BSHS fans because he kept going and going and

Walker played havoc with the Steers in the first quarter. He poured in eight of his game-high 23 points in the first eight minutes and led the Chiefs to a 22-11 lead.

Big Spring was ice cold in the Steer Gym.

from the floor in the first period. As a team, they shot less than 30 percent from the field and never recovered.

Lake View, which improved to 13-12 overall and to 1-3 in district play, blew the game open in the opening minutes of the second. San Angelo opened the period with an 8-0 run and built a 17point lead, at 31-14, with 5:16 remaining in the

Over the final five minutes of the second, the Chiefs scored a 13-6 effort and took a commanding 44-22 lead into the half.

In all, nine Lake View players scored in the contest, including Jerris Reed, who finished with 16, and Robert Robinson, who netted 12.

Michael Ornales was the lone player to reach double figures for the Steers. He scored 14 points in the contest.

With the loss, Big Spring slipped to 0-4 in District 4-4A action. The Steers, 2-23 overall, will return to the court Friday when they host Levelland

Buffs record 18th win with romp over Crane

By BRANDON HALLFORD better for the Cranes in

Special to the Herald FORSAN — The sign of a good team is when they can win even when they

don't play their best. The Forsan Buffaloes proved they're worth Tuesday night as they overcame 33 turnovers to claim a 63-43 victory over the Crane Golden Cranes.

With the win the 16th-Buffaloes ranked improved to 18-4 for the year and to 4-0 in District

3-2A action. The Buffs came out smoking in the first period of play, shooting 65 percent from the field, including 2-of-3 from behind the 3-point arc. Sparked by their shooting effort, the Buffs took a 12point lead, at 21-9, into the second.

Things did not get any

the second. Forsan continued its hot shooting in the frame, going 5-of-9 from the field.

As hot as the Buffaloes were from the field. Crane was just as cold, hitting just 3-of-16 attempts in the quarter. As a result, the Buffs took a 32-20 heading into the

Forsan outscored Crane by a 14-4 clip in the third and upped its lead to 44-

It proved to be too big of a mountain for Crane to

ascend in the end. Leading the way for the Buffaloes was Brent Huff, who scored 16 points. Matt Ellis ended the night with 13, while Josh Helmstetler and Wes Longorio chipped in 12 and nine, respectively.

Turnovers lead Lady Birds past FHS

By BRANDON HALLFORD Special to the Herald

FORSAN — The Forsan Lady Buffaloes were taught a valuable lesson Tuesday night. Turnovers lead to easy baskets.

The Crane Lady Birds parlayed 11 fourth-quarter turnover into 20 points and, as a result, handed the Lady Buffs a 41-38 loss.

Leading the way for the Lady Buffs were Ledawn Cynthia Burt and Becerra. Both finished the game with eight points. Kristi Gamble, who was 2-of-2 from 3point land, and Cassi Graves both contributed six apiece.

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Howard College's Eddle Starks draws a foul while attempting to drive the lane during

the first half of the Hawks' win over Midland. Howard College will try and match the

school's all-time mark for consecutive wins tomorrow against New Mexico Junior

We were ripe'

Jans hoping scare spurs Hawks

to better effort vs. New Mexico

Hawks' favor tomorrow night when

they travel to Hobbs for a 7:50 p.m. tip-

eign environment when we go there,'

he said. "We know they're going to do

everything they can to knock us off.

We've just got to get ready and play up

Howard College and New Mexico JC

enter the game on the opposite ends of

the basketball spectrum. The Hawks,

now 19-0 and ranked No. 2 in the

National Junior College Athletic

Association's Division I poll, leads the

Western Junior College Athletic

Conference race with a perfect 3-0

The game will also mark the Hawks'

attempt at making HC history. With a

win over NMJC, the team would

match the school's longest win streak

at 20 games - and set up a showdown

Monday at home with Frank Phillips.

New Mexico heads into the game

Howard College is led into the game

by a bevy of talent, including fresh-

men Vas'shun Newborne, Je'Kel

Foster, Leon Woodstock, Chaun

Brooks and sophomore Jared Fears,

Pate highlighted the Hawks' 1-point

win over Midland with a right-handed

Daniel Price and Jacque Pate.

dunk late in the second half.

sporting an 0-3 conference and an 8-10

record for the year.

to our ability."

record.

"We're know we're going into a for-

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BY JACQUELIN Wednesday, Jan. Know what is to you, then follow Often you could b ed by friends a ones. Make dec yourself and not t ty. You often hea ent tune from a loved one. Confi Gain through n and allowing mor ing in your l remain your own you are single, have an entourag ers. You might no to settle down u August. You encounter some significant. If attached, your re will flourish, the biggest issue wil lishing boundarie helps you sort lems.

The Stars Shov of Day You'll Dynamic; 4-Po Average; 2-So-so; ARIES (Marc 19) **** You get t what has been a ging problem. Mercury goes di ing a window for tions. Don't feel need to negotiate talks. Trust. Oth

Annie

Dear Annie: I ly married. Eig before the wee fiance and I dis cost of the cere reception with and stepmother love dearly). I cerned we would to invite all the wanted, but Dad me, saying, "D about it." My r her husband off for the photogr \$1,000, which w could afford afte their airline t hotel room.

We invited 150 had a beautiful the end of the re father paid the gave us \$1,000. I to sound ung Dad gave me impression th going to take cost of the During the fee behaved as if host. Most of including m assumed from and words tha footing the who

When Dad sa worry about what he really "Don't worry a way to pay never expected throw some lav me, but had w didn't intend to wedding, we made different

I am hurt an

I don't knov pened. Maybe out how much gave us and de spend more tha any event, my I were left with and we are livi to paycheck u

I love my fa there a diplon tell him how l Daddy's Lit Holding the Bi Dear Little G

as if there has misunderstand may be unawa

> Secur situa alter

> > Call evalu optio

as lit



Horoscop**e**

BY JACQUELINE BIGAR HAPPY BIRTHDAY for

Wednesday, Jan. 22, 2003: Know what is important to you, then follow through. Often you could be distracted by friends and loved ones. Make decisions for yourself and not the majority. You often hear a different tune from a boss or loved one. Confirm facts. Gain through networking and allowing more socializing in your life. Still, remain your own person. If you are single, you will have an entourage of admirers. You might not be ready to settle down until after August. You might encounter someone quite significant. If you're attached, your relationship will flourish, though your biggest issue will be establishing boundaries. LIBRA helps you sort out problems.

