

WEDNESDAY

February 4, 2004

WEATHER

Tonight:



PARTLY CLOUDY

TONIGHT 31°-33° TOMORROW 62°-63°

BRIEFLY

Seliger reception

A reception for Kel Seliger, R-Amarillo, a candidate in the Texas Senate District 31 runoff election set for Feb. 17, has been scheduled for 4 p.m. today at the Dora Roberts Community Center in Comanche Trail Park. The public is invited to attend and discuss issues with the candidate.

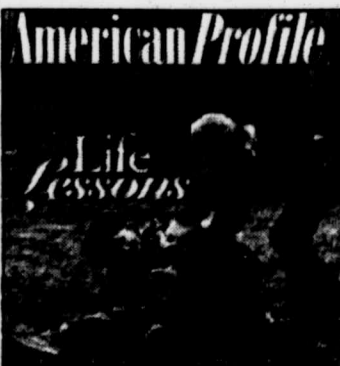
Scouting for Food

Bags for the Buffalo Trail Council of the Boy Scouts of America annual canned food drive are in today's edition of the *Big Spring Herald*.

Those wishing to contribute may place their donations in these bags, which are donated by H-E-B, then place them on the curb or porch by the residence Saturday morning.

The drive will begin at 10 a.m. Anyone who is missed Saturday can call the Scout office at 263-3407 or can bring the donations to the Scout collection point at the corner of Seventh and Scurry streets.

COMING THIS WEEKEND



Entertainer Naomi Judd shares what she's learned on her decade-long sojourn of self-discovery in her new book, Naomi's Breakthrough Guide: 20 Choices to Transform Your Life.

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To reach us, please call 263-7331. Office hours are 8 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.

Slinging mud: Edwards, Seliger swap accusations

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

Let the accusations fly. What started out as a rather benign race to fill the unexpired term of former District 31 State Sen. Teel Bivins is taking on the guise of a political bloodbath this week, as candidates Kel Seliger, R-Amarillo, and Kirk Edwards, R-Odessa, pitch accusations of unethical behavior at one another.

Seliger filed a complaint with



Kirk Edwards

"Why is Kel Seliger the only candidate who did not file a statement by Jan. 15?"

the Texas Ethics Commission Monday, accusing Edwards of illegally hiding expenditures the

"(Edwards) has violated all seven sections of the Texas Fair Campaign Practices Code..."



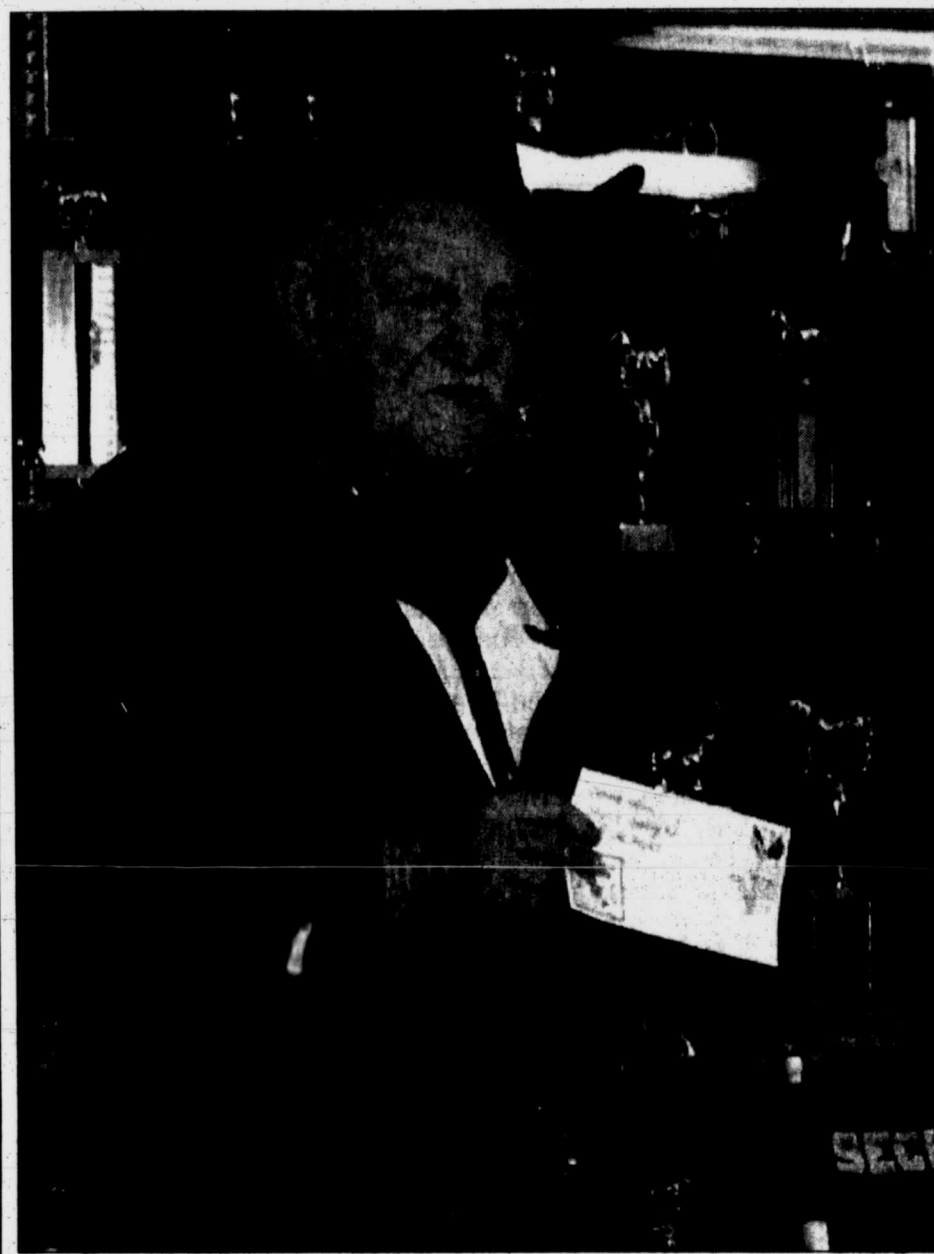
Kel Seliger

Odessa candidate made for consulting and "negative push polling." In turn, Edwards said

Seliger is in violation of Texas ethics laws for missing the Jan. 15 deadline to file his campaign's personal financial statement, which found its way to the ethics commission on Monday.

In a letter to Karen Lunquist, executive director of the Texas Ethics Commission, Seliger claims Edwards "has violated all seven sections of the Texas Fair Campaign Practices Code, which prohibits candidates from use of

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HERALD photo/Thomas Jenkins

"Red" Harmon Hann, organizer of the annual Pony Express West Ride, explains to members of the Howard County Sheriff's Posse how the mail will be picked up and delivered during the ride, which is slated for May 13-15. Big Spring has been selected as the starting point for the event, which celebrates the history of the Pony Express.

MAIL RIDE
Big Spring selected as starting point for Pony Express West

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

The Pony Express has long since given way to the U.S. Postal Service and gasoline engines, but for one New Mexico man, it's as alive today as it was when the first piece of mail arrived on horseback. And he's bringing it to Big Spring.

"Red" Harmon Hann, general manager of KHOB 1390 AM radio in Hobbs, N.M., and organizer of the annual Pony Express West Ride, met with officials from the Howard County Sheriff's Posse Tuesday night to secure riders and mail for the Big Spring area's participation in the annual ride.

Hann, who is also a western artist, said his first involvement with the Express began more than 30 years ago and has since

become a way of life for him.

"My first Pony Express was in 1972 at Fort Stockton," said Hann. "It's changed a lot over the years. We have a lot more traffic now and the area has grown up a great deal. It's kind of like we were talking about tonight, and how you have to trailer across viaducts.

"This is modern day Pony Express. We try to look as authentic as possible, but we have to work with what we have, which means lots of traffic."

Hann said the ride, which will take place May 13-15, is a reminder of our western heritage.

"We have to keep our heritage alive," he said. "That's the whole idea behind my station and my group. We want to keep the his-

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Gandy's milks talent of Goliad 11-year-old

Goliad youth wins \$1,000 scholarship

By LYNDEL MOODY

Staff Writer

Got milk? How about a \$1,000 college scholarship?

When 11-year-old Adrianna Robertson has her next glass of cold milk, it may just taste a little sweeter thanks to the knowledge that she's a Gandy's Dairies Inc. \$1,000 scholarship winner.

"I was really excited, and all my friends were excited for me," said Robertson, a Goliad Intermediate School fifth grader. Each year, Gandy's chooses three school districts within its sales area to participate in the scholarship event earmarked for fifth and sixth graders.

The contest, which this year involved Big Spring, Amarillo and Abilene, challenges the youths to create a unique textbook cover promoting milk. A winner is chosen in each school district.

"We feel like we want to be a part of every town and school system we service and this is just a way for us to give back to the community," said Dennis Tatsch, a Gandy's sales and marketing representative.

Robertson, the daughter of Richard and Verna Robertson, was chosen the winner from 45 entries in the Big Spring ISD, and her design will be distributed to students during the next school year.

"We feel this gives the students a chance to show off their talents



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

Dennis Tatsch, a Gandy's Dairies sales and marketing representative, visits with 11-year-old Adrianna Robertson, a Goliad Intermediate fifth grader, about her winning drawing for the company's book cover contest.

and gives them some "ownership" to the book covers that are distributed each year to districts throughout the area," said Gandy's Sales Coordinator Junette Wilson. "Schools depend upon area businesses and organizations to sponsor the book covers for students. It is a great money savings for the school districts each year."

The brown-haired youth's creative concept of a Jersey cow on stage with stars in her eyes, spotlights shinning down on the

See SCHOLARSHIP, Page 2A



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

Big Spring paramedics Michael Marquez, left, and Jared Greer assist a victim from a three-vehicle accident that occurred on FM 700 this morning near the Goliad intersection. The collision sent at least two people to Scenic Mountain Medical Center. According to Big Spring police officer Michael Perez, the driver of a Chevrolet pickup truck collided into the rear end of another vehicle with a third vehicle also involved. Police couldn't release any additional information by press time.

Neugebauer on VA Medical Center: welfare of our veterans comes first

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

While the war in Iraq and his impending race with Congressman Charlie Stenholm, D-Abilene, topped the bill during a coffee social Monday, District 19 Congressman Randy Neugebauer also touched on a matter dear to Big Spring: The impending fate of the Big Spring Veterans Administration Medical Center.

When asked by a member of the audience what he thought of the recent delay from the CARES (Capital Asset Realignment for Enhanced Services) Commission in delivering a recommendation on the fate of the Big Spring facility, Neugebauer was jovial, yet concerned.

"I think it's a good sign," he said with a laugh. "I think

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FEB 04 2004

Obituaries

Deloras DeSalvo Rivera

Deloras DeSalvo Rivera, 75, of Big Spring, died on Monday, Feb. 2, 2004, at her residence.

Rosary will be at 7 p.m. Wednesday at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel. Funeral services will be held at 4 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 5, 2004, at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church with Father James Plagens, pastor, officiating. Interment will follow at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

She was born on June 10, 1928, in Chicago. Deloras came to Big Spring in March of 1981 from Chicago. She managed the Mayo Ranch Motel for a number of years and was a homemaker. She was a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church.

Survivors include two sons, Donald Rivera and Daniel Rivera, both of Big Spring; one brother, Michael DeSalvo of Alabama; one sister, Mary Ann DeSalvo of Longview; and seven grandchildren.

Arrangements under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring. Online condolences can be made at www.npwelch.com

Hazel Eppler

Hazel Eppler, 71, died Monday, Feb. 2, 2004, in Austin. Funeral service will be at 2:30 p.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Chapel. The family will receive friends from 4 p.m. until 6 p.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Mrs. Eppler was born on June 22, 1932, in Brownfield. She lived most of her life in Big Spring. She married James H. Eppler in 1949. He preceded her in death in 1999. She had owned "Chateau de

Coiffures" in Highland Mall. She was a member of Trinity Baptist Church.

She is survived by two daughters, Brenda Eppler Barr of Austin and Debra LeGrande of Ardmore, Okla.; two sons, Byron Eppler of Big Spring and Douglas Eppler of Austin; one sister, Melba Dement of Mississippi; eight grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at www.myersandsmith.com

Terry Walton

Terry Walton, 74, of San Angelo, formerly of Big Spring, died on Sunday, Feb. 1, 2004, at his residence.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 5, 2004, at the First Church of God in Big Spring with the Rev. Darrell Hendrickson, pastor, and the Rev. Jim Wilkerson, pastor of Hillcrest Baptist Church of San Angelo, officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

He was born on Sept. 5, 1929, in East Liverpool, Ohio, and married Fern Stroope on Jan. 5, 1950, in Odessa.

Mr. Walton worked in civil service at both Webb Air Force Base and the Big Spring Veterans Administration Medical Center for 30 years, retiring as an electrical engineer. He then worked as a biomedical technician at Midland Memorial Hospital for a number of years.

He was a member of the First Church of God. He had served in the United States Army Air Corps during World War II.

Survivors include his wife, Fern Walton of San Angelo; two sons, Kenneth Walton of Valrico, Fla., and Eugene Walton of Bryan; one sister, Aiores Thoma of Newton Falls, Ohio; five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by three brothers.

The family suggests memorials to the Church of God Ministries for Paul Jones, 2009 Main, Big Spring 79720.

The family will receive friends from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Wednesday at the funeral home.

Arrangements under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring. Online condolences can be made at www.npwelch.com

Laura "LaFaye" Boubek

Laura "LaFaye" Boubek, 67, died Tuesday, Feb. 3, 2004, in Medical Center Hospital in Odessa. Services are pending with Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Mary Hicks

Mary Hicks, 85, died Wednesday morning, Feb. 4, 2004, at her home. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

LaVerne McDuffitt

LaVerne McDuffitt, 68, of Big Spring died Wednesday, Feb. 4, 2004, at her residence. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Lottery

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Tuesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 5-4-3

The winning Texas Two Step numbers drawn Tuesday by the Texas Lottery: 6-7-13-14. Bonus ball 2.

The winning Cash Five numbers drawn Tuesday by the Texas Lottery: 5-9-10-19-21

The winning Mega Million numbers drawn Tuesday: 9-21-26-35-41 Mega Ball = 17

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Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 8 a.m. Tuesday and 8 a.m. today:

• **JUAN OLIVAREZ**, 21, of 3006 Cherokee, was arrested Tuesday on local traffic warrants.

• **BRYON PAYNE**, 18, of 1502 Stadium, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of assault with intent to cause bodily injury.

• **AGUSTIN FIERRO JR.**, 37, of 106 E. 24th Street, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of driving while intoxicated-third or more offense.

• **ROBERT RUBEN SANCHEZ**, 39, of Colorado City, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of public intoxication.

• **LONNIE RAY CLANTON**, 54, of 400 Moss Creek Road, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of public intoxication.

• **HERMAN TORRES HERNANDEZ**, 18, of 1002 N. Main Street, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of driving under the influence by a minor.

• **THEFT** was reported in the 1700 block of FM 700.

• **ASSAULT/FAMILY VIOLENCE** was reported in the 2400 block of Morrison.

• **CRIMINAL TRESPASS** was reported in the 600 block of Sixth Street.

• **ASSAULT** was reported in the 1500 block of Stadium.

Sheriff's report

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

• **FABRICIO GIOVANNI DECLID**, 32, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a charge of possession of a controlled substance.

• **TIMOTHY TAYLOR**, 45, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a violation of probation.

• **CARRIE RAHAT-SAMA**, 33, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of theft more than \$1,500, less than \$20,000.

• **IRMA E. VINCENT**, 41, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on charges of theft and theft by check.

• **JOEY LEE KIRKLAND**, 32, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the HCSO on a charge of assault/family violence.

• **CHARLES ROY BURKE**, 45, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on charges of contempt of court and disobedience of a court order.

• **TONY LEO JETTON**, 27, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a charge of disorderly conduct-fighting.

• **UNATTENDED DEATH** was reported in the 200 block of Little Road.

• **POSSESSION OF A STOLEN VEHICLE** was reported in the 3200 block of Fordham. Deputy responded, report taken.

• **MAJOR ACCIDENT/IN POSSESSION OF A STOLEN VEHICLE** was reported at E. Midway Road. Vehicle was recovered.

• **FIGHT-IN PROGRESS** was reported in the 5600 block of Interstate Highway 20. Arrest was made.

VA

Continued from Page 1A

what's going on right now is the same as the message I conveyed to Secretary Roswell, and that's the fact that this is a very important process that they are going through, and it's a good process.

"We need to make sure we give our veterans the best care that we can. However, we have to be able to do it at a level we can afford."

Neugebauer said he's committed to keeping the Big Spring VA Medical Center doors open, but it's important not to lose sight of the big picture.

"From the very beginning I've been very impressed with the facility here," he said. "When you look at ratings that the veterans have given it, it's one of the higher rating facilities in this visage. I remain confident the VA Medical Center in Big Spring is going to be providing health care for our veterans."

"Health care is changing. Does that mean it's going to look the same in the future that it does today? Maybe not. Maybe within the entire VA system we look at some specializations to make sure we have good, quality doctors. I'm more interested in the quality of the delivery of service to the veterans."

Since October of 2003, the CARES commission has held hearings in several states to discuss a draft plan for realigning Department of Veterans Affairs medical services. A recommendation on the fate of the Big Spring facility was due to be released by the end of December, but CARES Commission Executive Director Richard Larson announced in mid-December the commission would not meet its year-end deadline.

"Last summer, the commission chairman established as a target that we would strive to have the report ready for the (Department of Veteran's Affairs) secretary by mid- to late-December," said Larson. "We're not going to meet that target. The report will be presented at a later date."

Bulletin board

If you have items for the Bulletin board, contact the Herald news room at 263-7331 or email editor@bigspringherald.com

WEDNESDAY

Line dancing begins at 1 p.m. in the Senior Citizens Center located in the Industrial Park. Call 267-6966 for more information.