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

ARIES (March 21-April 19) **** You get to clear out what has been a long, nagging problem. The planet Mercury goes direct, creating a window for conversations. Don't feel as if you need to negotiate or start up talks. Trust. Others will be seeking you out. All you need to do is respond. Tonight: Play the night

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) *** Realize what makes a child or loved one tick. You might feel badly that you cannot always say "yes." You do have several choices, but the best approach for now is to do nothing. Concentrate on your work and getting the job done. You accomplish a lot with the help of a key associate. Tonight: Run errands on the way home.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) **** You might wonder what to do with a friend or loved one who might be attempting to make inroads into your life right now. The real problem has yet to be discussed. Discussions will be forthcoming in the next few weeks. Please be as open as possible. Tonight: Put on your danc-

ing shoes. CANCER (June 21-July 22) **** Speak your mind, though your message might take more than one attempt to sink in. Realize more of what you need through a discussion with a family member. Sometimes you sell yourself short, perhaps undermining yourself. Take a suggestion. Tonight:

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Handle your finances with kid gloves. Sometimes you might not be dealing with

all the facts. Ask questions until you feel satisfied. You really don't need to walk on eggshells with others. You can only creatively problem-solve if you get the information. Tonight: Out and about. VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

**** Your smile, though intended to help someone close relax, actually might add an element of tension to a professional situation. You cannot read into someone's actions. Your strong drive mixed with the willingness to work long and hard hours adds to your success. Tonight: Balance your budget.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) *** Lay back this morning. Consider what someone might not be disclosing. You actually do need all the facts if you're to succeed. Review a personal matter carefully, especially if you want to instrument change. You need to open up a conversation, letting others know where you're coming from. Tonight: As you like

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) *** Use the early hours to forge ahead with a key project. You might not be comfortable with all that you hear. A partner's reversal could be disconcerting, but you wont change this person. Slow down later in the day and take your time with work and another touchy matter. Tonight: Head on home. Get some extra zzz's.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) **** Deal with bosses, parents and authority figures first thing in the morning. Don't put off these matters if you want to maximize your success. A partner might finally be ready to clear the air. You still might need to make the first move. Do just that. Tonight: Find your pals.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) **** Reach out for those at a distance. You might not be totally comfortable with another's work or attitude. Do you really think you can change this person? Events will have an interesting way of clearing the air. Trust yourself on a money matter. Tonight: Work late.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) **** ,Others knock on your door looking for answers ASAP, You might not want to reveal all that is on your mind right now. By

holding back, you create an aura of suspicion. Later on, as a result, you opt to play your cards straight. Others will respond. Tonight: Find your friends.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) **** Deal with others as they drop requests in your lap. You might feel a bit overwhelmed, though you have a lot of turf to cover. Carefully realize your limits with a boss. You cannot push someone. You know better. Listen to that little voice in your head. Tonight: Dinner for two. **BORN TODAY**

Editor and poet Howard Moss (1922), "The Galloping Gourmet" Graham Kerr (1934), writer, philosopher Francis Bacon (1561)

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at http://www. jacquelinebigar.com.

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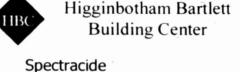
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Annie's Mailbox: Advice for those in need want to hang around, it's ing so painful as watching

Dear Annie: I was recently married. Eight months before the wedding, my fiance and I discussed the cost of the ceremony and reception with my father and stepmother (whom I love dearly). I was concerned we wouldn't be able to invite all the people we wanted, but Dad reassured me, saying, "Don't worry about it." My mother and her husband offered to pay for the photographer, plus \$1,000, which was all they could afford after paying for their airline tickets and hotel room.

We invited 150 guests and had a beautiful wedding. At the end of the reception, my father paid the bar tab and gave us \$1,000. I don't mean to sound ungrateful, but Dad gave me the distinct impression that he was going to take care of the cost of the reception. During the festivities, he behaved as if he were the host. Most of the guests, including my sister, assumed from his actions and words that Dad was footing the whole bill.

I am hurt and confused. When Dad said, "Don't worry about it," I guess what he really meant was, "Don't worry — you'll find a way to pay the bills." I never expected my father to throw some lavish affair for me, but had we known he didn't intend to finance the wedding, we would have made different choices.

I don't know what happened. Maybe Dad found out how much my mother gave us and decided not to spend more than she did. In any event, my husband and I were left with a hefty bill, and we are living paycheck to paycheck until it's paid

I love my father, but is there a diplomatic way to tell him how hurt we are? Daddy's Little Girl Left Holding the Bill

Dear Little Girl: It sounds as if there has been a huge misunderstanding. Daddy may be unaware that you



Annie's Mailbox

expected him to contribute more, and let's face it, he

never promised to do so.

His behavior was mislead-

ing, but it is doubtful he

you into debt. Nonetheless,

it might be helpful to clear

the air. Talk to Dad alone,

and tell him you apparently

misread the signals he was

sending and you don't want

there to be any lingering ill-

will. He needs to under-

stand what happened so he

doesn't make the same mis-

Dear Annie: I have been

dating "Rob" for several

months. His wife died two

years ago. Rob is a wonder-

ful man, and I love him

dearly, but whenever we

are with someone else, he

starts every conversation

by saying, "I lost my wife

two years ago." He goes on and on about places they

visited, the traveling they

did, and his wife's many

course, while he goes on

about her, I am totally

Not once has Rob

acknowledged my presence

or made any comment

about the importance of our relationship. This happens

almost every week. I am

ready to put my boots on

and walk. Is there any hope

for me? — Heartsick in

Dear Heartsick: Rob is

still grieving over his late

wife and is not yet capable

of moving on. If you still

accomplishments.

ignored.

Virginia

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meant to hurt you or put

possible things will change, but it will take some time. Only you can decide if he's worth the wait. Dear Annie: I just read

the letter about the mother who ate with her mouth open. It reminded me of a similar situation in my family. We solved it by videotaping our holiday meals. When Mom saw the tapes, she cringed. She is now trying hard to get rid of those bad habits. -

Appreciate It in Ohio Dear Ohio: There is noth-

work on the problem. To find out more about Annie's Mailbox, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators

your faults on camera.

Some folks, because of ill-

ness or age, cannot help the

way they chew. Kudos to

Mom for her willingness to

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In Sunday's Big Spring Herald



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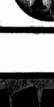




















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Commission, Big Spring, TX or send Commission, resume to 1117 Trinity. room 424T, Austin, TX 78701, JO#TX1404579. Ad paid by an equal opportunity employer. ☐ Garage Sale: 606 E 12 th, Sat. 9-5. Household items and

Country Home. 1600 sq. ft. on 3 1/2 acres.

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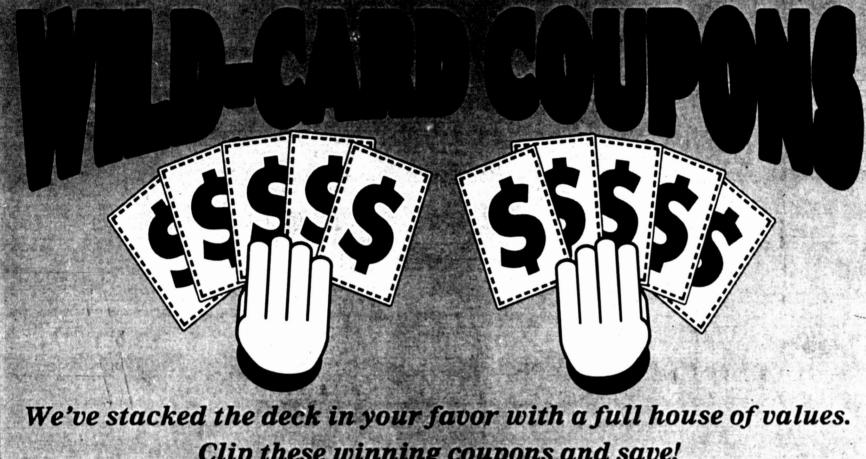
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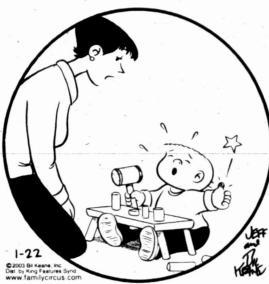
DENNIS THE MENACE



"YOU WERE RIGHT, MR. WILSON. THESE OLD BLACK-AND-WHITE SHOWS ARE LOTS FUNNIER THAN THE NEW COLOR ONES."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

Night (CC)



"Maybe your thumb would be safer in your mouth.'