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

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

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

Senior Circle meets at 10 a.m. at Scenic Mountain Medical Center classroom for stretch and tone.

Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie meets at 7 p.m. at the Eagles Lodge, 703 West Third.

FRIDAY

Spring City Senior Citizens country and western dance is held from 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. All area senior citizens are invited to attend.

AMBUCS meets at noon at La Posada.

Greater Big Spring Rotary meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room.

SATURDAY

Dance begins at 8:30 p.m. at Eagles Lodge, 703 West Third.

Potton House, 200 Gregg, a restored historical home is open from 1 to 5 p.m. A one-time admission fee of \$2 for adults and \$1 for children and senior citizens is encouraged.

Weather

Tonight...Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 30s. West winds 10 to 15 mph.

Thursday...Partly cloudy. Highs around 60. West winds 10 to 15 mph.

Thursday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 30s. North winds 10 to 15 mph.

Friday...Mostly cloudy. Highs in the upper 40s. North winds 10 to 15 mph.

Friday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 20s.

Saturday...Mostly sunny. Highs in the upper 40s.

Saturday night...Partly cloudy. Lows around 30.

Sunday and Sunday night...Mostly cloudy. Highs in the lower 50s. Lows in the lower 30s.

From Page One

A new date has not yet been announced by the CARES Commission.

Among the recommendations were to close inpatient surgical care at the Big Spring facility and a study that would essentially research the possibility of closing the facility and develop a critical access hospital in the Odessa-Midland area.

The news of the draft plan released in August prompted a grassroots effort by West Texans to keep the facility in Big Spring, uniting many residents from several counties including Howard, Midland, Taylor, Tom Green and Ector.

The restructuring plan also includes major mission changes at 13 facilities including closures of hospitals in Canandaigua, N.Y.; Pittsburgh; Lexington, Ky.; Brecksville, Ohio; Gulfport, Miss.; Livermore, Calif.; and Waco.

The Big Spring VA employs more than 500 full- and part-time workers with an annual payroll of \$32.5 million.

SCHOLARSHIP

Continued from Page 1A

bovine and the words "Milk Rocks" pulling the theme together stood out from among the entries, Tatch said.

"I wanted to draw something different," Robertson said. "I thought about drawing one with a guitar, but I decided on that instead."

Contact Staff Writer Lyndel Moody at 263-7331, ext. 234, or by e-mail at reporter@bigspringherald.com

BIG SPRING HERALD

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BY THE MONTH HOME DELIVERY: Evenings and Sunday, \$8.65 monthly; \$93.42 yearly (includes 10% discount for yearly).

MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$12.50 monthly Howard & Martin Counties. \$13.25 elsewhere.

SLINGING

Continued from Page

character deflating whispering can libel, slander or vilify and attack and of negative push

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Negative push poll an advocacy phone that is dishonestly disguised as a poll

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EXPRESS

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While this Pon may seem like more than fun

raising, Hann s: a serious side, s

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SLINGING

Continued from Page 1A

character defamation, whispering campaigns, libel, slander or scurrilous attack and the use of negative push polling."

Push polling is the act of phoning voters to get information to them for political purposes. Negative push polling is an advocacy phone call that is dishonestly disguised as a poll so that the voter does not know the true source of the call. The National Council on Public Polls has publicly warned against this type of polling, calling it "telemarketing, not polling."

Seliger said the poll sought to link him to planned parenthood organizations and former president Bill Clinton, among other Democrats. According to Seliger's camp, one of the questions posed to respondents asked whether they would be more or less likely to vote for Seliger if they knew he had supported a Houston Democrat, Paul Hobby, over Republican Carole

Keeton Strayhorn, when she was a candidate for Texas Comptroller.

The Edwards camp has denied the effort was negative push polling, and because they began in December but weren't completed by the time the last campaign expenditure reports were due, they couldn't be included in the reports, Edwards said.

Seliger's letter also accused Edwards of failing to disclose money paid to political consultants on previously filed campaign finance reports.

"During the past, newspaper articles in Amarillo, Midland and Odessa newspapers have thoroughly documented that Edwards has retained the services of pollster and political consultants Daron Shaw and Murphy, Turner and Associates," the letter read, "which conflicts with Edwards not disclosing or reporting these campaign expenditures as required by law on either of his two previously filed campaign finance reports."

While Seliger levels

accusations of unethical behavior at Edwards, the Odessa candidate also released a scathing statement this week, taking aim at Seliger's failure to meet the Jan. 15 deadline for financial disclosure.

"We believe in full disclosure and filed our 128-page personal financial statement on time," said Edwards' campaign manager Julie Williams. "The voters, news media and the average citizens need to know a candidate's business associations, connections to lobbyists and financial holdings before the election is held. The public has to wonder what Seliger has to hide."

According to the Amarillo candidate, the report in question, which was filed with the Texas Ethics Commission nearly 18 days past the deadline, was a simple error on his part, as he miscalculated the deadline based on the date of the March primaries. Once the mistake was spotted, the former mayor of Amarillo said it was a matter of getting it completed as soon as he and

his team could.

"It takes a whole lot of quick research," he said Monday. "They want to know everything you own," he said. "It was my miscalculation and clearly no attempt to conceal anything."

Edwards doesn't agree. "Why is Kel Seliger the only candidate who did not file a statement by Jan. 15?" Edwards asked in statement released earlier this week. "He's hiding everything. It's not right."

Seliger and Edwards will face off in the runoff election beginning with early voting, which is slated for Feb. 9-13, and then for election day on Feb. 17. The winner of that race will fill the unexpired term.

Seliger garnered more than 35 percent of the district-wide vote during the January election, while Edwards came in a close second with almost 21 percent.

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at citydesk@bigspringherald.com

EXPRESS

Continued from Page 1A

tory alive and keep reminding people that we had a Pony Express. Out here in the West we did have settlers and we rode horses and that sort of thing.

"We want to keep the western heritage alive. That's what we have out here in Big Spring, Midland, Odessa, Hobbs and the other areas. Someday I would like to see a ride all the way from Austin to somewhere up in New Mexico."

Hann said the ride will start out in Big Spring, beginning a relay that will continue over a three-day period to end in Jal, N.M.

"The ride starts in Big Spring — probably out near the outskirts of town," he said. "The first rider will ride about two miles. After two miles there will be a trailer waiting with another rider, and the bag will be handed off. It's kind of like a relay."

"Once they've handed off the bag, they can either trailer their horse and head up the road 10 or 12 miles to start all over again, or they can call it a day. For the most part it's done in two-mile stretches."

While this Pony Express may seem like nothing more than fun and fundraising, Hann said it has a serious side, as the riders will be carrying actual U.S. mail which will be turned over the U.S. Postal Service once it reaches its destination in Jal.

"You take your envelope, and you always put the U.S. stamp in the correct corner," he explained. "Down in the lower lefthand corner is where you'll put the Pony Express stamp. It has to be on the letter to get on the horse. We won't

accept it without that Pony Express stamp.

"We work this as a fund-raiser, so the organizations we're working with can make money and the Pony Express breaks even. Every \$2.04 stamp is split between the Express and the organization, in this case, the Howard County Sheriff's Posse."

Riders will have a warm welcome waiting for them at the end of the trail, Hann said, as the city of Jal gets ready to celebrate the cowboy tradition throughout the day on May 15.

"At the end of the ride they will have a chuckwagon cookoff," said Hann. "They'll be competing against each other in things like beans, beef and that sort of thing. That evening we'll have a dance at the country club, with a lot of different events going on and booths around the place."

"The Jal Chamber of Commerce is handling all of the festivities. They asked to handle that part of the ride, so we're ending the ride there and letting people know about their cowboy get-together."

As for the starting point of the ride, Hann said Big Spring gets the honor this year.

"Big Spring is a new town for us this year," Hann said. "Garden City will also be a new town for us to have involved. We try to pick a new town to start from each year, and this year Big Spring got the honor."

Sheriff's Posse President Dale Walker said he and a fellow posse member Carl Condray met Hann in 2003, and from the way the New Mexico man described the Pony Express West Ride, it was something the

group wanted to participate in.

"We met Red Hann this past summer during a cattle drive," said Walker. "We got to know him and got to talking about the Pony Express, and it sounded very interesting. It's something that goes right along with the Sheriff's Posse, involving horses and family."

"I think it's a great opportunity for the Sheriff's Posse to get its name out there and let people know we're here, and selling these Pony Express stamps is also a great fund-raiser."

Walker agreed with Hann, saying the western heritage and the history of the Pony Express is far too important to be lost forever.

"It's a good thing to be able to teach your kids," he said. "This is the way the mail started, and I think it's a good thing for our community to get involved in and get behind. It's good for our local businesses because they will get some attention out of it, and just a fun event for everyone."

While the riding will go on mainly along the back roads between Big Spring and Jal, someone does have to pick up the mail which will be held by local participating businesses, and Walker said that's right up his alley.

"This whole thing is about the Pony Express, and I don't think it would seem very 'Pony Express' if we drove up to the businesses to pick up the mail," he said with a laugh. "It will definitely be an eye catcher. It's not very often you see a horse being ridden in the city."

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail

at citydesk@bigspringherald.com

Goliad PTA sets meeting

Goliad Intermediate School Parent/Teacher Association will host a program relating practical tips to help children succeed inside and outside the classroom.

Sharon Goldblatt, Texas PTA Region IV vice president, will present the program entitled "10 Tips, One Reason, Your Child's Happiness," which is set for Friday from noon to 1 p.m. at the school. Parents are asked to RSVP with the school by calling 264-4111. Bring a sack lunch. Drinks and desserts will be provided.

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288

Marcella Adams Carter, 80, died Sunday. Funeral service will be at 11:00 AM Friday at Myers & Smith Chapel. The family will receive friends from 5:00 until 6:30 PM Thursday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Hazel Eppler, 71, died Monday. Funeral service will be at 2:30 PM Friday at Myers & Smith Chapel. The family will receive friends from 4:00 until 6:00 PM Thursday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Laura LaFaye Boubek, 67, died Tuesday. Services are pending with Myers & Smith Funeral Home.


Mary Hicks, 85, died Wednesday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.


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EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Susanne Reed
Publisher

John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEWS

Can't we all just get along and play nice

Oh my gosh! To what depths can politics sink? Democratic presidential contender Howard Dean broadly hinted last weekend that current frontrunner John Kerry had received Botox treatments to smooth out wrinkles in his face.

Dean, a physician turned politician, caught a glimpse of country singer and actor Willie Nelson on television and said during a teleconference to supporters, "It looks like he had Botox injections, too."

To laughter, he quickly added: "I didn't say who the other person was."

As Dean would say, and has said: "EEEEEEeyooooowwww!"

To show where the thought processes are in this particular race in general, and in the sewer line of politics in particular, Kerry was asked in a recent radio station if he had had the controversial wrinkle-removing procedure. Kerry emphatically denied having Botox injections or any other cosmetic surgery, saying he had never "even heard" of Botox.

While it may be a stretch to believe Kerry has never "even heard" of Botox injections, for Dean to plaster him with such charges is beneath the dignity of the political process.

Yeaaaahhhhh! Right! And a part of Janet Jackson's anatomy popping out of her costume in the Super Bowl halftime show was a simple "wardrobe malfunction."

In case you, like Kerry, have never heard of Botox, it is a chemical agent that, when injected under the skin, paralyzes the muscles that produce worry lines around the eyes and on the forehead.

Now if they'd just expand its effect somewhat to include paralyzing that part of the brain that produce lines of worry that citizens have about the current crop of national politicians, there would be people lined up for miles to get the treatments.

George Smith
Horizon Publications consultant

YOUR VIEWS

TO THE EDITOR:
Because of you and your employees' help, we were able to raise \$420 to give to veterans families. You and your employees are the greatest. What goes around comes around, so ya'll got something good coming to you in the future.

Again, I appreciate ya'lls helping in this ben-

efit. I knowed them veterans is gonna enjoy getting some surprise money, cause it's difficult when you get shipped off somewhere and the family has to take care of the home front. This will help them make their hardships a little easier.

J. GALE KILGORE
BIG SPRING

LETTERS POLICY

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor. Please:

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

War notes from the year 2076

Script from a Radio Netherlands reporter covering the United States Civil War on July 2, 2076:

"I'm in Kansas City, the center of the United States. Battle elements from the East have been hammering the area for days, trying to break through the strong Western defenses.



TUMBLEWEED SMITH

"This is a part of the country that once served as the nation's bread basket. The Midwest supplied wheat, vegetables, fruits and meats to all parts of the U.S. Herds of cattle used to roam these plains, now strewn with missile fragments and bombed-out plane and automobile bodies. The scene is reminiscent of the Middle East 72 years ago.

"The war has taken its toll on every aspect of American life. Communication, transportation, education, utilities and security are practically non-existent. The U.S. is now a nation of desperate souls. Professional sports arenas,

once the great symbols of prosperity and leisure time, have been turned into poorly equipped and understaffed hospitals. Nuclear weapons have destroyed some of the nation's greatest cities. The ineffective government has left Washington, D.C. and is operating in undisclosed locations.

"The war's origin is no different from the elements that start most wars. It's a matter of differing points of view as to how to run a country. Spirited competition between the two major political parties, Democrats and Republicans, erupted into riots at political rallies. The two groups kept squaring off against each other in several cities until a full-scale, nationwide war broke out. Republicans have taken over the western part of the country while Democrats headquarter in the east.

"And as it was during America's first civil war 215 years ago, families have been divided. Brother is fighting against brother.

"The chasm between the two parties was widened in the early part of the century by zealous radio talk show hosts who criti-

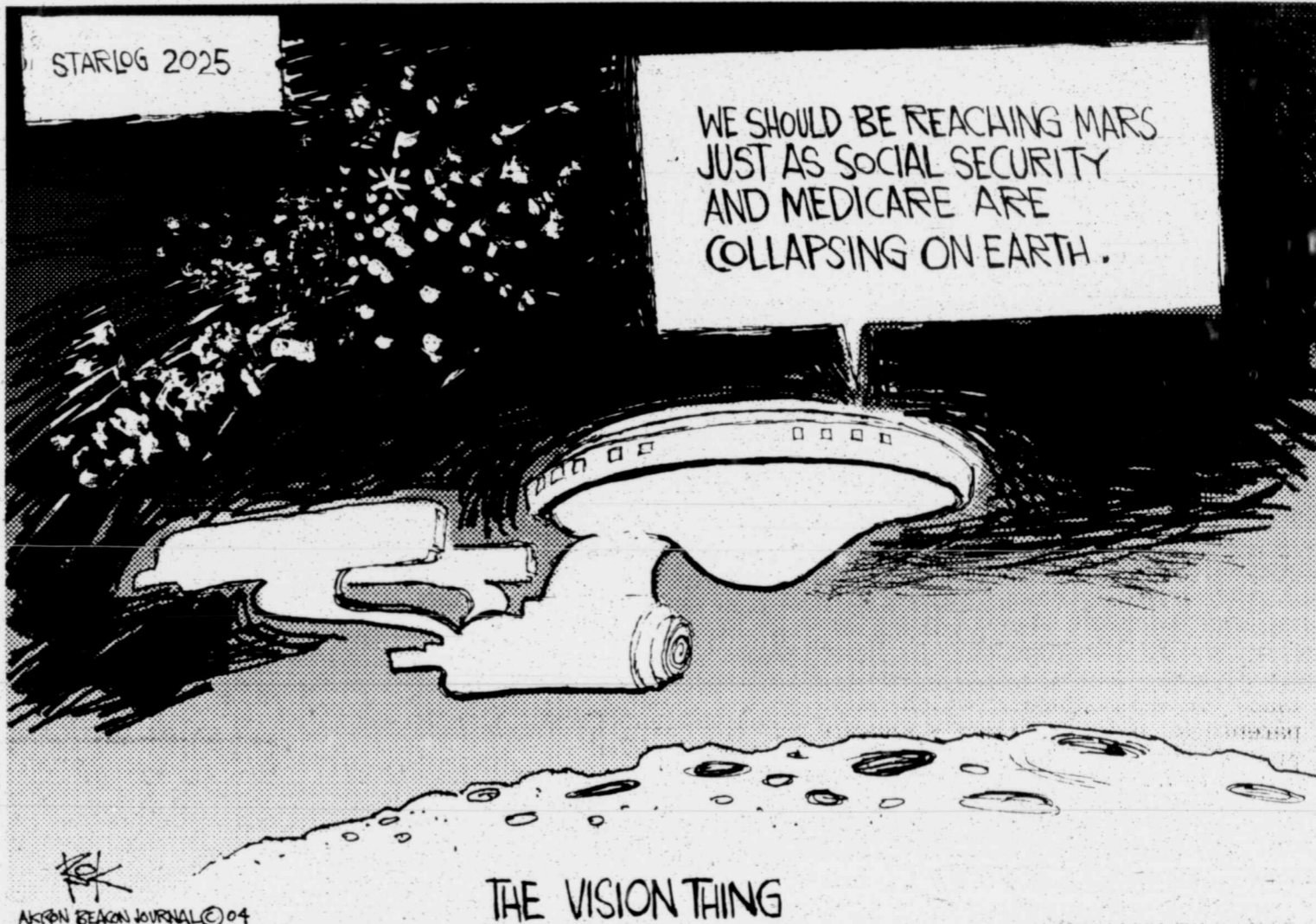
cized the opposition parties. It is no wonder that some of the first buildings to be destroyed were broadcasting stations. The comments heard on radio helped develop a hatred so fierce that it led to fighting. In defending their beliefs and platforms, party loyalists have nearly destroyed the country. If the war continues, there won't be much of a country left to govern.

"Both parties have created chaos in the military, turning service personnel into mercenaries, who brought with them dangerous arsenals. Terrorists from traditionally enemy nations have come to the U.S. to join in the fight. While their paychecks come from Democrats or Republicans, I can't help but believe they have designs of taking over the country.

"This war can't last much longer. There are just a few bombs and missiles left in the world.

"On the eve of this country's 300th anniversary, the United States' experiment in democracy seems to have been brought down from within.

"This is Pieter van Dyke for Radio Netherlands."



Follow the DNA and the answer is simple

Two years ago, (San Quentin Death-Row inmate Kevin) Cooper offered to drop his appeals and submit to execution if the DNA tests pointed to his guilt in four first-degree murder convictions for the 1983 slayings of chiropractors Peggy Ryen, Douglas Ryen, their 10-year-old daughter, Jessica, and their son's best friend, 11-year-old Christopher Hughes, the (Riverside) Press Enterprise reported in 2000.



DEBRA SAUNDERS

Lo and behold, in May 2001, the state agreed to DNA tests — and they ended up providing more proof that Cooper killed Hughes and the Ryens, then left 8-year-old Joshua Ryen with a slit throat that somehow didn't kill him.

Despite his declaration, no surprise, Cooper still is appealing. His latest set of lawyers have asked Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger to grant Cooper clemency, or a reprieve of his scheduled Feb. 10 execution, so that other tests that also are supposed to exonerate Cooper can be conducted.

This is a crime that never should have happened. It occurred after Cooper escaped from a Pennsylvania institution, then raped a teen-age girl who interrupted him during a burglary. Cooper fled to California, where he was arrested for two more burglaries. In June 1983, Cooper escaped a minimum-security facility, then hid for two days in an empty Chino Hills home that overlooked the Ryens' house. Prosecutors believe Cooper committed the murders so that he could steal their car, which turned up in Long Beach, as he escaped to Mexico.

During his 1985 trial, Cooper tes-

tified he had never entered the Ryen house. But the DNA tests showed that blood found in the home was his. Cooper had testified that he didn't drive the Ryen car. But investigators found Cooper's DNA on cigarette butts found in the Ryen car. Cooper's DNA was linked to blood found on a T-shirt, along with DNA from Douglas Ryen.

So now Cooper's advocates want to test for EDTA, a preservative used in test-tube blood, to see if police tampered with the evidence. Cooper's legal team also has called for testing of hairs found in Jessica Ryen's clenched hand. The blond hairs are supposed to prove Cooper, who is black, did not kill the Ryens.

But Senior Assistant Attorney General Dane Gillette points out that none of the hairs "were pulled out of a head. They're cut hair. A lot of them are animal hair."

Cooper's boosters point to early statements by Joshua Ryen that three men committed the crimes. Jurors heard the three-man theory, but decided to follow the evidence. Now some jurors have second thoughts. But when the case was fresh, they were unanimous.

A 1991 California Supreme Court ruling summed up the case against Cooper: "It is utterly unreasonable to suppose that, by coincidence, some hypothetical real killer chose this night and this locale to kill; that he entered (the neighbor's) house just after defendant left to retrieve the murder weapons, leaving the hatchet sheath in the bedroom defendant used; that he returned to the (neighbor's) house to shower; that he drove the Ryen station wagon in the same direction defendant used on his way to Mexico; and that he happened to wear prison issue tennis shoes like those of the defendant, happened to have the defendant's blood type, happened to have hair like the defendant's, happened to roll cigarettes with

the same distinctive prison issued tobacco and so forth."

That was the case before the DNA tests.

Cooper's lawyers' best argument is: What is the harm in conducting an EDTA test? Prosecutor Gillette notes problems with EDTA testing that came out during the O.J. Simpson case.

Milt Silverman, who represents Joshua Ryen, scoffed at the notion that police framed Cooper. "You mean before they went and took the picture (of the blood) in the hallway, they got Cooper's blood somehow. How could it be planted on the wall?" he asked.

Then there's the fact that if the test implicates Cooper — again — that inconvenient fact won't matter — again. At an editorial board meeting, I asked Cooper's lawyers if they would believe that Cooper is guilty and should be executed if the EDTA test shows no tampering. No one said yes, even to the first half of the question.

No incriminating evidence matters to them. There's always a new excuse.

They ask me: What motive did Cooper have to kill four strangers?

I ask them: What motive did he have to rape a teen-ager? And why would anyone kill the Ryens?

Cooper's supporters are so credulous, they wrote in a letter to Schwarzenegger, "It is imperative to note that it was Kevin Cooper who — years after his conviction — insisted on DNA testing. Mr. Cooper's request strongly suggests his belief in his innocence."

Hey, why not? With this crowd, Cooper had nothing to lose.

E-mail Debra J. Saunders at dsaunders@sfchronicle.com. To find out more about Debra J. Saunders, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at www.creators.com.

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Are w spoile

By MICHELLE

Knight Ridder
You've seen screaming Kamikaze kids issues on the cents with n 18.

And you're always being crankier spineless sap number of br

Talk to principals and tearful. Most t poorly than t even call it a disagree on t the absenteee ents, to the lo to the violer seen on TV sl

However, t agreement: M abandoned authoritarian but they hav footed way t children th right.

"I'm not s thing," says Santa Clara, C er of three. "I as children u supervision v disciplined, but too far in the I encroach o people."

Child-rearin parents' ins agree on how And new par up every year

Spanking i good. Teach early and use stifle your yelling is ov one research chological ag

"There's t there," says parent educat Place on the parenting cla pushing mo because ther authority. Th enting harder

Parenting a to play a gr children, say pal of Britton Hill, Calif. "S fused about v in terms of ourselves, as roles of parer

So what is ambivalence Robert Shaw trist and au book, thinks shores of sa when the "e began. "Theh viction that y your kids," S

"The most j ents aren't right," he say ing — What ing for the being. They inner guidan

Of course, (disagree. M another autl thinks peopl too much an trying to so young," she s that childre adults."

Some say to parenting ty rigidity — (upbringing t between polk what parenti



Are we raising a generation of spoiled, out-of-control children?

By MICHELLE QUINN

Knights Ridder Newspapers

You've seen them. Terrorist toddlers screaming at the supermarket. Kamikaze kindergartners with anger issues on the playground. Surly adolescents with no respect for anyone over 18.

And you've wondered: Have kids always been this way and I'm just getting crankier? Or are today's parents spineless saps producing an inordinate number of brats?

Talk to parenting experts, school principals and teachers and you'll get an earful. Most think children behave more poorly than they did in the past — some even call it a crisis in discipline — but disagree on why. Theories range from the absenteeism of working parents, to the loosening of morals, to the violence and flippancy seen on TV shows.

However, there's one area of agreement: Many parents have abandoned the top-down, authoritarian style of past eras, but they haven't found a sure-footed way to discipline their children that always seems right.

"I'm not sure about everything," says Kandi Praska, a Santa Clara, Calif., single mother of three. "I'm looking at them as children under my care and supervision who need to be disciplined, but I don't want to go too far in the discipline so that I encroach on who they are as people."

Child-rearing experts add to parents' insecurity. No two agree on how to raise children. And new parenting theories pop up every year.

Spanking is bad. Spanking is good. Teach your child the word "no" early and use it often. Saying "no" will stifle your child's creativity. Even yelling is over-analyzed. According to one researcher recently, yelling is "psychological aggression."

"There's too much information out there," says Karen Friedland-Brown, parent education coordinator at Parent's Place on the Peninsula, which offers parenting classes. "And maybe kids are pushing more and pushing harder because there aren't models of extreme authority. That's good, but it makes parenting harder."

Parenting angst leaves schools having to play a greater role in disciplining children, says James McDonald, principal of Britton Middle School in Morgan Hill, Calif. "Some parents are very confused about what they can and can't do in terms of discipline. We're finding ourselves, as a school, taking on the roles of parents."

So what is at the root of parental ambivalence over disciplining? Dr. Robert Shaw, a Berkeley child psychiatrist and author of a new parenting book, thinks American parents left the shores of sanity in the 1960s. That's when the "epidemic," as he calls it, began. "There's a lot of intellectual conviction that you shouldn't over-regulate your kids," Shaw says.

"The most pernicious part is that parents aren't doing what they feel is right," he says. "They are always thinking — What ought I do? They are looking for the politically correct way of being. They are alienated from their inner guidance system."

Of course, other child-rearing experts disagree. Martha Heineman Pieper, another author of a parenting book, thinks people discipline their children too much and too harshly. "They are trying to socialize children way too young," she says. "It's based on the idea that children should act like mini-adults."

Some say today's parents pick extreme parenting styles, from permissiveness to rigidity — often in response to the upbringing they had. Others whipsaw between poles (perhaps depending on what parenting advice book or article

they read that day). Many just go with their instincts, eschew consistency and yet wonder if they should have some overarching philosophy to follow.

And maybe a middle-of-the-road approach has some benefits. "Parents are too permissive in the name of love and too controlling in the name of love," says Jane Nelsen, author of "Positive Discipline."

"The key is to be kind and firm at the same time," she says.

But that reasonable advice doesn't always jump to mind in the trenches. Praska, a library assistant, doesn't have someone at home she can talk to about discipline.

When one daughter whined and talked back recently, Praska sent her to her



Photo by Patrick Tehan/SAN JOSE MERCURY NEWS
Stacy Castle Pietrzak instructs her stepson, Chase Cowen, 14, to help her set the dinner table in their San Jose, Calif., home in January, 2004. Castle Pietrzak has a different philosophy on discipline from her husband, Michael.

room. But then came the worries. Maybe she made a mistake. Maybe her daughter was trying to communicate something was wrong. "I don't want to hurt her," Praska says.

Second-guessing is, of course, just another job hazard of parenting these days. Self-doubt often hits outside of the home, where parenting can turn into a spectator sport — the public watching the live event of a child's meltdown and how it's handled.

Not surprisingly, parents are often on the defensive, especially in public settings. "When I started as a principal, I would call a parent and they would thank me and be right here to help with the discipline," McDonald says. "Now there's a growing number who say, 'It's got to be the teacher's fault.' Or, 'It's not true.'"

In the San Jose, Calif., home of the Castle Pietrzaks, two parenting philosophies are at work and sometimes at odds. There is common ground: Both parents are opposed to spanking, prefer the term "consequences" to "punishments," and want their children to feel they can speak up.

But there are differences. "She believes that fear has no place in a relationship between a child and a parent," says Michael Castle Pietrzak, the father and a painting contractor. "I believe in healthy fear."

Stacy Castle Pietrzak, the mother and director of parent education at the YWCA of Santa Clara Valley, puts their differences this way: She believes children should be controlled and restricted most at the youngest age and given bits of freedom as they get older. Her husband thinks the opposite — young children should be indulged until they show signs of understanding. Older children need to be reined in, given clear rules with consequences.

These two parenting beliefs sometimes collide, with the couple's three older children, ages 10, 12 and 14, from Stacy's first marriage and with their 16-month-old daughter. The older kids, Michael thinks, need more guidance. And "with the youngest, what my husband thinks is cute, I don't think is cute," Stacy says.

HOWARD COUNTY LIBRARY

Warm up with a good book

Don't let winter get you down. Hurry to the library for the latest new reads. Arthur fans, there are two new chapter books of your favorite aardvark — "Arthur and 1,001 Dads" and "Arthur Plays the Blues."



KAREN MCINTYRE

Arthur and friends are worried about Buster because ever since the divorce his Dad isn't around. How can they enjoy the Father's Day picnic when they are so worried? Read "Arthur and the 1,001 Dads" and see how the gang solves their problem. Arthur is learning the piano — or is he? His piano teacher is really not impressed when he shows up for his second lesson and he hasn't practiced. Find out why "Arthur Plays the Blues" in this twenty-ninth chapter book by Marc Brown.

Horse lovers, there are three more volumes in the Lucy Daniels series "The Horseshoe Trilogies." Josie needs to find new homes for her three horses and each book is about one horse.

"In Good Faith," Josie is happy that Faith has a good home with Jill, but since her accident Jill hasn't been able to ride. Can Faith and Jill, with a little help from Josie, pull off a win at the

horse show?

Book five, "Where There's Hope," finds Josie's horse Hope living not far from her at the Friendship House School. Can Josie remember the horse isn't hers any longer and let someone else be in charge?

"Charity at Home" finds Josie desperately looking for a new pasture for Charity. Will the neighbor's field work, or will their young daughter's fear drive both Josie and Charity away?

Where do you find the name of famous owls? What's a fisherman's favorite game? What bear is white, cuddly and has curls? Give up? You can find the answers in Lori Miller Fox's book "Riddle Riot." "Oodles of Riddles," by the same author, asks these crazy questions: How do scarecrows drink milk shakes? What do catchers eat off of?

Why did the computer have to go to the hospital? Nope, sorry I won't give away the answers, you'll just have to come check out the books!

How do you mix together werewolves, vampires, mad scientists, wizards, ghosts, ancient curses, giant frogs, evil clones, fallen angels, zombie warriors and two clever kids in whose hands rest the fate of the Earth? Just add water! Or in this case just read Bruce Coville's "The Monsters of Morley Manor." In this off-the-wall book,

Anthony and his sister must find a way to stop what "a little drop of water" started. A strange, but humorous science fiction book for more advanced readers.

Last, but definitely not least, the latest Newbery winner has been announced and it's a gem! Kate DiCamillo's "The Tale of Despereaux: being the story of a mouse, a princess, some soup and a spool of thread," is a charming fairy tale. Despereaux, a tinier than average mouse, is the main character of the book. Unlike the other mice that live to eat he is looking for the beauty in the world. Whether it is the sweet sound of music or a beautiful painting, Despereaux appreciates it all. A princess, a rat and a serving girl round out the cast of unforgettable characters and it is the reader's destiny to find out what happens to their lives. Don't miss this one! Kate DiCamillo is also the author of the book "Because of Winn-Dixie."

Library hours are: Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. The video/computer room closes 30 minutes before closing each day. The library is located at 500 Main Street. The phone number is (432) 264-2260. Don't forget our Wednesday Story Time at 10 a.m.

Karen McIntyre, children's librarian, is this week's guest columnist.

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FEBRUARY 4, 2004

Tomorrow's Horoscope

BY JOYCE JILLSON
The moon is void of course until it enters Leo this afternoon. The listless feeling may be hard to shake, but you can get something out of embracing it. There's a tendency to want to define emotions that are too difficult and perhaps pointless to define. They'll change in a matter of moments, and the best thing to do is roll with them.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Your self-confidence convinces everyone around you that your idea is a winner. What you think are hard, fast rules may only be guidelines. Others back down once they see how passionate you are about doing it your way.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Spontaneity is the word. Let go of control, and let the day take you where it will. At work, you expertly draw from



Joyce Jillson

obsure resources to pull plans together. That's how you get the reputation for being a genius.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). If you want to be very productive, shut the door, and get down to business. Your desire and passion will eventually make you very wealthy, as well as socially appealing. Scope out ways to turn your ambition into profit.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You will be the architect of a successful project that will transform your reputation. Hire help before you get overwhelmed with work. If stress is still a problem, yoga is helpful in relaxing both your muscles and your mind.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Opportunities are plentiful, and the results are up to you. Initiative and enthusiasm will be the determining factor of your success. Make a dramatic presentation; you'll be a hit at meetings. Take a partner's wishes to heart.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Business flourishes under decisive action, but

first, do the research. This is a stellar day for those connected to the creative arts and to businesses related to them. Teamwork should go well, despite big egos involved.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Friends encourage you with timely words. This support makes a huge difference now, when others are evaluating your performance. Keep on your toes. New equipment makes work easy and could later make you rich!

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Your skills are honed. You are impeccable when that's what's called for. Your action shows where your commitment lies, and this is also true of those around you. This is not a time to believe word of mouth.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). It's true that people can be thoughtless, but don't stew. Speak openly about your feelings. A love relationship improves when you finally commit. Grown children still need you. Luck involves a commission.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Since you work and play at such a fevered pitch, you need lulls in your life so you don't burn yourself out. Slow down. Appearances don't show the whole picture. A Sagittarius tips you off to money luck.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). A practical task you put off or got distracted from last week is waiting. Tackle it, and dispatch it with ease. Use your contacts. Your charm is on the increase, so the camaraderie you thrive on is abundant.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). People want to be accepted, and your approval could make all the difference. You've charmed a romantic hopeful, but this might not please a rival for the same territory. Regarding finances, hold on to what you've got.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "Can you tell me about my boyfriend, who was born Oct. 1, 1964? I was born Dec. 21, 1970. We've both been in bad marriages but we're happy to be

free of, and we bonded over the pain of getting over our exes. We were neighbors who became friends and then became lovers. Can we become more?"

By now, a few months after the arrival of your letter, you are no doubt aware that the relationship you share with this man is a wonderful friendship and a sympathetic platonic bond. You are lucky for each other and give each other confidence, encouragement and strength. But with Mars and Venus at odds in your comparative charts, you are unlikely to have much chemistry as a married couple. Sharing separate lives is great, but when these two try to live together, their basic ways of living usually present too many problems. You love to control things in your own special way -- and so does he, in his own special and very different way. However, you may meet new romance through socializing with each other. And you could bring each other fame

and fortune in the professional world.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Aquarius people like to think of themselves as boundless and are not concerned with doing things the way they have been done in the past. Perhaps that is why boxer Oscar De La Hoya thought nothing of putting out a pop music CD and knocking girls out with his music at the same time he was knocking guys out with his punches. To Aquarius, your role in life isn't defined by a title but by individual choices.

If you would like to write to Joyce Jillson, please go to www.creators.com and click on "Write the Author" on the Joyce Jillson page, or you may send her a postcard in the mail. To find out more about Joyce Jillson and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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Annie's Mailbox ®: Advice for those in need

Dear Annie: I am a 14-year-old boy living in the Midwest. I am a big fan of the politically charged band "Rage Against the Machine." Even though the band broke up, I still like their music. The problem is, their CDs have "Parental Advisory" warnings on them because of bad language. My parents do not allow me to buy these CDs, yet I am permitted to see and buy R-rated movies with the same words. I do not swear at all, and don't plan on starting, but my parents still think these CDs somehow will be bad for me.