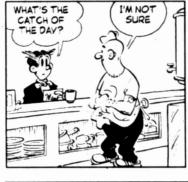
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Real TV (CC) Movie: The Sky Is Falling Movie: Doc



BLONDIE



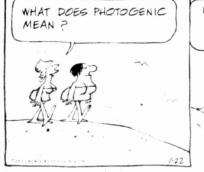


(12:15) -Movie: Exit

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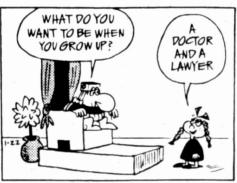


IT MEANS EVERYBODY HAS A GOOD SIDE AND A BAD SIDE

Show (CC) Guthy-Renker Paid Program



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People In the News

By the Associated Press

LOS ANGELES. - The head of Paramount Pictures Corp.'s home entertainment division resigned abruptly and will be replaced by a veteran video executive from Warner Bros.

Eric Doctorow, who spent 20 years at Paramount's video unit, stepped down Paramount Thursday. would only say that Doctorow left to "pursue other interests and to seek new challenges. He was credited with

helping push the direct sale of videocassettes in the late 1980s and was responsible for the launch of "Titanic" on video and DVD.

He'll be replaced by Tom Lesinski, who aggressively marketed DVDs to consumers while he was at Warner Bros

Doctorow is the third top home video chief to leave a studio in the last month. Patricia Wyatt left 20th Century · Fox Home Entertainment to form a film company. Warren Lieberfarb, the "godfather of DVD," left Warner Bros. last month after 20 years. Lieberfarb, who won an Emmy in 1999 for his efforts to develop, launch and establish DVD technology, was replaced by James Cardwell.

NEW YORK (AP) _ Albie Hecht, the producer credited with bringing the hit "SpongeBob SquarePants" to TV, was named president of TNN as part of a network overhaul to reposition itself as an entertainment chan-

"We are already building from a strong male base, with franchises such as 'Star Trek.' 'CSL' the James Bond film library, the WWE and our upcoming original adult animation block, Hecht, 49, said Thursday. TNN plans to add several

new adult-oriented animated programs in 2003, including Stan Lee's "Striperella," starring Pamela Anderson; "Gary the Rat," starring Kelsey Grammer; and the return of "Ren & amp; Stimpy." It also plans a Video Game Awards show and additional programming that will be announced in coming weeks.

The shift was not surprising. TNN is owned by Viacom Inc., which gradually has been moving the network away from its Southern and more rural roots as The Nashville Network. Viacom renamed TNN as The National Network in September 2000, and turned to programs like "Star Trek" to attract a broader viewership.

Diane Robina, who was TNN's general manager and executive vice president, is leaving as part of the change.

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IN CHARGE by Gail Grabowski Edited by Stanley Newman

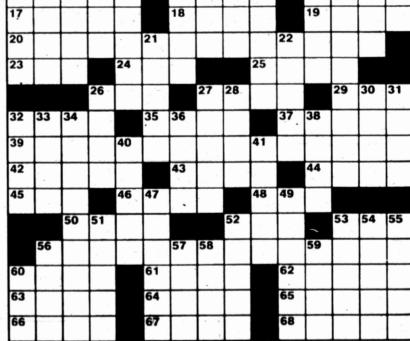
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CREATORS SYNDICATE @ 2003 STANLEY NEWMAN

1/22/03

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growing feet. "Ideally we walk on soft sand, but sind possible, a chi ing foot struct be protected damaging for made surfaces Jeffrey S. Bro and ankle su ticing in St. Le

"The feature Payless' Sma dren's footwea protect agai forces by pro proper suppor dren's feet so the correctly and ing the body v balance," said

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HOWARD COUNTY BUYERS' GUIDE



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FAMILY SAFETY/HEALTH

Finding a proper fit now can prevent foot problems later

Having healthy feet as an adult is due in large part to having healthy feet as a child. Parents should look for a proper fit, and be aware of critical shoe features designed to address the unique needs of kids' rapidly growing feet.

"Ideally we all should walk on soft ground or sand, but since that's not possible, a child's developing foot structure needs to be protected against the damaging forces of manmade surfaces," said Dr. Jeffrey S. Brooks, a foot and ankle surgeon practicing in St. Louis.

"The features offered by Payless' SmartFit children's footwear line help protect against these forces by providing the proper support for children's feet so they develop correctly and by providing the body with needed balance," said Dr. Brooks.

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"Although there are problems that require specialized medical attention, many minor childhood issues like growing pain, night pain or heel pain — as well as adult has a good arch support. problems like flatfoot. bunions, hammer toe and shoe to ensure that it easarch strain — even back—ily flexes at the ball-of the—leave its stores satisfied, pain, can be prevented foot, the widest part of the happy and healthy. with a good pair of shoes beginning at about age

Payless' SmartFit line, engineered room for children to wigin partnership with Dr. Brooks, addresses the critical needs of kids' growing feet. It offers well-constructed shoe. high-quality features such Shoes made of quality as proper arch support, materials hold their advanced heel-to-toe cush- shape well. Shy away ioning, enhanced durabil- from flimsy or too soft chief marketing officer ity. flexibility, and extra materials.



\$9.99.

According to Dr. Brooks, parents should check for the following important features in a children's shoe before Program. The program is making a purchase:

to-toe cushioning — run a finger along the inside sole to ensure that the footbed is cushioned and

 Extra toe room — look closely at the toe box conpatented struction to ensure ample gle toes.

• Durability — feel the material and look for a

to help ensure kids get shoes that fit the bill —

and the foot — with its

industry-recognized

Footwear

Children's

four-cornerstone · Arch support and heel- approach to purchasing shoes for kids: superior technology, flawless fit, popular styling and selection, and great value all of which are important • Flexibility — bend the to helping ensure that both parents and kids

> **Growing Smart** Ensures the Shoes Fit Growing Smart is

Payless' recently introduced shoe fitting service, designed to help parents keep pace with the rapid growth of kids' feet.

"There are two facts of life when it comes to kids," said John Haugh, and senior vice president properly fitting shoes a

must."

about 12 months of age.