I have looked high and low for edited or "clean" versions of these CDs but have not found any. I don't see what is wrong with buying their music, but my parents do. Please tell me what's right. — Kid in the Midwest

Dear Midwest: Perhaps your parents disagree with "Rage's" politics, but they are being hypocritical if the only complaint is that the band uses foul language.

Some rock bands use their freedom of expression to espouse hatred and violence, and the truth is, the music you regularly listen to has a greater effect on your attitude than you might think. That label rating is one way for parents to determine if the music has such objectionable



KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

material in it -- but it's not the only way. Talk to your parents about the band. Let them hear the music or read the lyrics. You are old enough to learn how to make responsible decisions on your own, but for now, the final word belongs to your folks.

Dear Annie: My mother went to dinner last week with several other senior citizens because it was one lady's birthday. The birthday girl selected the restaurant, and it was understood that everyone would pay for her own meal. The birthday girl ordered flowers and handed them out to everyone.

When it was time for the bill, the restaurant refused to divide it up between 15 patrons, so everyone figured out their own portion of the meal and tip. They passed their money to the birthday girl, who put the tab

on her credit card. Here's the problem. When the money was counted, there was a little extra left over. One person suggested each guest get a bit of the money back. The birthday girl, however, became angry, saying the others should have offered to pay for her meal (they did not). Therefore, she thought she should keep the extra money as reimbursement for the flowers.

My mother is upset over the dissension the incident has caused. What do you think of this mess? — Lexington, S.C.

Dear Lexington: How much money was left over? It would have been both generous and appropriate to give the extra cash to the birthday girl as a treat to cover the cost of her meal (not as reimbursement for the flowers -- the flowers were gifts to her friends). If the extra cash was a substantial amount per person,

however, the money should have been refunded.

Dear Annie: I recently read with great interest the letters about "dumper diving" (aka treasure hunting).

Perhaps your readers would be amused to learn that I have won a Hawaiian vacation for two (valued at \$9,600) on someone else's discarded Vermont State Lottery ticket that I found in the trash. This was a losing ticket that I entered in a Recycle and Win, Second Chance Drawing -- and I won. — R.H., Huntington, Vt.

Dear R.H.: We are impressed with your luck -- and your willingness to sift through other people's garbage for treasures. Congratulations.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail

your questions to annies-mailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, P.O. Box 118190, Chicago, IL 60611. To find out more about Annie's Mailbox, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers

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SI

Leina Braxton driving during the fourth Steers' loss to Fr

Tiger outlast Steers again

By TOMMY WEI Sports Editor

The Freshmen walked off the 5 floor Tuesday thrilled about things, including win over the E Steers that clinched the team's post-season berth.

Perhaps the best son for the Tiger was the knowledge wouldn't have a Spring again has been forced from deficits in their victories Steers this year.

Big Spring pushed Freshmen to brink earlier than didn't waste any taking the game Tigers. Brandon and Jordan C knocked down in the first 1:30 and handed Big 3-2 cushion.

The Steers were finished. West staked BSHS advantage at mark of the first by pushing it around jump eight-feet away.

The Tigers, in a tie for second in the District found its groove there. Freshmen seven unanswered over the entire minutes and clock 5 lead.

C.J. Lowe Michael Ornal didn't let them expand their more. Lowery Steers to within 7, with a layout and the on as Ornal.

See STEERS, Pa

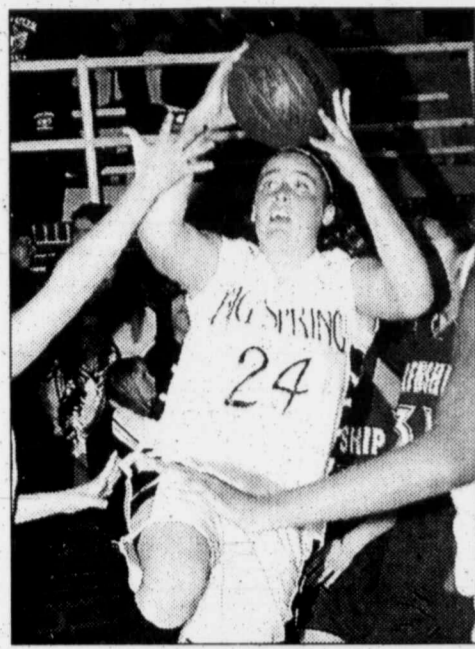
Bulldo past B

By BRANDON I Special to the FORSAN year makes.

This time la Buffaloes were the District Coahoma Bulldogs scratching the hunt.

Fast forward Bulldogs are the district or the Buffaloes during a 64-34 win the last meeting County rivals, at least two years Coahoma ga inside Buffalo

See 3-2A, Page



Herald Photo/Tommy Wells
Leina Braxton drives to the basket during the fourth quarter of the Lady Steers' loss to Frenship.

Lady Tigers clinch playoff berth

By TOMMY WELLS
Sports Editor

Ashleigh Brady scored 18 points and Erica Knight chipped in 13 more Tuesday night and helped the Frenship Lady Tigers clinch a berth in the class 4A state playoffs with an 81-51 victory over the Big Spring Lady Steers.

With the win, Frenship ran its District 4-4A record to 7-1 with two games remaining in the regular season. A win Friday night over Andrews would give the Lady Tigers, 23-6 overall, at least a share of the 4-4A crown. Big Spring, coming off an emotional win over San Angelo Lake View last week, slipped to 1-7 and 6-18

overall.

"We played better this time," said Big Spring head coach Gary Miller. "We looked better this time around."

The Lady Steers actually controlled the tempo early. Junior forward Alex Watkins and sophomore Carmen Lewis staked Big Spring to a quick 4-0 advantage with a pair of clutch efforts in the first 1:12 of play. After Watkins had opened the scoring with a shot from inside the paint, Lewis converted both ends of a two-shot free throw opportunity.

Frenship managed to answer back, cutting the BSHS lead to 5-4 before Leina Braxton hit stride. The Big Spring senior took a pass from Elida Rodriguez on a

fast break and pushed in a easy layup for a stunning 7-4 advantage with 3:35 left in the first period.

The Lady Tigers, an 86-56 winner in their first matchup with the Lady Steers, got their offense untracked seconds later. Frenship reeled off a 7-0 run over the ensuing two minutes and built a 14-7 ledger with 1:11 left in the quarter.

Holding a 14-8 lead at the start of the second quarter, Frenship continued to wield the hot hand. The Lady Tigers scored the first 13 points of the period and streaked to a 29-8 lead.

Frenship's 13-0 run capped an seven-minute span in which the

IN BRIEF

Lady Steers to face faculty in first bout

The Big Spring Lady Steers will unofficially open their 2004 season with a "Meet the Lady Steers" rag ball game against the Big Spring High School faculty at 2 p.m. Saturday at the Lady Steers Softball Complex.

The BSSH softball boosters will also be holding a hamburger feed at noon as a fundraiser. Persons purchasing a \$5 meal ticket will automatically be entered into a "Big Spring Steers" quilt giveaway.

Tickets for the event can be purchased from any BSHS player or from Kay Cook at the high school ATC.

Little League officials set to meet Feb. 8

Big Spring Little League officials will hold a community meeting Sunday to elect officers and coaches for the 2004 season.

The meeting is scheduled to begin at 3:30 p.m. at the Howard County Library building.

Persons interested in an office or serving as coaches should attend the meeting.

Hawks to host Frank Phillips Thursday

The Howard College men's basketball team will host Frank Phillips College Thursday in the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

The HC men, 13-6 and 3-2, will begin play at 8 p.m. The HC women will begin their WJAC encounter at 6 p.m.

YMCA swim team spots available

The Big Spring Family YMCA swim team has positions open.

To be eligible to participate as a member of the swim team, athletes must be at least six years of age and able to swim two lengths of the pool with proper rotary breathing. Swimmers are responsible for annual USS registration, all entry fees and equipment and all transportation.

For more information call Dolline Budke at 264-8252 or 263-4505.

Ten Star seeking all-star applications

Applications are being accepted for the Ten Star All-Star Summer Basketball Camp. Boys and girls ages 10-19 are eligible.

For more information call (704) 373-0873.

BSCC to hold 4-man scramble on Feb. 28

The Big Spring Country Club will hold a 4-Person Scramble on Feb. 28-29 beginning with a 1 p.m. shotgun start on both days. Entry fee is \$75 per player plus golf cart. Private carts are welcome.

For more information call the BSCC pro shop at (432) 267-5354.

ON THE AIR

Sports Broadcast Schedule	
Feb. 4	
Event, Time	Station
Mavericks vs. New Orleans, 6:30 p.m.	1490
Feb. 5	
Event, Time	Station
Lady Hawks vs. Frank Phillips, 5:45 p.m.	1490
Hawks vs. Frank Phillips, 7:50 p.m.	1490

Tigers outlast Steers again

By TOMMY WELLS
Sports Editor

The Frenship Tigers walked off the Steer Gym floor Tuesday night thrilled about several things, including a 61-49 win over the Big Spring Steers that all but clinched the team another postseason bid.

Perhaps the biggest reason for the Tigers' smile was the knowledge they wouldn't have to face Big Spring again. Frenship has been forced to rally from deficits in both of their victories over the Steers this year.

Big Spring, which pushed Frenship to the brink earlier this season, didn't waste any time in taking the game to the Tigers. Brandon Hughes and Jordan Cobb both knocked down key shots in the first 1:57 of play and handed Big Spring a 3-2 cushion.

The Steers were hardly finished. Wesley Smith staked BSHS to a 5-2 advantage at the 5:40 mark of the first quarter by pushing in a turnaround jumper from eight-feet away.

The Tigers, now 4-2 and in a tie for second place in the District 4-4A race, found its groove from there. Frenship reeled off seven unanswered points over the ensuing two minutes and claimed a 9-5 lead.

C.J. Lowery and Michael Ornales-Doportito didn't let the Tigers' expand their lead any more. Lowery pulled the Steers to within two at 9-7, with a breakaway layup and then watched on as Ornales-Doportito

See STEERS, Page 2B

Bulldogettes expect to keep win streak alive this year

By BRANDON HALLFORD
Special to the Herald

When you talk to Coahoma Bulldogettes' softball coach Robbie Dickenson you don't get the impression of a man that is all that concerned about having to replace more than half of the starters from his squad that finished as the Class 2A state runnerup last year.

To the contrary, he acts more like an old riverboat gambler who has a few aces left up his sleeve.

"We have some really good talent coming up," said Dickenson, who began practice for the upcoming season Monday. "We have a good feeder program here and that helps."

In all, the Bulldogettes must find a way to replace four seniors lost to graduation, including District 3-2A MVP Ashley Lange.

One person that Dickenson hopes can step up and help fill the void will be transfer Kaleigh Roberts, who lived in Coahoma five years ago, before moving to Sonora.

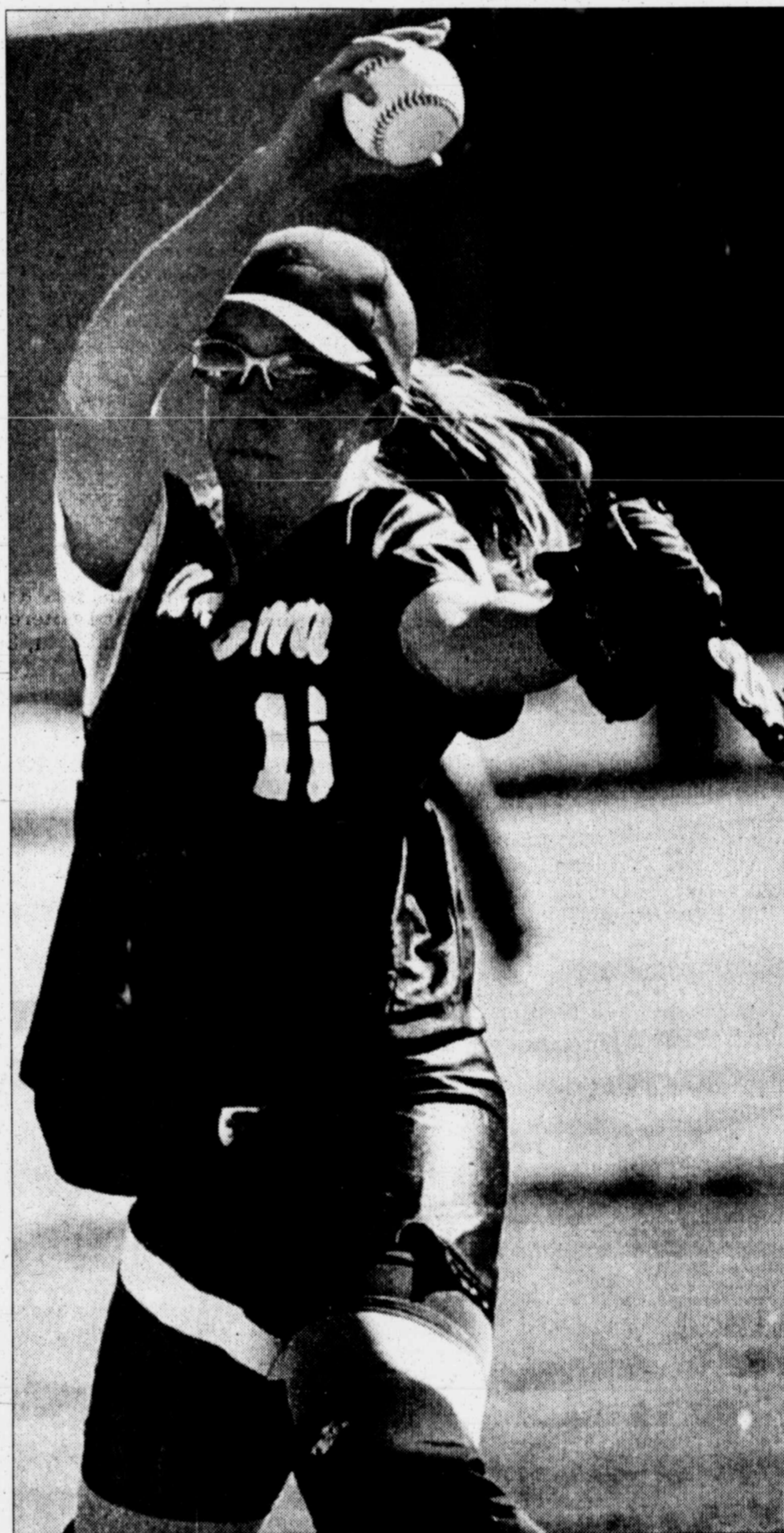
Kaleigh will not be the only Roberts on the field this season as her mom, Shanna, will assist in the coaching duties.

One thing that Dickenson is positive of this year is his Bulldogettes have one of the state's best pitchers toeing the rubber in sophomore Sarah Dunn.

All Dunn accomplished in her freshman season was to carry Coahoma through the playoffs after a late season injury sidelined fellow CHS starter Mandy Walker. Dunn won four straight games before dropping the state title game to Weimar, 6-0.

See COAHOMA, Page 3B

Still the One



Herald Photo/Tommy Wells
The Coahoma Bulldogettes will try and ride the arm of sophomore Sarah Dunn back to the state tournament this season. Dunn led the team to the state finals last season.



DICKENSON

Bulldogs storm past Buffaloes

By BRANDON HALLFORD
Special to the Herald

FORSAN — What a difference a year makes.

This time last season, the Forsan Buffaloes were well on their way to the District 3-2A title while the Coahoma Bulldogs were busy scratching their way into the playoff hunt.

Fast forward to Tuesday night: The Bulldogs are battling for a share of the district crown while adding to the Buffaloes disappointment by taking a 64-34 win in a bout that will be the last meeting between the Howard County rivals in district play — for at least two years.

Coahoma gave the packed house inside Buffalo gymnasium a preview

See 3-2A, Page 2B



KRT photo
The NFL has said it will change its policy on halftime shows after the racy performance by Janet Jackson and Justin Timberlake.

NFL left red-faced after R-rated halftime show

By HANK GOLA

New York Daily News

HOUSTON (KRT) — NFL officials said Monday they were embarrassed that Super Bowl XXXVIII became the first to have needed a parental warning.

Commissioner Paul Tagliabue delivered a stern rebuke of the MTV-produced halftime show that ended with Janet Jackson's breast on display for a huge national TV audience. League spokesman Greg Aiello also admitted that a "security lapse" had allowed a professional streaker to delay the sec-

ond-half kickoff while he did a jig on the field.

"It's troubling," Aiello said.

The trouble started at the climax of a sexually charged halftime show that was a long way from the Al Hirt-Pete Fountain performances of Super Bowl infancy. After singing the words, "I'll get you naked by the end of this song," teen heartthrob Justin Timberlake reached across Jackson's chest and ripped off half her top, exposing her right breast, complete with some sort of solar medallion pastie.

After the smoke literal- See SHOW, Page 2B

FEBRUARY 4, 2004

STEERS

Continued from Page 1B

punched out an eight-footer from the baseline to knot the score at 9-9 with 3:05 to play in the first quarter.

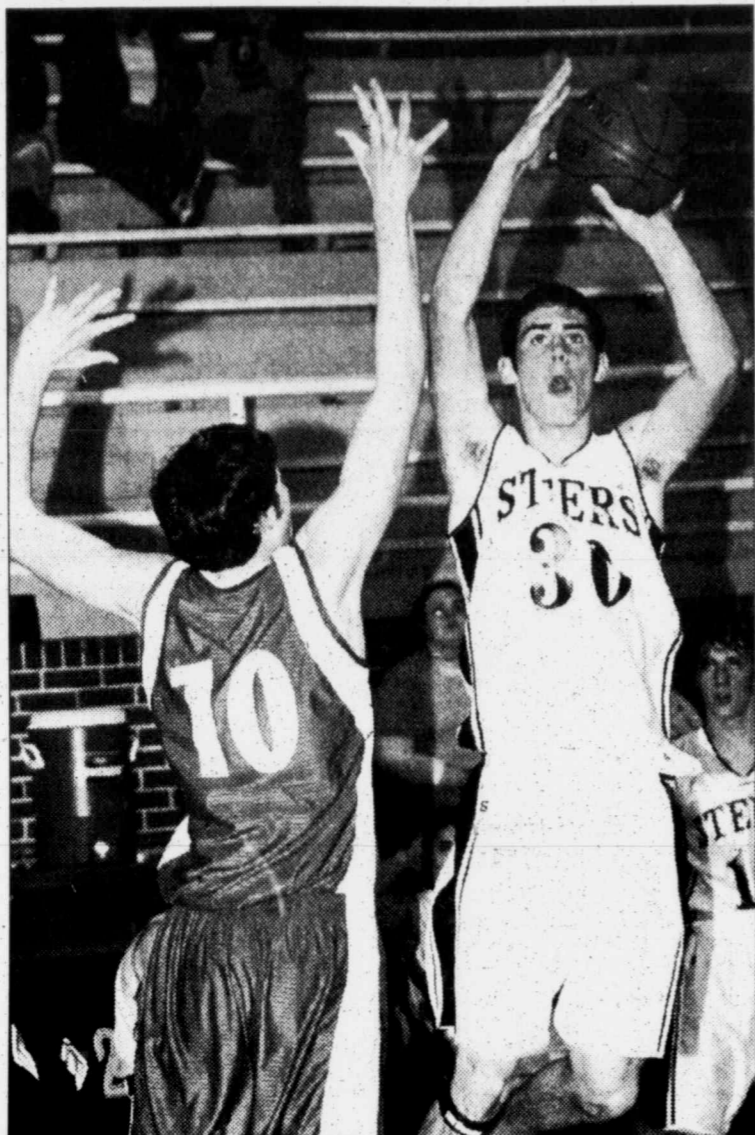
Blake Sutton looked as if he would enable the Tigers to go into the second with the momentum seconds later. He pushed Frenship's lead to 14-11 at the 1:22 mark by coming away with a steal and going the distance for a basket and a foul.

Cobb had other ideas, however. The Steers' leading scorer this fall, he buried a three-point attempt from the right corner with 32 seconds left in the frame to tie the game at 14-14. Senior Erin Partee set up Cobb's heroics by pulling down a

District 4-4A
Boys Standings

Team	Overall	District
Estacado	24	4
Frenship	11	14
Andrews	20	5
Lake View	11	16
Levelland	2	4
Big Spring	0	6

Tuesday's Results — Frenship 61, Big Spring 49; Estacado 67, Lake View 29; Andrews d. Levelland.



Big Spring senior Brandon Hughes shoots over the top of a Frenship defender during the second half Tuesday night. The Steers, 4-22 for the year, will host Lubbock Estacado in the Steer Gym.

defensive rebound. The Tigers' fortunes didn't get any easier in the second. After trading quick baskets, Ornales-Doportto handed the Steers the upper hand with 7:04 to play in the half by taking a backdoor pass from Cobb in for a layup and an 18-16 lead.

The Tigers, now 11-14 overall, rallied back, however. The Tigers reeled off an 8-0 spree midway through the second and built a 26-20 lead.

The Steers battled back to within five, at 28-23, at

the half. Frenship managed to put a little distance between themselves and the Steers in the third. Sutton scored 10 of his team-high 15 points in the frame and keyed a 16-10 run in the first eight minutes of the second half.

Smith led Big Spring in the third, scoring five of his 13 points in the frame — including a shot at the 7:22 mark that cut the Steers' deficit to 28-25.

Cobb and Smith both turned in solid efforts in

the fourth quarter, scoring five points apiece in the stanza.

Cobb finished the contest as Big Spring's top scorer, netting 14 points. Ornales-Doportto also reached double figures with 11.

Jaime Villanueva tied Sutton for the high mark in scoring with 15.

Big Spring, now 4-22 for the season and 0-6 in District 4-4A play, will host the Estacado Matadors Friday at the Steer Gym.

Coahoma keep playoff hopes alive with win over Lady Buffs

By BRANDON HALLFORD
Special to the Herald

FORSAN — The Coahoma Bulldogettes knew coming into their match up with the Forsan Lady Buffaloes they could ill afford an off night if they expected to remain in the race for one of the three District 3-2A playoff berths.

Thus, a win, even it was ugly, was important.

It wasn't the prettiest win but it was a win all the same as the Bulldogettes used a game-high 16 points from Miranda Hester to claim a 44-36 win over the Lady Buffs Tuesday night.

With the victory, Coahoma moves to 4-4 in District 3-2A play with two games remaining in the regular season.

The Bulldogettes looked as if they were going to bury the Lady Buffs early. Coahoma jumped out to a quick 9-2 lead six minutes into the contest before Forsan managed to hit stride.

Baskets on consecutive trips down the court by Forsan's Lacy Eggleston and Haylea Belew cut the deficit to three.

Coahoma's Lauren Yeater put a screeching halt to the Lay Buffs' charge by pushing home a shot to make the score 11-5 heading into the second stanza.

The second quarter resembled a free-throw shooting contest more than a basketball game. The two teams combined to make a staggering 19 trips to the charity stripe during the eight minute span with Forsan hitting 5-of-11 while the Bulldogettes converted 4-of-8.

With the score standing at 13-9, Lady Buffs' senior Misty McGuire hit a short

jumper with 5:03 remaining in the half to pull Forsan to within two.

That was as close as Forsan could get, however. The Bulldogettes went on a 6-2 run over the rest of the quarter to stake themselves to a 19-13 advantage at the break.

The Lady Buffs proved they could hang around for the long haul, though. McGuire converted on Forsan's first possession of the third and ignited a 9-2 run over the first four minutes of the third.

After a turnover by CHS on its next possession, Audra Bailey pulled the Lady Buffs to within one, at 19-18, with a basket with just over a minute gone in the frame.

A Coahoma basket by freshman Callie Paige extended the Bulldogette lead to three until Bailey and McGuire gave Forsan its only lead of the game. Bailey hit a short jumper and then watched on as McGuire took a pass from Cynthia Beccera inside for an easy bucket that gave Forsan a 22-21 lead.

A pair of buckets by Yeater and Sterling Gee put Coahoma back on top to stay.

Vickie Cortez took the partisan Forsan crowd out of the game minutes

later. The 5-foot-3 junior launched a three-point attempt that caught nothing but net.

Bailey gave the Forsan faithful hope. She heaved up a trey from 10-feet behind the arc as time expired to draw the Lady Buffs back to within three heading into the fourth quarter.

Yeater and Hester took over from there. The two combined to hit 7-of-8 from the line combined during the fourth.

Yeater joined Hester in double figures for Coahoma with 12 points. Gee added six.

Bailey paced the Lady Buffs, torching the Bulldogettes for nine while McGuire tallied seven. Staci Borel and Cynthia Beccera both finished with four.

In sub-varsity action, Forsan took a 32-29 decision over the Bulldogettes.

Coahoma had rallied from a 19-12 deficit at the half to tie the game at 21-21 heading into the third.

Bulldogette Tasha Casillas claimed game-high honors with 11, while Forsan led by Marissa McDonald and Shiloh Sanders with seven and five, respectively.

Third-ranked Wildcats capture 7-A championship

The Grady Wildcats nailed down the District 7-A basketball crown Tuesday night by reeling off a 58-38 win over the Sands Mustangs in Ackerly.

With the win, the No. 3-ranked Wildcats ran their season record to 25-1 and improved to 8-0 in loop play. Sands fell to 4-4 in 7-A action.

Jason Pribyla led all Grady scores in the contest by pouring in 23 points. Nick Winford and Trent May also hit double figures, scoring 16 and 10, respectively.

Sands was keyed by the play of junior Cevan Smithson and senior Brandon Woods. Smith finished with 11 points. Woods added nine.

3-2A

Continued from Page 1B

of what was to come as they hit nine of their 11 shots in the first eight minutes and exploded to a 19-6 lead.

The Buffs made a run in the second. Forsan put together a 7-4 spree to begin the second and pulled to within 10, at 23-13, with just over four minutes remaining in the half.

Coahoma answered right back, however. The Bulldogs ripped off an 11-3 run over the rest of the stanza to hold a 34-16 lead going into the intermission.

The third quarter looked the same as the first half for the Bulldogs. Behind a solid team defense, Coahoma outscored the Buffaloes by a 15-10 spree during the frame and extended its lead to 49-26 heading into the final eight minutes.

Coahoma put any doubt to rest early in the fourth

by ripping off an 8-2 run that ballooned its lead to 29, at 57-28.

After a Josh Helmstetler basket made the score 57-30 at the four minute mark of the fourth, Coahoma made its final run, scoring seven unanswered points before Helmstetler finished off the scoring by hitting four straight from the charity stripe.

Kelby Kemper ignited the Bulldog attack. The 6-foot-3 senior poured in a game-high 17, while teammate Sam Tindol added 15. Tyler Fowler and Clint Walker joined Kemper and Tindol in double figures going for 12 and 10, respectively.

Forsan was led by 15 points by Helmstetler. Johnathan Wright added

nine. With the win, Coahoma moves to 5-1 in loop play. Forsan falls to 0-6.

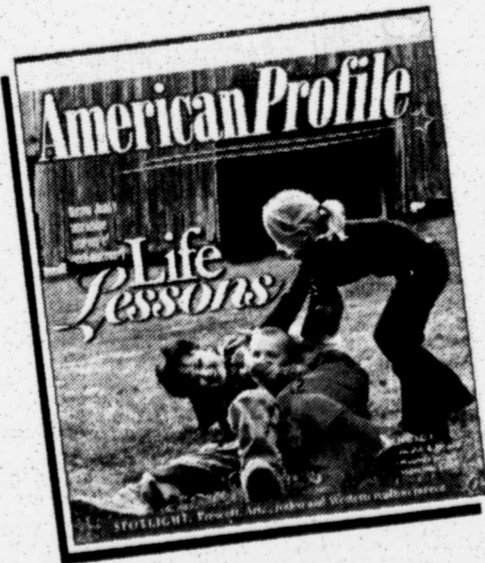
In junior varsity action, Forsan claimed a measure of revenge as Bryce Lopez heaved up a three-point shot at the buzzer to propel the Buffs to the 31-30 victory.

Forsan, which trailed 12-1 after one quarter of play, chipped away at the Bulldogs' lead a little each quarter and trailed 29-23 with just a little over three minutes left in the contest.

Lopez paced the Buffaloes attack with 11 — all of which came in the final quarter of play. Trey Paradez finished in double figures with 10.

Terrell Bibb led Coahoma with eight.

In Sunday's Big Spring Herald



Naomi shares her life lessons

To Naomi Judd, living the good life these days has little to do with the fame and fortune that came with being half of the country duo The Judds. Rather, according to Judd, it has everything to do with the choices under our control.

American Profile
Celebrating Hometown Life

SHOW

Continued from Page 1B

ly cleared, professional stalker Mark Francis Roberts of Liverpool, England, made his entrance. Wearing an official's uniform, he sprinted onto the field, then peeled off a tear-away costume. Clad only in a G-string and a painted-on ad for an online betting service, he danced for 30 seconds as stunned members of both teams looked on. Eventually security rushed onto the field and brought down the interloper in a heap, with the help of the shoulder pad of Patriots special teamer Matt Chatham. He was hauled off by security.

Before he introduced Tom Brady at Monday's MVP press conference, Tagliabue addressed the halftime display, calling it "offensive, embarrassing... and inappropriate."

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Baby Doll - Thank you for loving me all these years. I'll love you forever and a day. - Sweetie

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GIRLS

Continued from

FHS girls pos scoring advan Braxton, wh with a tea points, ended Steers' offensi with 4:25 left ing half by down a attempt from wing.

Raegan Riter the scoring there. The B more pumped from the free- and another field, before B Watkins knoc shots in the fi to send the ga half with Fre ing a 41-17 cus Brady spiree Tigers' domin ond quarter She scored Frenship's 27

District
Girls Standings

Team	Overall
Frenship	23
Levelland	15
Andrews	15
Estacado	15
Lake View	11
Big Spring	6

Tuesday's Results — Spring 51, Estacado 9; Levelland d. Andrews.

The Lady S are scheduled their home Friday night Lubbock rebounded in eight minutes and half. B picked up poi different play third quarter up 14 points. Braxton and led the way Spring, scor points apiec Shannon Watkins, Jessi

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w/80,000 miles.
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GIRLS

Continued from Page 1B

FHS girls posted a 21-1 scoring advantage.

Braxton, who finished with a team-high 15 points, ended the Lady Steers' offensive drought with 4:25 left in the opening half by knocking down a three-point attempt from the left wing.

Raegan Ritchey got into the scoring act from there. The BSHS sophomore pumped in a shot from the free-throw line and another from the field, before Braxton and Watkins knocked down shots in the final minute to send the game into the half with Frenship holding a 41-17 cushion.

Brady spirited the Lady Tigers' dominating second quarter onslaught. She scored 11 of Frenship's 27 points.

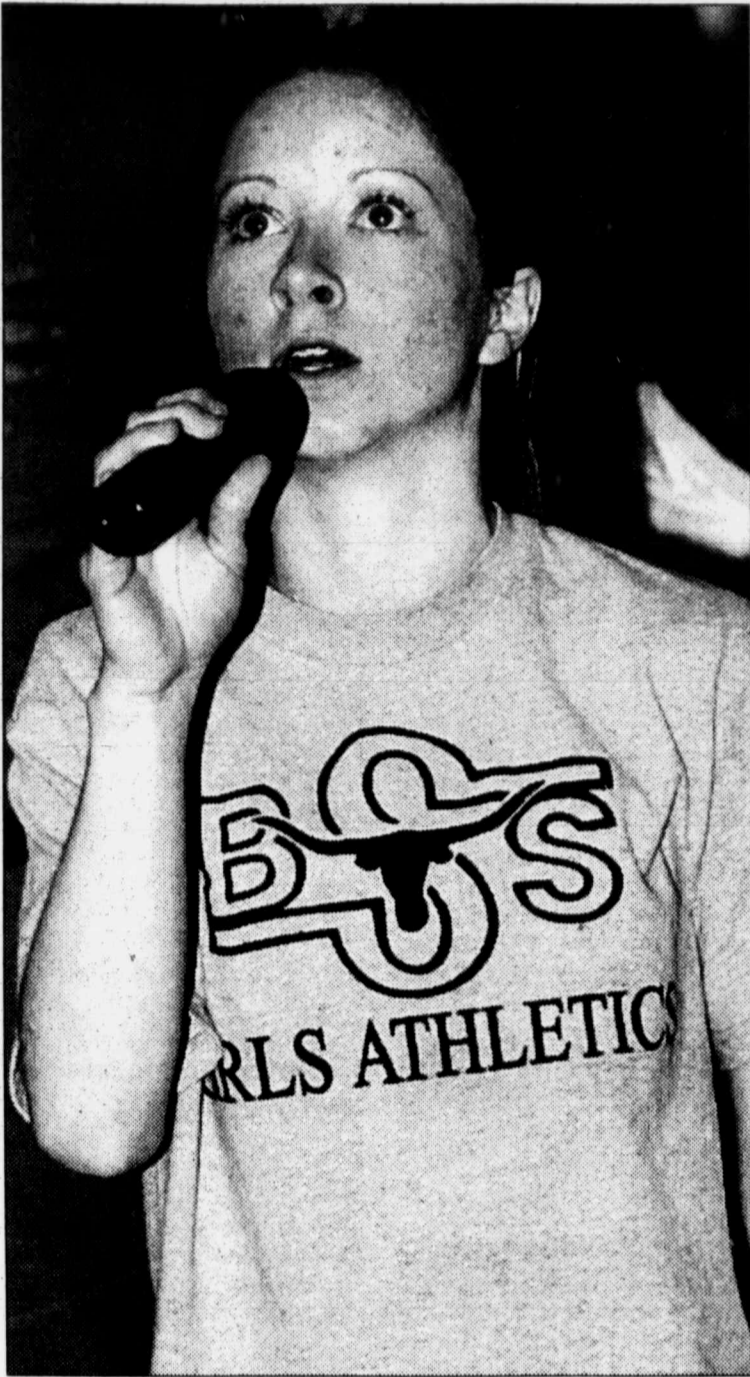
District 4-4A
Girls Standings

Team	Overall			District		
	W	L	T	W	L	T
Frenship	23	6	7	1		
Levelland	16	11	6	2		
Andrews	15	12	5	3		
Estacado	15	13	4	4		
Lake View	11	17	1	7		
Big Spring	6	18	1	7		

Tuesday's Results — Frenship 81, Big Spring 51; Estacado 96, Lake View 31; Levelland d. Andrews.

The Lady Steers, who are scheduled to close out their home schedule Friday night against Lubbock Estacado, rebounded in the initial eight minutes of the second half. Big Spring picked up points from six different players in the third quarter and rolled up 14 points.

Braxton and Rodriguez led the way for Big Spring, scoring three points apiece, while Shannon Higgins, Watkins, Jessi Tipton and



Big Spring senior Amy Hanes displayed her versatility Tuesday night by singing the national anthem prior to the Lady Steers' game with Frenship.

Lewis all added two. Frenship, despite Big Spring's offensive improvement, posted a 17-14 advantage in the third and carried a 58-31 lead into the fourth period.

The Big Spring offense hit on all cylinders in the final eight minutes. Ritchey knocked down three shots from the field and Braxton collected her third three-point attempt

of the evening to spark a 20-point outburst. Rodriguez and Watkins both added three free throws.

Ritchey and Rodriguez finished the contest with seven points while Lewis contributed six.

Erica Knight powered Frenship in the fourth. She scored 11 of her 13 points in the closing minutes.

Coahoma powerlifters shine at McCamey meet

By TOMMY WELLS
Sports Editor

The beat goes on for the Coahoma High School boys and girls powerlifters.

The CHS teams turned in another solid outing this past weekend at the McCamey Powerlifting Championships. The CHS boys team placed third in the final team standings, while the Bulldogettes grabbed fourth in the girls' division.