Because children's feet Growing Smart fitting — such as the toe box grow so rapidly — often card that lets them easily for a proper fit." as much as two to three track their child's shoe sizes in a year — the med-size. Equally important, See SHOES, Page 2

for Payless, "They grow ical community recom- our sales associates are like weeds, and they mends shoe fittings for trained to measure the never stop moving. Both children every three child's foot with a certifactors make quality, months, beginning at fied Brannock Device and to put the child in the "We give parents a shoes to check key areas

Scenic Mountain **Medical Center**

CEO report to the community

Timothy E. Schmidt Chief Executive Officer Scenic Mountain Medical Center

As CEO of Scenic Mountain Medical Center. I want to take this opportunity to let you know about our achievements in 2002 and what we are planning for 2003. During the course of the year, I plan to write a series of articles in order to give you an overview for Scenic Mountain Medical Center, the many issues facing health care providers and introducing you to various members of our Medical Staff and our outstanding employees. Today's article will focus on 2002 accomplish

Significant Accomplishments in 2002

Joint Commission of Accreditation of Health Care Organizations (JCAHO) Survey JCAHO is the nation's predominate accrediting body for healthcare providers. JCAHO is an independent, not-for-profit organization and has helped develop state-ofthe art, professionally based standards used to evaluate hospitals. In January 2002, Scenic Mountain's Laboratory was surveyed by the JCAHO and received a score of 97, Scenic Mountain Medical Center was surveyed in June 2002 and received a score of 94. Both of these scores are well above the national median score.

Emergency Department Expansion

In January 2002, we began construction and renovation of our emergency department in order to better serve our community. We moved into a temporary emergency room and promptly treated the highest patient volume we had ever experienced in any month. In August 2002, we moved into our new-emergency department. The new \$1.6 million emergency department has a dedicated trauma room, seven private exam rooms, a triage room, a new waiting area and registration area. In December 2002 a new group of physicians began providing 24-hour/day coverage for emergency care.

Retention of Hospital Staff

In 2000 our turnover was 54° . In 2002 our turnover rate decreased to just under 20° a. Nationally, the turnover rate is 22·25° ... This represents a significant improvement in our ability to provide quality care to you our customers. We are able to now focus more dollars on training rather than recruitment.

Physician Recruitment

Three physicians joined our medical staff in 2002, Alan Abel, M.D., Susan Roberts, D.O. and Cynthia Rutledge, D.O. Dr. Abel is Board Certified General in Surgery. Dr. Roberts and Dr. Rutledge are both Board Certified in Family Practice. All three physicians are very excited about being in Big Spring, TX. These physicians not only increased the access to healthcare locally, but contributed to the overall Big Spring economy.

Charitable, Gratis and Tax Contribution

In 2002, Scenic Mountain Medical Center provided over \$6.1 million in charitable and gratis care. We also paid over \$500,000 in property taxes. Furthermore, the hospital was very active in community activities such as Rotary, Kiwanis, Relay for Life, American Heart Association, United Way, and sponsoring of our local youth

Patient Satisfaction Scores

Our Patient Satisfaction scores continue to improve each quarter. We continue to receive positive feedback from the community concerning the quality of our services. Yes, we still receive feédback from customers whom we did not meet their expectations. And we are glad that they do take the time to voice their concerns, as this gives us an opportunity to improve our services.

Opportunities for 2003

Improving Access to Care

In 2002, we secured the commitment of six (6) additional physicians who plan to move to Big Spring and open a practice:

- Donald Ferguson, MD Internal Medicine
- · Lorna Ferguson, MD, Internal Medicine Keith Ledford, MD, Obstetrics and Gynecology
- · Fahkar Ijaz, MD, Internal Medicine • Juan Carlos Gonzalez, MD, Internal Medicine
- Alfonso Preciado, MD, General Surgeon

The success of these physicians and other members of our medical staff depends upon our community's willingness to trust their health care needs to these professionals.

Construction of a Medical Office Building

We will soon begin construction of a 30,000 square foot Medical Office Building on the campus of Scenic Mountain Medical Center. We expect occupancy in the fall of 2003. The building will house 12-15 physicians, outpatient radiology and laboratory.

Medical Staff Development

- In 2003, we will continue to recruit physicians in the following specialties:
 - Cardiology
 - · Ear, Nose and Throat Orthopedic Surgery
 - · Anesthesia Provider

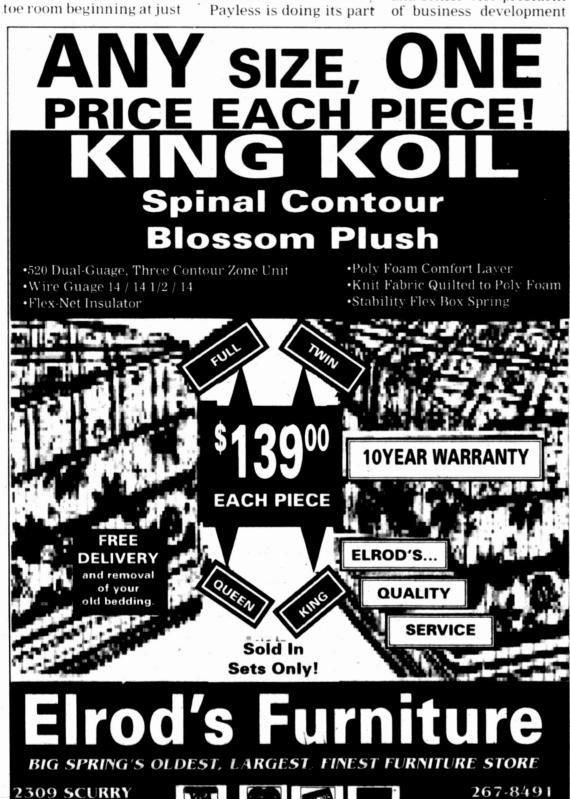
As a business, Scenic Mountain Medical Center is a major employer in the Big Spring area. In 2002, we paid over \$10.5 million in salaries and wages while providing over 300 individuals employment. According to economist, salary dollars turnover in the local economy 4-5 times. Thus, the impact to the local economy for Scenic Mountain is \$40 million to \$50 million. In addition, we treated over 14,000 people in the Emergency Department, admitted over 3,600 inpatients and performed 1,800 surgical procedures. We also invested in new modern diagnostic equipment and invested in the training of our staff.

I thank you for taking the time to read this article. If you have suggestions or questions that would be appropriate for future articles, please write or call me at Scenic Mountain Medical Center.



Scenic Mountain **Medical Center**

1601 W. 11th Pl.



Family fitness can turn out to be fun for all ages

demanding work schedules and kids' school and activities, it can be next to impossible to fit in family time. Busy schedules also make it difficult to fit exercise into your life. Shape Up America, a nonprofit, national initiative to promote healthy weight and increased physical activity, suggests families make fitness a group activity. Combining family time with fitness sets a good example for children, letting them know that a healthy lifestyle is important.

To build a personalized family fitness plan, Shape Up America suggests:

· Schedule a regular time throughout the week for physical activity.

 Take turns selecting an activity for the family to do as a group each week.

· Start a log of daily fitness activities for each family member.