Tiffany Reid highlighted the Bulldogettes' efforts. She took placed second in the 105-pound division by a total lift of 355 pounds. In the 114-pound weight class, Tania Bradley was fifth with a total of 400.

In the 220+ class, Callie Price hoisted a combined weight of 620 pounds to take second place.

Elisha Teeler and Kayla Hankins competed in the 132-pound class totaling 425 and 400 pounds. Respectively.

On the boy's side, Jason Gonzales lifted 535 pound and placed third in the 114-pound division.

Dustin Wright and Patrick Croft also finished third in their classifications. Wright competed in the 123-pound division while Croft was in the 132-pound class. Skyler Mundell was third in the super heavyweight class with a 920 total.

Mitchell Gutierrez and Andrew Brown both posted second-place finishes. Gutierrez was second with a 790-pound mark in the 148-pound classification. Antonio Gonzales placed 7th in the 148's

with a 785 total.

Brown was second in the 275-pound ranks with a total of 995.

In the 181-pound class, Jake McCain placed seventh with a 875 effort. Morgan Barron totaled 1,045 to take second, while Justin Cline was fifth at 740.

John Rodriguez was seventh with 525 in the 198-pound division. Dustin Martin and Cody Price both totaled 805 to take sixth and seventh, respectively, in the 220 division.

Both Coahoma teams will be back in action on Feb. 14 in Big Lake.

Henson returning to football

NEW YORK — Four years ago a New York Yankees official called Drew Henson a "(Derek) Jeter-like prospect," but now the better comparison might be to Tom Brady.

Henson announced Monday that he will

return to the gridiron. A source said Monday the former Michigan quarterback will not be paid any part of the remaining \$12 million he would have been owed, while the Yankees are not seeking any of the \$5 million they have already paid.

GIRLS

Continued from Page 1B

"The key to the year for us is going to be pitching," said Dickenson "Sarah did a real good job for us last year and we expect her to be even stronger this year."

Another pair of key contributors will be senior catcher Ruby Garcia and second baseman Ashli New. Both played well last season for the Bulldogettes as they

pounded out a 20-13-3 record. Almost all of Coahoma's 13 losses came to Class 4A and Class 5A powerhouses.

"It's a lot of pressure to play for a program like this," Dickenson said, "I hope that the girls can step it up and fill the holes that were left by graduation."

A lot of pressure indeed. The Bulldogettes, in their decade of existence, have won 10 consecutive district titles — not to mention never having

lost a single district contest — and appeared in six state tournaments, winning the crown in 1998.

"We are going to be a strong team. Don't get me wrong," Dickenson said. "It will just depend on how hard the girls work as to how far we will go."

If history is any indicator, the Bulldogettes and their legion of supporters may want to go ahead and start making plans for another extended playoff run.

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2003 Mercury Sable LS - Silver, All Power, 22,000 Miles. Was \$30,140. NOW \$19,995

2003 Ford Taurus SES - White, 15,000 Miles. MSRP \$21,670. NOW \$13,995

2003 Ford Ranger Edge - Blue, V-6, one owner w/21,000 miles. Was \$12,995. NOW \$11,995

2003 Ford Ranger - Tan, automatic, air, 15,000 miles. Was \$13,995. NOW \$10,995

2000 Nissan King Cab XE - Blue, local one owner w/72,000 miles. Was \$9,995. NOW \$8,995

2000 Nissan Frontier King Cab XE - Red, automatic, 68,000 miles. Was \$9,995. NOW \$8,995

1998 Nissan Frontier XE - Red, air, 5 speed, one owner w/50,000 miles. Was \$9,995. NOW \$7,995

1998 Ford Ranger Supercab XLT - Tan, automatic, V-6, locally owned, 72,000 miles. Was \$7,995. NOW \$6,995

1997 Chevrolet S-10 Ext. Cab L.S. - Red, automatic, new transmission, 77,000 miles. Was \$8,995. NOW \$7,995

1993 Ford Ranger Super Cab XLT 4X4 - Green, V-6, automatic, clean four wheel drive. Was \$6,995. NOW \$5,995

2002 Ford F150 Supercab XLT - White, all power, one owner w/38,000 miles. Was \$22,995. NOW \$21,995

2002 Ford F150 Supercab XLT - Arizona beige, all power, one owner w/43,000 miles. Was \$22,995. NOW \$21,995

2002 Dodge Ram 150 Quad Cab SLT - Tan, all power, V-8, local one owner w/20,000 miles. Was \$21,995. NOW \$20,995

2002 Ford D1500 Super Cab - Dk. green/tan, tan leather, fully loaded, locally owned w/35,000 miles. Was \$23,995. NOW \$22,995

2002 Ford F150 S/C XLT Quad Cab - Tan, V-8, all power, 15,500 miles. Was \$20,995. NOW \$18,995

2001 Ford F150 Super Cab - Red, all power, local one owner w/40,000 miles. Was \$20,995. NOW \$19,995

2001 Ford F150 Supercab - Tan, 16" steelnut/tan, V-8, has had new motor installed. (Reman.). Was \$16,995. NOW \$14,995

2000 Dodge D1500 Club Cab - V-8, auto., all power, extra clean w/ranchhand grille guard. Was \$13,995. NOW \$12,995

2000 Chevrolet C1500 Silverado - Pewter, 6 cyl., one owner, nice truck w/48,000 miles. Was \$13,995. NOW \$11,995

1998 Ford F150 - White, 6 cyl., 5 speed, air, local one owner w/68,000 miles. Was \$9,995. NOW \$8,995

1997 Chevrolet C1500 Ext. Cab Silverado - Black w/tan bottom, all power, clean w/80,000 miles. Was \$10,995. NOW \$9,995

1997 Chevrolet C1500 Ext. Cab Silverado - Tan, V-8, all power. Was \$9,995. NOW \$8,995

1997 Dodge D150 Club Cab SLT - White, V-8, all power. Was \$13,995. NOW \$9,995

1994 Ford F150 XL - Green/tan, 6 cyl., 5 speed. Was \$5,995. NOW \$4,995

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2001 GMC Sierra 2500 Ext. Cab 4X4 L.S. - Pewter, cloth, all power, local one owner w/56,000 miles. Was \$23,995. NOW \$22,995

2000 Chevrolet C3500 Crew Cab LS 4X4 - Green, all power, 50,000 miles, local one owner. Was \$21,995. NOW \$18,995

1994 Ford F250 Supercab Dually - Turbo, diesel, nice truck. Was \$7,995. NOW \$6,995

SUV's

2002 Ford Explorer XLT 4-DR. - Green w/cloth, all power, one owner w/17,000 miles. Was \$19,995. NOW \$18,995

2002 Ford Explorer XLT 4-DR. - Arizona beige, cloth, all power, one owner w/34,000 miles. Was \$19,995. NOW \$18,995

2001 Ford Explorer Sport 2-DR. 4X4 - Blue, cloth, clean, four wheel drive, 51,000 miles. Was \$13,995. NOW \$12,995

2002 Ford Expedition XLT - Silver, cloth, all power, one owner w/31,000 miles. Was \$22,995. NOW \$21,995

2001 Chevrolet Tahoe LS 4-DR. - Pewter, cloth, all power, one owner w/31,000 miles. Was \$24,995. NOW \$23,995

2001 Ford Explorer Sport 2-DR. 4X4 - Blue, cloth, clean, four wheel drive, 51,000 miles. Was \$13,995. NOW \$12,995

2001 Chevrolet Explorer Sport 4-DR. XLT - White w/cloth, all power, one owner w/59,000 miles. Was \$15,995. NOW \$14,995

2001 Chevrolet Tahoe L.S. 4-DR. - Red w/cloth, all power, one owner w/50,000 miles. Was \$24,995. NOW \$23,995

2000 Ford Expedition Eddie Bauer Edition - Red/tan, leather, one owner w/40,000 miles. Was \$22,995. NOW \$19,995

1999 GMC Suburban L.S. - Tan, dual air, all power. Was \$17,995. NOW \$14,995

1999 Chevrolet Blazer - Silver, locally owned, 69,000 miles. Was \$10,995. NOW \$8,995

1999 Ford Explorer Sport 2-DR. - Red, all power, local one owner w/54,000 miles. Was \$9,995. NOW \$8,995

1998 Honda Passport EX 4X4 - Silver, loaded, 73,000 miles. Was \$12,995. NOW \$10,995

1998 Ford Explorer Sport 2-DR. 4X4 - Red, all power, one owner. Was \$9,995. NOW \$8,995

1997 Chevrolet Suburban LT - Brown, leather, extra clean SUV. Was \$10,995. NOW \$9,995

1994 Chevrolet Suburban - White, all power, one owner w/85,000 miles. Was \$7,995. NOW \$6,995

1992 Jeep Cherokee - Red. Was \$6,995. NOW \$3,995

2002 Honda Gold Wing - Illusion Blue, cruise, AM/FM, like new, one owner w/4,300 miles. Was \$15,995. NOW \$13,995

YANS

2002 Ford E350 XLT 15 Passenger Powerstroke Diesel Van - White w/cloth, dual air/heat, all power, one owner w/26,000 miles. Was \$21,995. NOW \$20,995

2001 Toyota Sienna XLE - Tan, all power, one owner w/56,000 miles. Was \$19,995. NOW \$18,995

2000 Mercury Villager - Green, tan, leather, dual air/heat, all power, local one owner w/34,000 miles. Was \$15,995. NOW \$13,995

1998 Mazda MPV - Red, all power, 56,000 miles. Was \$10,995. NOW \$8,995

1997 Dodge Grand Caravan SE - White, clean van. Was \$8,995. NOW \$7,995

1996 Ford Windstar GL - Green, one owner, dual air. Was \$6,995. NOW \$5,995

CARS

2002 Ford Mustang - Gray, 5 speed, air, CD, all power, one owner w/28,000 miles. Was \$15,995. NOW \$14,995

2002 Honda Accord LX 4-DR. - Silver, all power, one owner w/31,000 miles. Was \$16,995. NOW \$15,995

2001 Ford Crown Victoria LX - Tan w/cloth, all power, one owner w/59,000 miles. Was \$14,995. NOW \$12,995

2001 Lincoln L.S. - Blue, leather, V-8, one owner w/57,000 miles. Was \$22,995. NOW \$20,995

2001 Ford Crown Victoria L.S. - Silver, leather, one owner w/39,000 miles. Was \$14,995. NOW \$12,995

2001 Ford Mustang Convertible - Silver, V-6, 62,000 miles. Was \$13,995. NOW \$11,995

2000 Pontiac Bonneville SE 4-DR. - Silver, cloth, all power, one owner w/42,000 miles. Was \$12,995. NOW \$11,995

2000 Lincoln Town Car Signature Series - Tan w/leather, all power, locally owned w/28,000 miles. Was \$20,995. NOW \$19,995

2000 Mercury Grand Marquis L.S. - Red, cloth, local one owner w/62,000 miles. Was \$12,995. NOW \$11,995

2000 Volvo S40 Turbo - All power, leather, 35,000 miles. Was \$16,995. NOW \$12,995

2000 Ford Taurus SE - Red, cloth, all power, 60,000 miles. Was \$7,995. NOW \$7,995

2000 Ford Taurus SE - Silver, all power, one owner w/33,000 miles. Was \$8,995. NOW \$7,995

2000 Ford Taurus SE - Blue, all power, one owner w/33,000 miles. Was \$8,995. NOW \$8,995

2000 Ford Focus Wagon SE - Silver, all power. Was \$7,995. NOW \$6,995

2000 Volkswagen Jetta GLS - Blue, all power, clean, one owner w/58,000 miles. Was \$12,995. NOW \$10,995

1999 Pontiac Firebird - White, T-Tops, 56,000 miles. Was \$13,995. NOW \$11,995

1999 Ford Crown Victoria - White, all power. Was \$9,995. NOW \$5,995

1999 Mercury Sable GS - Tan, all power. Was \$9,995. NOW \$5,995

1999 Ford Mustang - Red, V-6, auto., all power. Was \$9,995. NOW \$7,995

1999 Nissan Maxima GLE - Green, all power, locally owned, 63,000 miles. Was \$13,995. NOW \$12,995

1999 Volkswagen New Beetle GLX Turbocharged - Red w/black, leather, all power, local one owner w/35,000 miles. Was \$12,995. NOW \$11,995

1998 Plymouth Neon - Blue, all power. Was \$4,995. NOW \$3,995

1998 Nissan Maxima GLE - Gray w/leather, moonroof, 53,000 miles. Was \$15,995. NOW \$11,995

1998 Ford Escort ZX2 - White, local one owner w/41,000 miles. Was \$7,995. NOW \$6,995

1998 Dodge Neon - White, 57,000 miles, nice car. Was \$4,995. NOW \$3,995

1997 Mercury Tracer - Green. Was \$6,995. NOW \$4,995

1997 Ford Thunderbird - Tan, all power, nice car, 73,000 miles. Was \$8,995. NOW \$6,995

1997 Mercury Grand Marquis GS - White, all power, local one owner w/43,000 miles. Was \$9,995. NOW \$7,995

1997 Ford Mustang - Green, 6 cyl., automatic. Was \$6,995. NOW \$5,995

1996 Mercury Cougar - Green w/tan top, 69,000 miles. Was \$6,995. NOW \$4,995

1996 Oldsmobile 88 4-DR. - Pewter, leather, one owner. Was \$7,995. NOW \$5,995

1995 Lincoln Town Car Signature Series - Rose, leather, local one owner w/67,000 miles. Was \$7,995. NOW \$6,995

1995 Cadillac DeVille Concours - Silver, 84,000 miles. Was \$8,995. NOW \$5,995

1994 Cadillac DeVille Concours - Red, 88,000 miles. Was \$6,995. NOW \$4,995

1992 Mercury Grand Marquis L.S. - White, locally owned w/58,000 miles. Was \$6,995. NOW \$5,995

1992 Mercury Grand Marquis - White, locally owned w/80,000 miles. Was \$6,995. NOW \$5,995

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mm@swa1pc.com

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FREE GRANTS! Never Repay. Results Guaranteed. \$500.00-\$500,000.00 Home Purchase/ Repairs, Education, Business, Emergencies, Non-profits, Live Operators. 9am-9pm Monday-Saturday. 1-800-613-5447 Ext. 9077

MAKING A \$1000. P/DAY from home? Not MLM. No Selling. 1-800-705-0536

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CUTEST PUPPIES in town free to good homes. Sheltie/ Border Collie mix, 6 wks old. Call (432)213-2609 after 5 pm and weekend 213-2613.

TAKING DEPOSITS on 3 female Chinese Pug puppies (fawn). Ready on Valentines Day. Call Pam (432)268-9585

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Heights Apartments
ALL BILLS PAID
\$200 Move-In Special
Renovated 1 bedrooms
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263-3555 263-3000

\$50 MOVE-IN SPECIAL
ONE and Two Bedroom Apartment home available. Starting from \$335.00 per month.

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*Central Air & Heat

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2911 W. HWY 80
432-263-2292

Real Estate for Rent

\$50 MOVE-IN Special! One and Two Bedroom apartment home available. Starting from \$335.00 per month. FREE CABLE. On site Laundry Facilities. Covered picnic area with BBQ grills. Playground for the Kids! Central Air & Heat. SUNSET RIDGE APTS, 2911 W. HWY 80 (432)263-2292

1111 EAST 13th. 2 Bedroom, 1 bath. No pets. Call (432)267-3841 or 270-7309

1311 TUCSON Newly remodeled, 2 bdr., 1 bath, one car garage. CH/A, W/D hookup. Fenced yard. \$410/mo., \$295/dep. 432-270-0833 or 432-8005

1406 YOUNG, 1 Bedroom, 1 bath. \$235/mo., \$150/dep. Call (432)263-1792 or 816-9984.

1805 YOUNG, 2 Bedroom 1 bath. CH/A. \$300/mo. \$150/dep. Call (432)263-1792 or 816-9984

2 & 3 Bdrm Houses for Rent CH/A No pets No HUD (432)263-5818 or 213-0820

4 BEDROOM, 2 bath, CHA, newly remodeled. Call 270-3848.

407 1/2 E. 8th. 1 Bdrm Apartment. Recently remodeled. New counter tops. CH/A. \$275/mo. + deposit. No HUD. Call (432)267-2296

703 W. 18th. Nice neighborhood, 2 Bedroom, 1 bath. Central heat and air, Stove/ Refrigerator/ Dryer furnished, Washer connection. New carpet and paint. Fenced backyard with shed. Deposit \$100 Rent \$450. Call (432)267-2112 Leave message.

900 SCURRY. 3/1 Apartment. CH/A, washer, dryer hookups. Appliances furnished. Call (432)213-2681

FOR RENT: 3 room furnished apartment. \$175/mo. 908 West 4th St. Call 432-3855 or 263-7648.

Real Estate for Rent

EDWARD'S HEIGHTS AREA. 3 Bedroom 2 bath w/pool. \$1250.00 month (w/pool & yard maintenance). Pets O.K., Smoking Outside Only. \$1000.00 Deposit required. Call (432) 517-0038.

FOR SALE or rent. 4109 Dixon. Newly remodeled 4/2. Rent for \$500/mo., \$500/dep. CH/A. References required. No Pets! (432)267-3074 or 979-324-2072

LARGE CLEAN 1 bdrm 1 bath. \$250/mo. \$150/Deposit. No Bills Paid. Call (432)264-6611

MIDWAY AREA, small 2 Bedroom. \$300/mo. \$150/Deposit. Washer/ Dryer, CH/A. HUD approved. Call (432)393-5585 or 270-3928.

Near Moss School. 3 bdr., 1-1/2 bath, attached garage. \$450 mo. \$200 dep. (432)263-4253.