 Help everyone find something active that makes him or her feel successful.

An easy way to tackle these goals and achieve success is to join a health and fitness center. Life Time Fitness, with locations in Minnesota, Michigan, Ohio, Virginia, Illinois, Indiana and soon, Arizona and Texas, offers the widest range of programs and activities for the whole family.

With more than 110,000 square feet of space, a 1+ acre workout area including more than 400 pieces of cardiovascular, resistance and free weight multiple equipment, group fitness studios offering hundreds of classes per week, a wide range of athletic leagues. rock climbing walls, kid's camps, and much, much more, Life Time Fitness

SHOES

company

Continued from Page 1

Haugh also noted that

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selections of shoes featur-

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offers something for everyone. The entire family also can enjoy indoor and outdoor aquatic centers which feature multiple water slides, children's play areas, lap pools, relaxing whirlpools, and complimentary towel services, along with swimming, diving, scuba and kayaking lessons for all ages

Have young kids? Life Time Fitness' large childcare centers offer a safe, fun environment for kids from three months to 12 years old. Facilities include a playmaze, children's theater, gym and computer center, and a dedicated area for infants.

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9:00 am-1:00 pm

In Snyder at

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Feb. 6th, 12th & 13th

9:00 am-1:00 pm

CALL the Big Spring Office

for details and ask for Lupita or Judy 1-877-200-1410 • 1-888-881-0238

915-263-5999

last.

and skill levels.

Better still, childcare is free to members.

"Since inception, Life Time Fitness has placed a unique emphasis on serving families," says Mike Brown, senior vice president of operations. "Serving families with kids is a priority, not an afterthought. Each of our centers is founded upon While kids play in the providing an unparalleled child center, adults can

set of services and amenities that meet the health and fitness needs of the entire family."

Life Time Fitness also recognizes that mental well-being is just as important as physical well-being and offers a full range of pampering services at its LifeSpas.

Kisiah Imports 20% off All Chimineas 700 N. Lamesa Hwy. haircut, manicure, pedicures and more - without ever leaving the cen-

too. Families can also visit LifeCafE, which features 5433.

indulge in a massage, fresh gourmet sandwiches, energy bars, fruit smoothies, power shakes and a full line of nutritional products.

Hungry? Life Time For more information Fitness thought of that about Life Time Fitness, For more information www.lifetimefitshare a healthy meal at ness.com, or call (800) 430-

SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS AVAILABLE

ELIGIBILITY — Those eligible to apply for a Sid Richardson Memorial Fund scholarship are direct descendants (children or grandchildren) of persons who qualified for Early Retirement, Normal Retirement, Disability Retirement, or Death Benefits from The Retirement Plan For Employees of Bass Enterprises Production Co.; or persons presently employed for three or more years by one of the following employers: Barbnet Investment Co., Perry R. Bass, Inc., Bass Enterprises Production Company, Richardson Energy Marketing Services, Sid Richardson Carbon Company, Sid Richardson Energy Services, Sid Richardson Energy Services – JAL, Sid W. Richardson Foundation, SRCG Aviation, Inc., or San Jose Cattle Company.

Limited funds are available to assist in defraying the cost of college education or of vocational training. These scholarships are awarded on a competitive basis according to academic achievement and financial need. Eligible persons applying for aid for the academic year beginning June 1, 2003, must file application forms prior to May 31, 2003.

Direct inquiries to Jo Helen Rosacker, Sid Richardson Memorial Fund, 309 Main Street, Fort Worth, Texas 76102, and include qualifying employee's name, Social Security number, company, and dates of employment.

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Psalm 122:1

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do they really "go to school" before joining the

church?

As much as anything else, the Confirmation (or inquirers') Classes are for the "seeker's" own protection ... so that he knows exactly what he's getting into. This simple, interesting set of instruc tions from the minister assures complete understanding of the church's tenets. Attendance at these classes carries no obligation to become a member.

Episcopalians don't discount the sudden revelation of God's presence. They do. however, believe that a more deliberate initiation into church membership may be less likely to wear thin in subsequent

They have some pretty good reasons for pelieving the Christian faith involves both he heart and the head. They don't mind being joshed about their "thinking-man's religion." Christ, they say, demanded

Inquirers' Classes Begin Wednesday, January 22nd, at 6:30 PM Everyone is Welcome

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More than 63 all child safety improperly inst most parents ar ligent, they ar unable to easily seats in the car According

National SAI Campaign, on most difficult parents to do is the seat belt th their child's sa "Historically, g seat belt tight size, strength degree in m engineering," s Keller, presi Sunshine Kids Products. Keller's compa

an innovative called "Mighty seat belt t device that help get a secure fi types of safe Mighty-Tite is a use ratchet that the seat belt it just a few clic handle, any mo the seat belt mu than the bigges by hand. Say "We've basically ed the need for and body size to safety seat tight

But, when you ing with the safe dren, it is esser able to prov claims,

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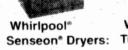
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How to improve child seat safety inside your vehicle

More than 63 percent of all child safety seats are improperly installed. Yet most parents are not negligent, they are simply unable to easily adjust the seats in the car.

According to National SAFE KIDS Campaign, one of the most difficult things for parents to do is to tighten the seat belt that secures their child's safety seat. "Historically, getting the seat belt tight required size, strength and a degree in mechanical engineering," says Brad Keller, president of Sunshine Kids Juvenile Products.

Keller's company makes an innovative solution called "Mighty-Tite." a seat belt tightening device that helps parents get a secure fit with all types of safety seats. Mighty-Tite is an easy-touse ratchet that slips onto the seat belt itself. With just a few clicks of the handle, any mom can get the seat belt much tighter than the biggest man can by hand. Says Keller, "We've basically eliminated the need for strength and body size to install a safety seat tightly."

But, when you are dealing with the safety of children, it is essential to be able to prove safety claims, Keller



arranged a series of crash tests comparing car seats tightened with Mighty-Tite to car seats tightened only by hand. An independent quality assurance consultant designed and executed the laboratory testing at one of the foremost certified automobile testing labs in the country. The test results showed

that when safety seats are properly installed (with less than 1 inch of wiggle room or side-to-side movement). there is a reduction in the potential injury to a child in an automobile crash. These results also showed that when the Mighty-Tite is used to install the safety

seat, it helps to even further reduce this potential injury by a significant amount. Tighter is better.

"We have found that because Mighty-Tite is so easy to use, parents become much more proactive about making sure the seat is tightly secured, because it's now something they know they can do well." said Keller.

This isn't the only testing that Mighty-Tite has been through. The seat belt tightening device has also been extensively tested using a variety of safety seats. The bottom line result is that Mighty-Tite holds the safety seat tight and secure during the entire crash test scenario and meets all injury criteria of the National Highway Transportation Safety Association's FMVSS213.

Mighty-Tite has seals of approval from organizations throughout the United States and Europe. But most importantly, Mighty-Tite has been successfully and safely used by hundreds of thousands of parents and their children around the world.

Sunshine Kids Juvenile Products specializes in safety products for travel. For more information

go to www.mightytite.com.