NEW OWNERSHIP 1 & 2 Bdrm. Apt. Homes. Starting @ \$335/mo. 24 Hr. Maint. on sit. ADVANTUS PL. APTS. 3304 W. Hwy. 80. Call (432)267-4217

RENT TO OWN: Large 4 Bdrm 2 bath. Newly Remodeled. A must see. Call The Pierce Group (432)264-6611

Real Estate for Sale

\$1,000 TOTAL Move In Cost! On each remaining 3 New homes on 1300 Block of Marijo. Reasonably good credit required, Down payment assistance and lowered interest rates to Qualified Buyer. No Payments till Feb. 2004. Call now (432)520-9848 Cameo Investments Inc.

20 ACRES, 3-bedrooms, 2-living areas, 2-1/4 baths, formal dining, fireplace and pool. Call Home Realtors for details 263-1284 or Charles Smith, agent 466-1613 MLS#51051

2908 CHEROKEE. 2 Bedroom, garage, fenced yard. \$12,000. No Owner Finance. Call (432)267-6667

705 S. Lancaster. Cheaper than a storage building! Cash Price \$4,900. or \$500 down, \$94/mo. for 84 mos. Call (512)826-2553.

ANDA EN busca de una casa? Si, no tiene credito o mal credito hablemos al numero (432)413-0549 Annette Sanchez. Tengo una casa de 2 recamaras y 1 baño 705 S Lancaster Y otra de 1 recamara y 1 baño 1811 State St.

DOUBLEWIDE TRAILER on 6.76 acres, w/ two water wells in Forsan School District. 3/2 Home, six stall horse barn, round pen, roping arena, w/lights. Call (432)267-4132

FOR SALE BY OWNER Owner Financing Provided. Low down payment, low monthly. 3 Bdrm, 1 bath. Updated Kitchen & bath. 1103 Sycamore. Call (432)425-9994.

FOR SALE: 2 story, 3,000 sq. ft., downtown office building. Would be ideal for Doctor's Office. Call (432)267-3126

HUD FORECLOSURE! 3 Bedroom home. Buy for \$8600! For listings call 800-719-3001 ext. F906

"MINI RANCH" - 38 acres near city limits. Fenced, barn, pens, bath/ utility. \$60's. Call Doris, Home Realtors at (432) 263-6525 or 270-8920

NEED A home? I can help, no credit, bad credit, I will finance your home with a low down/payment. Please call Annette Sanchez @ (432)413-0549 1811 State 1 Bdrm 1 bath & 705 Lancaster 2 Bdrm 1 bath.

NEW CONSTRUCTION Open House. Sat.-Sun. 1-6 pm. or any time by apt. 1308 Marijo. Call (432)520-9848.

Vehicles

TAX REFUND SALE!
WE FINANCE YOU
Tax Checks Welcome!
87 Auto Sales
263-2382 267-8787

Great Selection of 03's with up to **\$6500 Rebates**
BOB BROCK FORD
500 W. 4th 267-7121

1995 JAYCO Eagle 5th Wheel. Model #263RKSO. Great Condition, many up grades. Super slide. \$9500. Must See. Call (432)353-4296 or 432-517-0207.

EXTRA NICE 1990 Chevrolet Silverado red & silver, 115, 000 miles. \$5,500. firm Call (432)264-5045 or (432)816-9480. Can be seen at Howard College Coliseum.

Vehicles

1999 GMC 4x4 Suburbans. New tires, leather, rear A/C, 3rd seat, all options, Hwy. miles. Clean, 105k - \$12,100 & 120k - \$11,800. **1997 Chevy Suburban** 4x4, 3rd seat, rear A/C. Extra Clean. 133k Hwy miles, \$9,300. Call (432)353-4422.

FOR SALE 2000 VW Beetle, Limited Edition, turbo, 5-speed, leather, 6 CD changer. 432-267-7021 or 263-4909.

FOR SALE, red 2003 Ford F-250, 4x4, 29,000 miles. Reduce for quick sale, \$26,500. Located 600 Main. Call 432-267-3126, from 8:00-5:00, 432-267-7648 after 5:00.

Legals

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice is hereby given that if requested in writing by February 23, 2004, a public hearing will be held by West Texas Opportunities, Inc., 603 North 4th Street, Lamesa, Texas, on February 25, 2004 at 4:00 p.m. to accept comments on a proposal continuation of rural public transportation services within Lamesa and Dawson County; Stanton and Martin County; McCamey/ Rankin and Upton County; Seminole/ Seagraves and Gaines County; Andrews and Andrews County; Big Spring and Howard County; Crane and Crane County; Garden City and Glasscock County; Monahans and Ward County; Pecos and Reeves County; Ft. Stockton and Pecos County; Kermit and Winkler County; Sanderson and Terrell County; Menton and Loving County; rural Midland and Ector Counties; and Gail and Borden County. Financial assistance to provide this service is being sought from the Texas Department of Transportation in the amount of \$373,724 and we anticipate receiving additional funds to supplement this amount. Service will be for the general public and fares may be charged for the service. Additional vehicles will not be required to provide this service. Written comments are being accepted at P.O. Box 1308, Lamesa, Texas until 4:00 p.m. on February 23, 2004. If you wish to or cannot attend the hearing, further information including a full copy of the application can be reviewed at West Texas Opportunities, Inc. #4093 January 28 & February 4, 2004

NO. 43392
IN THE INTEREST OF AERIC ASHTON SHELTON A CHILD IN THE DISTRICT COURT 118TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT HOWARD COUNTY, TEXAS

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION
STATE OF TEXAS
To: JERIMIAH ROBINSON, Respondent:
You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you. The petition of FERROL JON VOIGHT and LAUREL ANN VOIGHT, Petitioners, was filed in the 118TH Judicial District Court of Howard County, Texas, on January 22, 2004 against ADRIAN CRAIG CALVIO and JERIMIAH ROBINSON, Respondents, numbered 43392 and entitled "In the Interest of AERIC ASHTON SHELTON, a child." The suit requests the termination of the parental rights and granting of the adoption of a step-child. The date and place of birth of the child who is the subject of the suit:
AERIC ASHTON SHELTON
September 5, 1998
Austin, Texas
The court has authority in this suit to render an order in the child's interest that will be binding on you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship, the determination of paternity, and the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the child's adoption. Issued and given under my hand and seal of the Court at Big Spring, Texas, on January 26, 2004.
Collen Barton
Clerk of the District Court of HOWARD County, Texas
By Priscilla Ginnett, Deputy
#4103 February 4, 2004

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of CARROLL DWAIN CALVERT, Deceased, were issued on 12th day of January, 2004, in Cause No. P-13113, pending in the County Court of Howard County, Texas, to: JACKIE M. CALVERT. As against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
c/o: **JACKIE M. CALVERT**
14992 Robin Rd.
Haslet, TX 76052
DATED the 30th day of January, 2004.
Respectfully submitted,
Hamby & Hamby
P.O. Drawer 2199
Big Spring, TX 79721-2199
Phone: 432-263-8395
Telecopier: 432-263-4798
LANNY HAMBY
State Bar No. 08816000
ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANT
#4104 February 4, 2004

Legals

ABANDONED MOTOR VEHICLE TO: Registered Owners
Jack & Wanda Cunningham
1505 Avion
Big Spring, TX 79720
This is to notify you that the following described Abandon Motor Vehicle is in my possession.
Year: 95
Make: Subaru GL
Vehicle Identification: JFIAC482FC231866
Vehicle may be reclaimed at 5716 Garden City Hwy. Big Spring, TX. #4107 February 4, 2004

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Trans-Texas Corridor
Howard County
The Texas Department of Transportation will hold a public hearing in Big Spring on Thursday, February 12, 2004, to discuss the Trans-Texas Corridor. The purpose is to give the public an opportunity to submit comments on potential routes. The Trans-Texas Corridor is a new type of transportation network that includes roads, rail, and a utility zone designed to move people and goods faster and safer, keep hazardous material out of populated areas, and improve air quality. The hearing will be held in the Dora Roberts Civic Center, 100 Whipkey Drive, Big Spring. Registration begins at 5:30 p.m. with the hearing beginning at 6 p.m. The facility is handicapped accessible. For more information on the public hearing contact Mary Beth Kilgore, Abilene district public information officer; at 325/676-6806. #4108 February 4, 2004

NOTICE OF SPECIAL RUNOFF ELECTION

(AVISO DE ELECCION ESPECIAL)
To the Registered Voters of the County of Howard, Texas: (A los votantes registrados del Condado de Howard, Texas.) Notice is hereby given that the polling places listed below will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on February 17, 2004, for voting in a special runoff election for the purpose of electing a State Senator for District 31 to serve out the unexpired term of the Honorable Teel Bivins, of the State of Texas. (Notifiquese, por las presente, que las casillas electorales sitados abajo se abriran desde las 7:00 a.m. hasta las 7:00 p.m. el 17 de Febrero de 2004, para el proposito de elegir un Senador del Estado por Distrito 31 para servir el termino que no se vencio del Honorable Teel Bivins la Estado de Texas.)

LOCATIONS OF POLLING PLACES (DIRECCION(ES) DE LAS CASILLAS ELECTORALES)

101,102,103,103.105,106,107,108, 109,110,111,112,113,114,115.....
NORTH SIDE FIRE STATION
202,203,204,205,208.....
WASHINGTON PLACE SCHOOL
207,405,407,408,409.....
COAHOMA COMMUNITY CENTER
302,303,304,305.....
GOLIAD MIDDLE SCHOOL
401,402,403,404,406,410.....
BIG SPRING HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY

Early voting by personal appearance will be conducted each weekday at:
(La votacion adelantada en persona se llevara a cabo de lunes a viernes en.)
The Office of Donna Wright, County Clerk, Howard County Courthouse, Big Spring, Texas for District 31 between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. beginning on **February 9, 2004** and ending on **February 13, 2004**, (entre las 8 de la mañana y las 5 de la tarde empezando el dia 09 de Febrero, 2004 y terminando el dia 13 de Fevrerc, 2004).
Applications for ballot by mail shall be mailed to:
(Las solicitudes para boletas que se votaran adelantada por correo deberan enviarse a.)
Donna Wright, County Clerk, P.O.Box 1468, Big Spring, TX 79721
Applications for ballots by mail must be received no later than the close of business on **February 9, 2004**. (Las solicitudes para boletas que se votaran adelantada por correo deberan recibirse para el fin de las horas de negocio el dia 09 de Febrero, 2004).
Issued this the 29th day of January 2004.
(Emitada esta dia 29th de Enero, 2004).
Ben Lockhar, Howard County Judge
(Firma del Juez de Condado)
#4102 February 4, 2004

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS
Of Proposed Building Maintenance Work for the
Texas Department of Transportation
Sealed proposals for:
Repainting of the interior of the Area Engineering/ Maintenance Building in Big Spring, Howard County
Proposed Project No. 084XRX1002
will be received by the Abilene District Office of the Texas Department of Transportation located at: 5250 N. Clack, Abilene, Texas until **3:00 PM., Wednesday, February 4, 2004** then publicly opened and read. Bidding documents, including proposals/ agreement form and specifications, may be obtained from:
Scott Mitchell
Texas Department of Transportation
4250 N. Clack
P.O. Box 150
Abilene, Texas 79604
(325)676-6911
(325) 676-6958 -Fax
#4085 January 25 & February 4, 2004

REMEMBER! Find It In Big Spring First!

Real Estate for Rent Real Estate for Rent Real Estate for Rent

HILLSIDE PROPERTIES

Homes With Alarm Systems

2 - 3 - 4 - 5, Even 6 Bedrooms Available

Rent - Rent-to-Own or Buy With Owner Financing

Swimming Pool - Basketball & Volleyball Courts

24 Hour Emergency Maintenance

2501 Fairchild Phone 263-3461

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Last Chance Sale!!

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Rebates Up To **\$4000⁰⁰**

APR's As Low As **0% - 72 Mos.**

Discounts Up To **\$4500⁰⁰**

They Will Not Last Long

- 1 - 03 F250 Supercab Diesel
- 2 - 03 Ford Escapes
- 1 - 03 Sable Station Wagon
- 2 - 03 Ford Taurus 4-DR.
- 1 - 03 Nissan Sentra Spec-V
- 1 - 03 Nissan Pathfinder
- 2 - 03 Nissan Trucks
- 3 - 03 Ford Rangers

Don't Miss The Opportunity To Save Thousands!!!

BlueOval Certified

BOB BROCK FORD
Lincoln Mercury Nissan
500 W. 4th 267-7121

FEBRUARY 4, 2004

WEDNESDAY

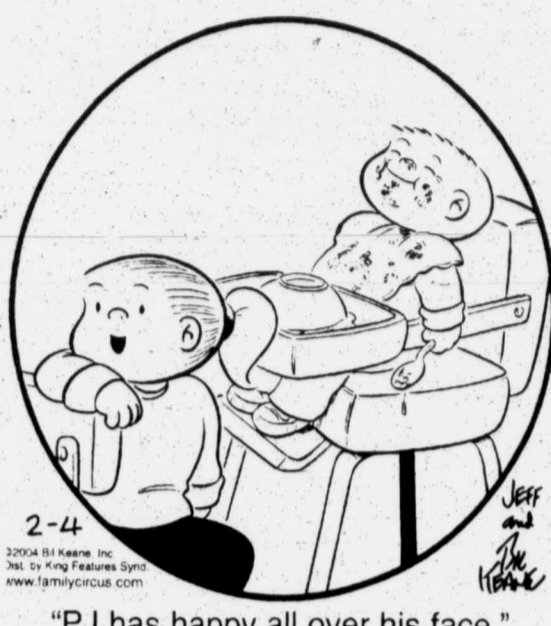
Table with 18 columns (WFAA, KMID, UNI, KPEJ, KOSA, KTLT, KWES, WTBS, KMLM, KOCV, DISC, AMC, TNT, BET, DISN, ESPN2, ESPN, USA, TMC) and 7 rows (6-12 PM) listing various TV programs and their channels.

DENNIS THE MENACE



"MR. WILSON SAYS HIS BACK GOES OUT MORE OFTEN THAN HE DOES."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"PJ has happy all over his face."

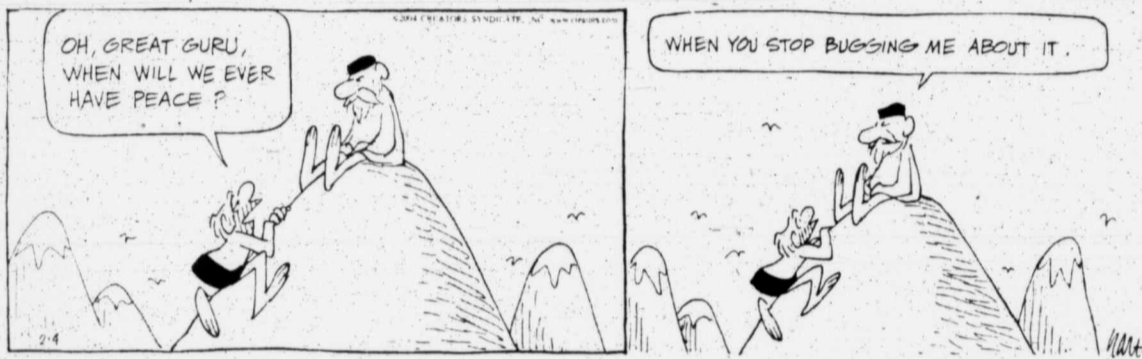
HAGAR



BLONDIE



BC



WIZARD OF ID



AGNES



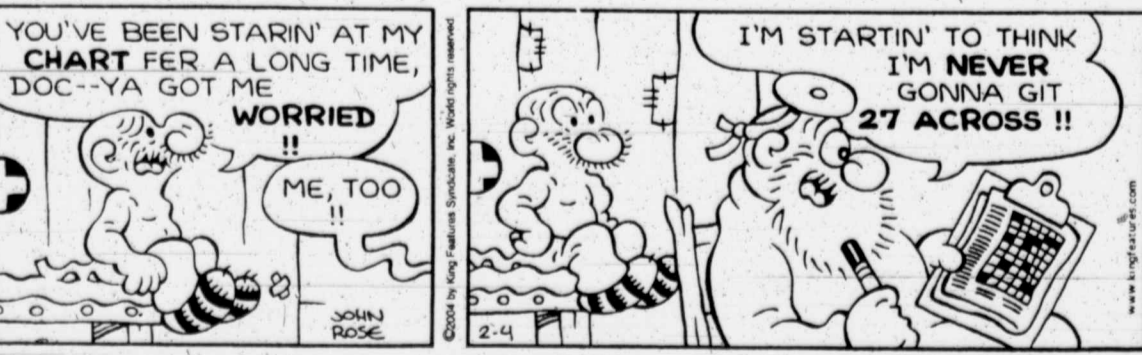
HI AND LOIS



MR. HOUSEWIFE



SNUFFY SMITH



BEEBLE BAILEY



This Date In History

By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, Feb. 4, the 35th day of 2004. There are 331 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On Feb. 4, 1789, electors unanimously chose George Washington to be the first president of the United States. On this date: In 1783, Britain declared a formal cessation of hostilities with its former colonies, the United States of America. In 1801, John Marshall was sworn in as chief justice of the United States. In 1861, delegates from six southern states met in Montgomery, Ala., to form the Confederate States of America. In 1932, New York Gov. Franklin D. Roosevelt opened the Winter Olympic

Games at Lake Placid. In 1941, the United Service Organizations (USO) came into existence. In 1945, President Franklin Roosevelt, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Soviet leader Josef Stalin began a wartime conference at Yalta. In 1974, newspaper heiress Patricia Hearst was kidnapped in Berkeley, Calif., by the Symbionese Liberation Army. In 1976, more than 22,000 people died when a severe earthquake struck Guatemala and Honduras. In 1983, singer Karen Carpenter died in Downey, Calif., at age 32. In 1997, a civil jury in Santa Monica, Calif., found O.J. Simpson liable for the deaths of his ex-wife, Nicole Brown Simpson, and her friend, Ronald Goldman. Ten years ago: The Federal Reserve increased interest rates for the first time in five years in a surprise announcement that triggered a huge sell-off on Wall Street; the Fed said the move was designed to head off any recurrence of high inflation. Today's Birthdays: Civil rights pioneer Rosa Parks is 91. Feminist author Betty Friedan is 83. Actor William Phipps is 82. Actor Conrad Bain is 81. Actor Gary Conway is 68. Movie director George A. Romero is 64. Rock musician John Steel (The Animals) is 63. Singer Florence LaRue (The Fifth Dimension) is 60. Comedian David Brenner is 59. Former Vice President Dan Quayle is 57. Rock singer Alice Cooper is 56. Actor Michael Beck is 55. Actress Pamela Franklin is 54. Actress Lisa Eichhorn is 52. Rock singer Tim Booth is 44.