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Spring, TX 79721 or Fax to 915-267-7840. The City Of Big Spring is accepting applications Dispatcher Applications will be accepted until January 21, 2003. For further information contact the Personnel Department at City Hall, 310 Nolan Big Spring, TX 79720 or call 915-264-2346. The

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NOW \$9,995 1998 Nissan Sentra - Stk #8995-A - White, Good School Or Work Car. NOW \$6,995 1997 Mercury Tracer LS - Stk #8337-A - Green, Local Car, Great School Car, NOW \$8,995 WAS \$9,995 1997 Mercury Grand Marquis - Stk #8532-A - Green, Luxury At A Low Price. WAS \$10,995 NOW \$8,995 1997 Pontiac Grand Prix GT - Stk #8901-B - White, Miles Good, Exceptional Car.

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NOW \$5,995 WAS \$7,995 1995 Chrysler Cirrus - Stk #4686FPA - Green, Good Second Car. NOW \$3,995 WAS \$4,995 1995 Cadillac DeVille Concours - Stk #7793-B - Silver, Great Miles, Great Luxury Car WAS \$10,995 NOW \$9,995

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2000 Ford F-150 Supercab - Stk #4662-P, White/Tan, XLT, Miles Good, Priced To Sell. 2000 F-150 Supercab XLT 4X4 - Stk #8894 A - Silver, Nice Truck, Ready For Work. NOW \$15,995 WAS \$16,995 1999 Chevrolet Ext. Cab C1500 - Stk #8393-A - White, Nice, Nice Truck WAS \$16,995 NOW \$15,995 2002 F-150 Supercab XLT - Stk #8719-A, Tan, Local One Owner, Low, Low Miles, 15,556 NOW \$23,995 WAS \$24,993 1999 Chevrolet S-10 - Stk #8971-A - Red, Like New NOW \$8,995 WAS \$9,995 1999 Ford Ranger - Stk #6879B - Gray, High Value, Low Dollar Truck WAS \$8.995 NOW \$6,995

1999 Dodge Dakota - Stk #8393-A - White, Priced To Sell NOW \$7,995 1999 Chevrolet S/10 LS - Stk #8674-B1 - White, Low, Low Miles, 21,615. NOW \$9,995 WAS \$10,995 1999 Ford Ranger Supercab - Stk #8870-A - Red, Sharp Truck W Xtra Room NOW \$10,995 1998 Nissan King Cab XE - Stk #8708-A - Red, Priced To Sell

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SUV'S

2002 Ford Explorer Sport Trac - Stk #8844-A - Red, Like New - Exceptionally, Low NOW \$21,995 WAS \$22,995 2001 Ford Excursion Diesel - Stk #8895-A - Blue, Low, Low Miles - Great Savings. NOW \$26,995 2001 Chevrolet Tahoe LS - Stk #3916-A, Pewter, Beautiful SUV - Miles Are Right. NOW \$26,995 WAS \$28,995 2001s Chrysler PT Cruiser - Stk #8699-A - Silver, Local One Owner, One Of A Kind. NOW \$16,995 WAS \$17,995 2000 Ford Expedition Eddie Bauer - Stk #8659A - Mar/Tan, Low Miles, Beautiful. NOW \$22,995 WAS \$23,995 2000 Mazda MPV - Stk #8751-A - Blue, Nice Unit - Priced To Sell. NOW \$15,995 WAS \$16,995 1999 Jeep Cherokee - Stk #8906B - Brown, Super Nice. NOW \$12,995 1999 GMC Suburban LT - Stk #8628-A - Tan, Nice Unit. NOW \$17,995 WAS \$18,995 1998 Ford Windstar GT - Stk #8121A - Gold, Extra Clean - Road Ready

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club news

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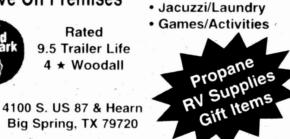


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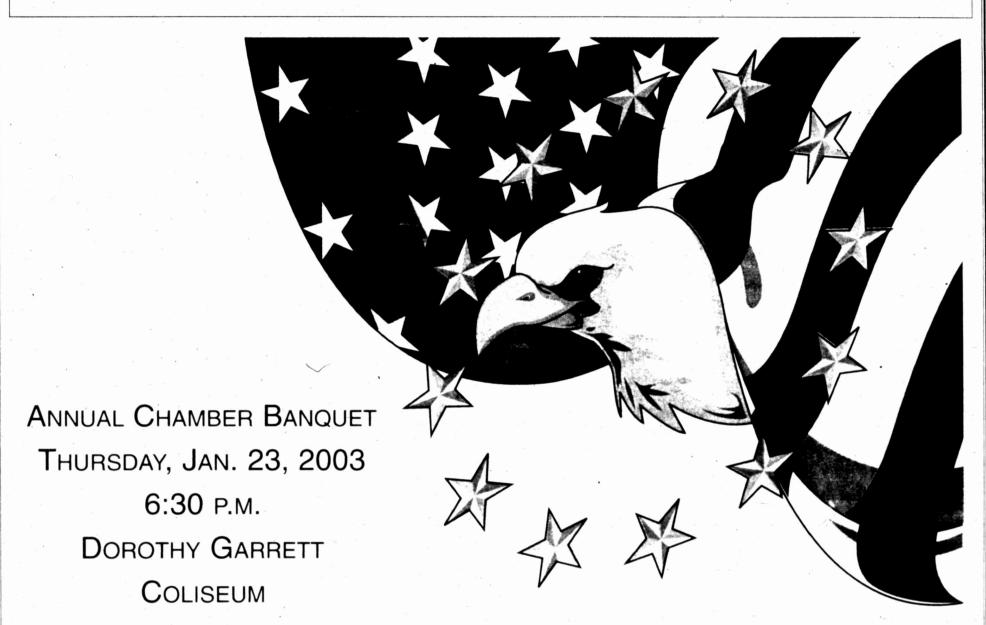
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Moving Forward — Together



The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce 2003



A special supplement to the Big Spring Herald, Wednesday, Jan. 22, 2003

Promoting the Big Spring area

— that's what the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce is all about.

Understanding that it is difficult for any one business or individual to make a significant difference, members of the chamber realize the importance of pooling their resources.

"We are members of the Chamber because we feel the Chamber is good for

at State National Bank. "It promotes a positive image of the city, provides networking opportunities within Big Spring and Howard County and does a business."

Through its various programs and resources, the chamber helps insure a better quality of life for

State National Bank

Community development Big Spring," said Richard everyone. It focuses on Steel, senior vice president improving the business climate as well as promoting the community through specific events such as Pops in the Park, the West Texas Ag Expo and Luncheon, Health Fair, Big good job of promoting local Spring Day in Austin and numerous others.

> "I have nothing but praise for the Chamber of Commerce," said Howard Walker, owner of the Harley-Davidson Shop. "I think those folks are doing a real good job. You get a lot of coverage from tourists and people moving into town. They'll give them brochures of what businesses are in town. It's good for business people."

"I have nothing but praise for the chamber of commerce. I think those folks are doing a real good job."