Answer to previous puzzle: POLO FAST EGAD, APAR COUPE TORE, CINDERELLA ELIE, SEDATE DISORDER, IHAD TENNIS, AMNESIA REAL, OUI REALM SLOSH, EDS LEE CIO, RISEN SCAMP KAT, MAIN STALEST, BUGLES SPAIN, REFLECTS LEAVES, RIFE TINKERBELL, IGET ALOES LIMO, PETS REBA ELSE

Newsday Crossword

BAKE-OFF by Fred Piscop
Edited by Stanley Newman

- ACROSS: 1 Checked out, 6 Bellyache, 10 Lose hair, 14 Staring one, 15 Chorus member, 16 Oliver Twist's request, 17 Basic provisions, 19 Tosca tune, 20 PIN taker, 21 Dennis or Doris, 22 Attentive student, 24 Flowed slowly, 26 Italics do it, 27 Hole (ace), 29 Secure, as in a safe, 33 Relinquish, 36 Silo site, 38 Ear pollution, 39 Actor Guinness, 40 Forest banes, 42 Snorkel's pooch, 43 Winter fall, 45 Pool division, 46 New Jersey university, 47 Like Superman, 49 -frutti, 51 Warning signal, 53 Wool gatherer's tool, 57 Starter for static, 60 Bang up, 61 -kwon do, 62 Spreadsheet filler, 63 Snookums, 66 Shaving mishap, 67 Garlic feature, 68 Lab vessel, 69 Feel sore, 70 Big Board letters, 71 Bias-plies, e.g. DOWN: 1 Musical finales, 2 Shooting marble, 3 Ghostbusters goo, 4 Sushi fish, 5 British poet, 6 Contrary girl, 7 Bullring cry, 8 In any way, 9 "Forget it!", 10 Sharp one, 11 Phone, so to speak, 12 Toledo's lake, 13 Letter starter shape, 23 Unknown auth., 25 "No problemo!", 26 Toothed, as a saw, 28 Hammer's target, 30 Franklin's flier, 31 Court org., 32 Unskilled worker, 33 Money, 34 Vogue rival, 35 Timid creature, 37 Waiter's handout, 41 Assaults, 44 Arcade flub, 48 City, NV, 50 Economical quality, 52 Like a roughneck, 54 Bond seller's phrase, 55 Poker play, 56 Looks for, 57 Novelist Ferber, 58 Not of the clergy, 59 Work with acid, 60 Trifling, 64 Dawn goddess, 65 Inventor Whitney

Crossword grid with numbers 1-71 indicating starting positions for the clues.

HOWARD COUNTY BUYERS' GUIDE

FREE

FEBRUARY 4, 2004

Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit #30
Big Spring, TX 79720

CR-Rt. Sort
Postal
Patron

Announcements

ATTENTION
THE BIG SPRING HERALD
APPRECIATES YOUR
BUSINESS

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

Business Opportunity

A OK! Put that computer to work. \$690-\$5500 mo. PT/FT. 888-685-9755 24-7 Hotline dreamsinline.com

ARE U Earning \$3751/mo? Vending Rte with locations. \$7980 req'd. 800-862-6160

BUSINESS FOR SALE: Need Immediate Sale, Flooring Store, Partner Sick, Will Go Fast. \$75k OBO. Call (432)517-0078 after 5:00.

THIS NEWSPAPER is not responsible for the specific content of the National Classified ads. Before investing money in a business/employment opportunity with which you are unfamiliar, please call the National Better Business Bureau at 703-276-0100 or visit www.bbb.org

LOSE WEIGHT for the last time! I lost 40 lbs in 2 mon. Ephedra Free. 888-244-6806

Business Opportunity

ServiceMASTER
Clean

CLEAN UP with ServiceMaster Clean. People have trusted our company to help them to start their own business for over 50 Years. Our principles of honesty and integrity have made us a respected company with the highest customer satisfaction scores in the industry. Get started for as little as \$7,500 down plus working capital. Financing available to qualified candidates. Call the leading franchisor in disaster restoration, commercial and residential cleaning. 1-800-RUN-YOURS ownfranchise.com

Garage Sales

GARAGE SALE, Fri., Sat., Sun. 6309 Walter Rd. Harley leathers, antiques, costal decorations, misc. Too much to name all! 8:00am- 5:00pm. No Early Arrivals!

SURPLUS/ CONSIGNMENT

Sale.
Big Spring State Hospital Recycling Center.
Silent Bidding.
Wed. Feb. 4th
8:30 am to 1:30 pm.
20+ Computer systems, computer parts, wardrobes, sofas, refrigerators, cafeteria serving line bar, desks, typewriters, chairs, end tables and more.
For more information Call (432)263-0618.

Help Wanted

MURPHY USA now taking applications for Asst. Manager apply at 201-A West Marcy. Call (432)263-5550

Help Wanted

AMERICA'S AIR Force

Jobs available in over 150 careers plus:
*Enlistment bonuses for certain careers
*Up to \$10,000 student loan repayment
*Up to 100% tuition assistance
*High tech training
High school grads age 17-27 or prior service members from any branch, call
1-800-432-USAF
or visit
AIRFORCE.COM



U.S AIR FORCE
CROSS INTO THE BLUE

BURT HILL Kosar Rittelmann Associates is seeking certified HUB consultants in the areas of mechanical/ electrical, structural, civil, landscape and interior design for consideration in response to RFQ's and participation on project teams. Non-HUB certified firms meeting the Texas General Services Commission HUB certification requirements should respond. Please fax your State of Qualifications to 724-285-6815 or mail to 101 East Diamond Street, Butler, PA 16001

CORRECTIONAL OFFICER

Screening The Wallace/Ware Units will be holding a screening process for anyone who is interested in becoming a correctional officer on February 3rd, 4th, 5th, 2004. This screening will take place at the Webb Center, located between the Wallace and Ware Units off of I-20 in Colorado City, TX. For additional information and to receive an application you can contact Lovida Hamilton, TDCJ, (325)728-2162.

Help Wanted

ELECTRICIAN POSITION AVAILABLE

The Colorado River Municipal Water District has an opening for an Industrial Electrician. Will work out of Big Spring, TX. Electrical experience and training required. District benefits include paid vacation, sick leave, retirement plan, group insurance and paid holidays. The District is an equal opportunity employer.
Applications are available at the District's office, 400 East 24th Street, Big Spring, Texas



HOUSEPARENTS NEEDED

Buckner Children & Family Services, Hearthstone in Midland, is seeking qualified and energetic married couples to provide a supportive, family living environment for children and adolescents with challenging needs. If you believe you are that special couple with a wealth of love and understanding, please call (432)687-3525 for more information. We offer competitive compensation and benefits. Fax resumes to (432)687-3530 or mail to PO Box 50872, Midland, TX 79710. Applicants may also apply in person. EOE/AA

HOWARD CO. Sheriffs Office will be accepting applications until Feb. 9th for certified Peace Officer. Patrol experience required. Applications can be picked up at the Howard County Sheriffs Office, 300 S. Main, Big Spring, TX 432-264-2244 between 8am & 5pm Monday-Fri.

HOWARD COUNTY Master Gardeners is accepting applications for a part-time Program Coordinator. Application available at the extension office in the courthouse basement. More info, 432-264-2236 or 432-267-3853.

LOAN PROCESSOR position available. Experience not necessary but helpful. Please send resume and salary requirements to: Personnel Department, P.O. Box 3819, Big Spring, TX 79721-3819.

LONG JOHN Silvers, Day and evening shifts available. Must be energetic. Apply in person, 2403 S Gregg. No phone calls, please.

CITY OF Big Spring is taking applications for Mechanic 1. Must provide own hand and air powered tools. For further information contact The Personnel Department at City Hall, 310 Nolan, Big Spring, TX 79720. Call (432)264-2346. The City of Big Spring is EOE.

NEEDING ORGANIST- Pianist or combined Organist/ Pianist Choir Director for First Christian Church at 911 Goliad. Call Church office (432)267-7851.

RIP GRIFFIN'S is now taking applications for Parts Clerk. Good pay, 401K, health insurance. Knowledge of parts and computer a plus. Go by service department and pick up application. No phone calls please.

SECRETARIAL POSITION Available. Mon-Fri, 8:00-5:00. Experience in Quickbooks helpful, but not required. Serious applicants only, can apply in person at Vision Makers, 1307 Gregg St.

WANTED: RN for evening (3-11) shift in a small rural hospital. Competitive salary and benefits. Contact Kathy Dunn RNCC, DON, Martin County Hospital District. (432) 756-3345

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Big Spring, Tx 79720
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(432) 268-1987 fax
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for RN's
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(Effective thru 2/28/04)

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(Monday thru Friday)
Long Term experience required
RN SUPERVISOR
Shifts

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12:30 a.m. - 8:30 p.m.
(Monday thru Friday)
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
4:30p.m. - 12:30 a.m.
12:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.
(Saturday & Sunday)
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SECRETARY WITH good computer skills and experience with Railroad Commission filings. Send resume to: Big Spring Oil Company, PO Box 1870, Big Spring, Texas, 79721.

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AUCTION: SATURDAY February 7, 2004, 10:00 AM. Bob Mitchell Auctioneers, Inc. I-35, Exit 358 Abbott, Texas (254-582-9557). Around 65 tractors, small to 4x4; lots of cab tractors w/loaders. Around 500 implements from small & 3-point up to 50ft. Bulldozer; loaders; trucks & trailers; hay equipment; combines; etc. Everyone welcome! Conducted by Bob Mitchell Auctioneers, Inc., Box 897, Terrell, TX. Office 972-563-1651 or 226-0350, call for brochure. Lic# 6786 Website: www.bobmitchellauctioneersinc.com

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LOST 7 week old black Lab. Reward! Vicinity of Caylor St. Please call (432)264-8925

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2 BEAUTIFUL prom dresses. Sz. 3 & 5. Pd. over \$350./ea. asking between \$100 & \$150. (432)267-5328 or 213-2441

COUCH & Loveseat (Southwest) great condition, console TV, Dining room table w/6 chairs (extend to 7'8"), new treadmill, antique dressing table w/round mirror, dressing drawers. Call (432)267-1474 after 5pm.

SET OF 4 plus spare 20" Dodge factory wheels & new Goodyear Eagle tires. \$1100. (432)816-1120

TUFF ABOVE Ground Vinyl Pool 10x10x5 w/filter, vac & solar cover. \$1000.00 Must see. Call (432)816-6349

National Ads

START DATING TONIGHT! Have fun meeting eligible singles in your area. Toll Free. 1-800-ROMANCE ext. 9735

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AKC SIBERIAN Huskies. 10 weeks old, first shots. Black/White, Blue eyes. 3 Females & 2 Males \$300/ each. \$50 Refund proof of spayed/ neutered. Call 432-263-4868 or 816-8162.

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ONE and Two Bedroom Apartment home available. Starting from \$335.00 per month.

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*Central Air & Heat

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1 BDRM House for rent. Appls. & water furnished. Outside City. \$325/mo. +deposit. Call (432)267-6347 or 263-3993.

1102 SYCAMORE. 1 Bdrm, 1 bath. No pets. Call (432)267-3841 or 270-7309

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1202 PENNSYLVANIA 3/1. CH/A, nice patio, nice area. \$550/mo. \$500/deposit. Call (432)263-1792 or 816-9984.

1311 TUCSON Newly remodeled, 2 bdr., 1 bath, one car garage, CH/A, W/D hookup. Fenced yard. \$410/mo., \$295/dep. 432-270-0833 or 432-8005

1406 YOUNG, 1 Bedroom, 1 bath. \$235/mo., \$150/dep. Call (432)263-1792 or 816-9984.

1603 DONLEY 2 Bedroom, -1 bath. Fenced yard, carport. \$275/mo. \$150/dep. Call (432)263-1792 or 816-9984.

2 & 3 Bdrm Houses for Rent CH/A No pets No HUD (432)263-5818 or 213-0820

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310 E. 21st. Street. 3 Bdrm, 2 bath, CH/A. Stone house on large corner lot. Available Feb. 1st. One year lease required. \$550/mo. \$400/dep.. Call (432)263-0441 Owner/Broker.

4 BEDROOM, 2 bath, CHA, newly remodeled. Call 270-3848.

407 1/2 E. 8th. 1 Bdrm Apartment. Recently remodeled. New counter tops. CH/A. \$275/mo. + deposit. No HUD. Call (432)267-2296

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EXECUTIVE 3 Bedroom, 1 1/2 bath. 2 car garage. Great location. \$850/mo. Call (432)263-2382

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FOR SALE or rent. 4109 Dixon. Newly remodeled 4/2. Rent for \$500/mo., \$500/dep. CH/A. References required. No Pets! (432)267-3074 or 979-324-2072

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1979 FORD Extended cab, was running when parked, needs brakes & carburetor. Best offer! 432-263-6922.

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2003 Ford Taurus SES, program car, V-6, keyless. Factory warranty. Low payments, 15k. three to choose from. Sale priced at \$13,995.

Wilson Motors, 1101 E. Coliseum Dr., Snyder, TX, (800) 545-5019

1994 CHEVY Z71. Real clean. \$7,000. Call 268-8281 or Cell# 213-0547.

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49E

The Golan Heights

To Whom Do They Belong? Can Israel Survive Without Them?

In a transparent effort to improve his thuggish image, Syria's president Bashar Assad has proposed to meet with Israeli government officials to discuss the possibility of peace. There can be no question that "peace" is not on Mr. Assad's mind, but rather the recovery of the Golan Heights, from which Syria has launched three major wars against Israel.

What are the facts?

Historical Background—The Golan was always part of the Jewish homeland. The Syrian claim to the Golan is tenuous. Syria, as a political entity, did not exist at all until after the first World War. Until then it was just another province in the Ottoman empire, with ill-defined borders. In 1923, in an Anglo/French great power play, the border between Syria and Israel was established. The Golan Heights were ceded to Syria. Even before the establishment of Israel in 1948, the Syrians, having heavily fortified the area, subjected the villages in northern Israel to almost daily shellings, making normal life impossible. In the 1967 Six-Day War, Syria attacked Israel and was defeated. Israel occupied the Golan Heights and in 1981, for all practical purposes, annexed them.

Syria and its President—Syria is the most destabilizing influence in the Middle East. It is classified by the U.S. State Department as a narcotic-dealing and terrorist state. Its main fury is directed against Israel, which is perceived as a bulwark of Western influence and civilization, both of which Syria abhors and totally rejects. Syria's former president, Hafez Assad, was a tyrant, every bit as ruthless and as cunning as his unlamented Iraqi counterpart Saddam Hussein. His son, the current president, is equally despotic, though not quite as smart as his father. Syria is a world center for terrorism. It still harbors Nazi bigwigs, who found welcome there after the World War. Few doubt that Hafez Assad was the mastermind behind the attack on the US Marines barracks in Beirut in which 241 Americans were killed. The Syrian government oversees one of the largest narcotics and counterfeiting operations in the world.

Syria has attacked Israel three times across the Golan. Given its implacable hostility, no responsible Israeli leader could possibly return the Golan to Syria. If it were to give up the high ground of the Golan and return to the "death trap" borders of 1967 or anything close to it, Israel, in order to survive, would have to rely on the good will of the Arab states, whose main policy objective is the destruction of Israel. Even though peace-for-peace would be the best solution, how about this: In order to assuage Arab pride, consider granting formal ownership of the Golan to Syria and having Israel—given the precedents of Guantánamo and Hong Kong—lease it back for a hundred-year period. An aggressor will attack only if confident of victory. With the Golan in Israeli hands, attacking Arab armies could be confident of defeat, and peace would be preserved. To hand back the Golan to Syria at this time would be a prescription for war and for Israel's destruction.

Military Security—The Golan is a small plateau of about 400 square miles. If it were a part of Syria it would be less than 1% of its territory. But it is of supreme strategic importance to Israel. Its high ground provides early-warning capability, without which Israel—just as in 1948, in 1967, and in 1973—would be subject to surprise attack by the Syrians. Its loss would obligate Israel to stay on constant alert and to maintain a state of readiness and mobilization that would be economically and socially untenable. The Golan, which ranges up to a height of 2300 ft., dominates the Jordan Valley, the lowest point on earth, about 700 ft. below sea level. On the Golan itself, there are only two natural terrain bottlenecks through which tanks can advance.

"With the Golan in Israeli hands, attacking Arab armies could be confident of defeat, and peace would be preserved. To hand back the Golan to Syria at this time would be a prescription for war and for Israel's destruction."

Those choke points are defensible and made possible the repulse of 1400 Syrian tanks that attacked Israel in the 1973 war. But with the Golan in Syrian hands, and without the radar installations that would give Israel warning of any military movements, thousands of tanks—backed up by missiles and airplanes—could overrun Israel in a matter of hours. It would be a strategically impossible situation, especially for a country as small as Israel—smaller than Lake Michigan, smaller by half than San Bernardino County in California. The Golan does not make for perfect defense, but it gives Israel a small, vitally important breathing space for mobilization.

The Golan is the source of over one-third of Israel's fresh water. In 1964, with the Golan in Syrian hands, Syria attempted to divert these headwaters and to cripple Israel's water supply. It is more than likely that, given another opportunity, Syria would once again attempt to destroy Israel's water supply.

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