> Howard Walker Harley-Davidson Shop

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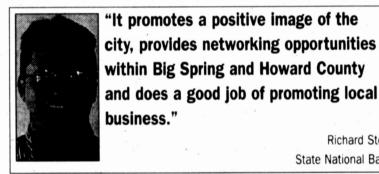
In addition to promoting Big Spring to the surrounding area, the chamber introduces local businesses professionals to allow them to interact with one another other.

"We belong to the Chamber of Commerce to be supportive of economic development in Big Spring and to be aware of the issues effecting the economy of Big Spring and Howard County," said

Marcie Lykken, insurance coordinator with Warren Chiropractic Center.

It takes many active members to make the Chamber of Commerce strong - one reason an emphasis is being placed on adding more businesses to the membership list in 2003.

A stronger community through the Big Spring Area Chamber Commerce.



business." Richard Steel

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EXECUTIVE BOARD



Terry McDaniel



President Elect





Allan Johnson



Business Dev



Big Spring faced many challenges in 2002, which in Debbye ValVerde



will continue to move for-

ward in the updating process; continue to help each other through the challenges and celebrate each other's successes.

Together we can achieve success

A special thank you to Cheri Sparks, outgoing president, for her guidance and inspiration in my first tenure. To our members who continue to give me their support and encouragement, thank you. The Chamber is a people who realize that they can accomplish collectively what none of them can do individually. The strength of the Chamber lies in attracting the greatest number of participants and creating a pool of resources from which to draw ideas, energy and finances.

I look forward to working with incoming president Terry McDaniel and

the entire Board of Directors in 2003. This year we will be focusing on membership — is this a challenge? Yes. Will we see this challenge through? Yes, we will -Together.

Let's Move Forward -Together - As a communi-

> DEBBYE VALVERDE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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2001-2003



Terry Wegman 2001-2003



2001-2003





Calistro Carrillo Jr



2002-2004



Democratic process drives chamber

The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce works on a democratic system, with board of directors members selected for three-year terms.

President-elect is selected by the current and past president. That recommendation is presented to the board of directors, who then vote on approval of the incoming president.

Officers for each division of the chamber are selected by the president and incoming president, who



make their recommendatheir approval of the offitions to the executive committee.

An brings the recommendations to the board of directors, who then also vote

cers.

Each year, new members affirmative vote are selected through a nominating process that

see PROCESS, Page 14



2002-2004

Melissa Halfmann 2003-2005



2003-2005



Hank Bond

2003-2005



Kathy Lusk 2003-2005



2003-2005







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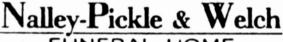
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Chamber takes active role in promoting health services

The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce takes an active role in promoting health services and products by sponsoring the annual Big Spring Health Fair.

More than 2,500 people attended last year's five-hour event at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. They took advantage of free health screenings for prostate cancer, depression, bone density, skin cancer, body composition, stroke risk, blood sugar and more.

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Exhibitors often come from local medical clinics, equipment sales and rental businesses, doctor's offices and other health-related services.

Information is available on such topics as Alzheimer's disease, rehabilitation programs, the rabies outbreak and safe use of prescription drugs.

Fitness programs have conducted demonstrations in the

Health Fair 2003 is planned for March 29

past, while free ultrasound tests and glaucoma screenings were popular offerings.

In recent years, senior citizens have been encouraged to take advantage of the File of Life, which keeps health information available in case of an emergency.

Related activities have occurred in conjunction with, or on the same day, as the fair. They include the "Master the Mountain" Fun Run/Walk at Big Spring State Park, and a bicycle rodeo, promoting safety for youngsters.



Each year, the Chamber of Commerce puts on the Big Spring Health Fair, allowing local and area residents a chance to receive free screeings and health care information.



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Chamber promotes area businesses in a variety of ways

Promoting area business, the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce offers a number of annual events for its members.

Business After Hours is an opportunity for one business member to host a reception and visit with members of the community.

"Business after Hours allows businesses to network together and get to know each other," said Debbie ValVerde, Chamber executive director. "Any chamber member can host the event which is open to all businesses, chamber member or not."

The host usually sends invitations to its clientele while the Chamber sends invitations to its members.

Every new member of the chamber has a ribbon cutting ceremony, which is attended by members of the Big Spring Ambassadors and photographs are taken.

"We want to let members know that they are important to us, but we also want our members to get involved to help us make a better community."

> Debbye ValVerde, Chamber executive director

During the holiday season, residents and business are encouraged to light up the town for the annual lighting contest sponsored by the chamber.

"We want to encourage everyone in the community to light up for the Christmas holiday, ValVerde said. "We want Big Spring to look good."

See BUSINESSES, Page 7



Ribbon cuttings are one of the many functions of the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce and Ambassadors.



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BUSINESSES

Continued from Page 6

The chamber also sponsors a number of large events in the community including the Taste of Home Cooking School, Ag-Expo, community luncheons, Pops-In-The-Park, the Health Fair and Big Spring Day in Austin.

Currently the chamber has close to 400 members and conducts membership drives throughout the year.

The Chamber allows mem-

bers to post flyers of any events at the Chamber office.

"If we receive a phone call for information, we refer the person to a chamber member first," said ValVerde.

Membership involvement is important, ValVerde said.

"We want to let members know that they are important to us, but we also want our members to get involved to help us make a better community," ValVerde said.

Legislators to be special guests at annual banquet

lead to changes in the men who are entrusted with representating Howard County in the state legislature.

During Thursday's 6:30 p.m. banquet at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum, the county's past representatives, Sen. Robert Duncan

Redistricting has and former Rep. sentatives, David Counts, will be honored along with its new repre-

Teel Bivins and Rep. Pete Laney. Tickets to the

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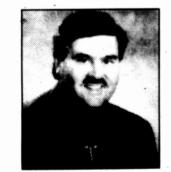
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CHAMBER PRESIDENTS

1919 John E. Mundell 1923 W.W. Rox 1924 M.H. Morrison 1925 R.L. Price 1926 B. Reagan 1927 S.R. Weaver 1928 Shine Philips 1929 Edwin A. Kelly 1930 Dr. E.O. Ellington 1931 Joe Edwards 1932 T.W. Ashley 1933 Wendell Bedichek

1934 D.W. Webber 1935 George White 1936 G.C. Dunham 1937 R.F. Schermerhorn 1938 Dr. P.W. Malone 1939 Calvin Boykin 1940 Ted O. Grobel 1941 R.W. Whipkey 1942 B.L. LeFever 1943 Willard Sullivan 1944 A.S. Darby 1945 R.T. Piner 1946 Joe Pickle 1947 K.H. McGibbon 1948 Elmo Wasson 1949 Douglas Orme 1950 Adolf Swartz 1951 Dr. M.H. Bennett

1952 Truman Jones 1953 Dr. R.B.G. Cowper 1954 Champ Rainwater 1955 Marvin Miller 1956 Ira L. Thurman 1957 Jimmie Beale 1958 Dr. J.E. Hogan 1959 Clyde McMahon Sr. 1960 Cliff Fisher 1961 Horace Garrett 1962 Roy B. Reeder 1963 Dr. Carl Marcum 1964 John L. Taylor 1965 lke Robb 1966 John A. Currie 1967 Dr. Lee Rogers 1968 Dr. M.W. Talbort Jr. 1969 M.R. Koger

1970 Paul Meek 1971 Paul Meek 1972 R.H. Weaver 1973 George McAlister 1974 Ralph McLaughlin 1975 Ken Perry 1976 J.D. Nelson 1977 Roger D. Brown 1978 Ray Don Williams 1979 Johnnie Lou Avery 1980 Jimmy Taylor 1981 Winston Wrinkle 1982 Sidney T. Clark 1983 Bill E. Read 1984 Paul L. Shaffer 1985 Granville Hahn 1986 John Arrick 1987 Troy Fraser

1988 Clyde McMahon Jr. 1989 Hooper Sanders 1990 Don Reynolds 1991 Steve Fraser 1992 James Welch 1993 Ben Bancroft 1994 Jeff Morris 1995 Jim Weaver 1996 Frances Wheat 1997 Curt Millins 1998 Ray Kennedy 1999 Chuck Williams 2000 Jim Purcell 2001 John Freeman 2002 Cheri Sparks 2003 Terry McDaniel

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Ag Expo and luncheon say 'hats off' to producers

Each year the Chamber of Commerce takes time to thank—the farmers, ranchers and all the agriculture community for the their continuing role in the local community.

In a few months, it will be time for the annual West Texas Ag Expo and the Ag Appreciation Luncheon, honoring farmThis year's Expo is scheduled for March 20.

ers and ranchers in the community.

"Agriculture is a part of the Big Spring Area," said Debbye ValVerde,

See EXPO, Page 10



In addition to naming a producer and agri-business of the year, the West Texas Ag Expo and Ag Appreciation Luncheon feature top speakers. Recent guests have included Texas Ag Commissioner Susan Combs and, pictured here with chamber board member Roger Huff, right, U.S. Rep. Charles Stenholm.

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Chamber of Commerce executive director. "We host the luncheon because we want to thank the area farmers for doing their business in Big Spring. All° the contributions come from area businesses because those businesses want to thank the farmers for doing business with them and in Big Spring."

Each year, tickets to the appreciation lunch are free to local farmers and ranchers. The lunch is also open to the public for a nominal free and the event draws from 400 to 500 people.

Usually taking place at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum, the Expo often features exhibits, seminars, food and the highlight-naming of the producer and agri-business year.

"The Expo allows differ-

ent entities and business in Big Spring who would like to see farmers as potential customers to set up booths," said ValVerde.

Some of the seminar topics from past Expos included row spacing, boll weevil management, drip irrigation and worker protection standards, farm chemicals, laws relating to agriculture and even improving the home landscape.

Civic center popular spot for many activities

Park Lake, the Dora Roberts Civic Center continues to be a popular place for weddings, meeting, reunions and other community events.

"Generally it is booked solid in the summer and spring time with weddings,

Offering a view overlook-graduations and other ing the Comanche Trail events," Candy Parrish. Dora Roberts Civic Center manager.

Managed by the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, the center is owned by the city. Parrish runs the day-to-day opera-

See DRCC, Page 11

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tions, including bookings and arrangements for a variety of events.

The building offers a number of amenities, Parrish said.

"We have two different types of rooms," she said. "We have a large ball room that can seat up to 350 people and is used for events such as large weddings, receptions, dinners, meetings. We also have a second more cozy room."

The smaller room dubbed the lake room is a very popular place for baby showers, smaller wedding receptions and board meetings. One side of the room is constructed of glass walls that overlook the lake.

The pavilion constructed behind the building, on the shore of Comanche Lake, has become a popular place for seasonal weddings.

The ball room contains a sound system and stage and the kitchen area is close by for those having banquets.

For more information about the Dora Roberts Civic Center, contact Parrish at 254-9134 or page her at 268-2049.



Dora Roberts Civic Center is used for numerous activities. Above, noted strategist Carolyn Corbin, right, visits after a seminar at the center.

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Leadership Big Spring great introductory tool

now into its 21st year, is a Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce program that allows members of the community to have a firsthand look at all the businesses and services available locally.

The leadership class See LEADERS, Page 13

Leadership Big Spring, meets once a month for 10 months. This year, the group began meeting in January and will break for the summer months, then resume in the fall.

While involved in the class, the group tours vari-



Leadership Big Spring. now into its 21st year, is a Big Spring Area **Chamber of Commerce** program that allows members of the community to have a firsthand look at all the businesses and services available locally. At right, graduation ceremonies for the Senior Leadershop course are held.

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Continued from Page 12

ous businesses and industries within the community, attends board meetings of various entities and generally gets a broad overview of everything Big Spring has to offer.

shops on leadership, an officer and must also take

additional bonus for those part in a community projenrolled. Other areas of interest that the class tours are agriculture, utilities, communication and law enforcement.

Participants are required to attend three board meetings of a local government Leadership Big Spring entity, ride in a patrol car classes also offer work- with a Big Spring police

The Chamber also offers senior course of Leadership Big Spring. The course, a less intense ver- Leadership Big Spring prosion of the original, gives seniors an opportunity to learn more about also visiting business and entities in the community.

weeks and participants meet once every two week during the mornings. It is offered free to seniors.

In addition to the gram, the chamber also offers a junior leadership program.

Big Spring Junior Leadership is available to The course lasts about 12 high school juniors and is

actually conducted by the **Howard County Extension** Agency.

The program lasts for one semester. Faculty in area high schools recommend students for the program.



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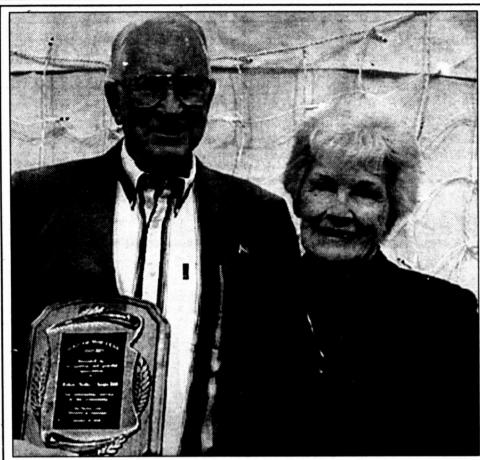
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Last year's Man and Woman of the Year were Robert (Bobby) Hill and Jane Stripling Jones.

PROCESS

Continued from Page 4

allows the general membership population to submit nominations.

These nominations are then voted on by all chamber members, and new members are selected.

Annually, five new board mémbers are placed on the chamber board and five members retire.

Once a vice president has been selected, it is that officer's respon-

sibility to form a committee comprised of chamber members.

The chamber of commerce leadership structure is divided into officers, vice presidents, retiring directors, ex-officio directors and directors who are grouped into three-year increments.

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Vice presidents are responsible for such programs as business development, governmental affairs, membership development, cultural development and community development.

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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 wellbeing 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 commu-

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.

CHAMBER

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
- 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

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