

TUESDAY

February 17, 2004

WEATHER

Tonight:



CLEAR

TONIGHT TOMORROW
 34°-35° 70°-72°

BRIEFLY

SkyWarn class

The National Weather Service will be holding a SkyWarn class Thursday from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Big Spring City Council Chambers, located at 307 E. Fourth Street. The NWS will present information on storm-spotting and safety measures to take during severe weather situations. For more information, call 432-563-5006.

Heart gala set

The battle against heart disease is coming to Big Spring Saturday as the American Heart Association presents "Hollywood for Heart," a fund-raising gala featuring silent and live auctions. The gala will get under way at 8 p.m. at the Big Spring Country Club and is open to the public. Tickets will be sold at the door for \$25. For more information contact Lauri Phillips at 263-1821.

**COMING
 THIS WEEKEND**



Cover Story: B.B. King (MS)
 Hometown Hero: As a boy, Jim Gray idolized Roy Rogers and Gene Autry and wanted to go where the real cowboys were when he grew up. Years later he realized he already lived where many of the Western legends left their marks.

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Runoff for Senate District 31 going on today

By **THOMAS JENKINS**

Staff Writer

The fate of the unexpired State Senate District 31 seat formerly held by Teel Bivins will be settled this evening, as Kel Seliger, R-Amarillo, and Kirk Edwards, R-Odessa, face off in a runoff election.

In a Jan. 20 special election, Seliger fell short of the mandatory 50 percent of the vote to avoid the runoff election, garnering 35.72 percent district-wide. Edwards pulled in 20.56 percent, eliminating five of the office hopefuls.

Polling places, which will be open until 7

Polls open until 7 p.m.

p.m., are the same as those that were consolidated for the Jan. 20 special election. Polling locations are as follows:

- Precincts 101-115, North Side Fire Station, 100 N.E. Eighth Street.
- Precincts 202-205, 208, Washington Elementary School, 1201 S. Birdwell Lane.
- Precincts 207, 405, 407-409, Coahoma Community Center, Coahoma.
- Precincts 302-305, Goliad Intermediate School Library, 2000 Goliad Street.

• Precincts 401-406, 410, Big Spring High School Library, 707 E. 11th Place.

In Martin County, commissioners recently consolidated four of the polling places for the election, including Precincts 1, 2, 3 and 4. These precincts all vote at the Martin County Community Center, located at 301 N. St. Theresa in Stanton.

Precinct 3A voters can cast their ballots at Grady School, while precinct 4A voters will be required to vote at the Flower Grove Gin.

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



Election officials Jane Hammond, left, Darla Swindell and Helen Crandall get ready to help Howard County voters cast their ballot during the State Senate District 31 runoff election, which began at 7 this morning. Polls will remain open through 7 p.m.

Masons taking teacher nominations, planning annual appreciation breakfast

By **THOMAS JENKINS**

Staff Writer

The Staked Plains Lodge 598 of the Masons of Texas has always been a staunch supporter of public education in the Big Spring area, and this year it will be honoring a pair of local teachers for going the extra mile.

Lodge Worshipful Master Bo Clawson said the group will be honoring a teacher from the Big Spring Independent School District and Forsan Independent School District for excellence in education and that "extra something."

"This is the first year that we're actually awarding this to the teachers," he said. "In the past we've given two scholarships, one to a Forsan student and the other to the Big Spring ISD student, and the award went to the student along with the \$500 scholarship good for any college or technical institute."

"We decided to change it this year and honor the teachers. We'll still be giving the scholarships, but the award will go to the teachers. We decided to change it because the Coahoma Lodge has been doing it this way for years, and it's gotten to the point that the teachers really look forward to seeing who gets it. This is just a way for us to honor some teachers and we expect to continue doing it this way in the future."

The award is named for former Republic of Texas President Mirebeau B. Lamar,



Bob Horn of Coahoma Masonic Lodge 992 awards Jeanne Cole, a retired Coahoma Independent School District teacher, with the prestigious Mirebeau B. Lamar award for service to public education during a CISD luncheon last May. This year, Staked Plains Lodge 598 is taking nominations for teachers in Big Spring and Forsan for the award. The lodge will accept nominations through April 16.

and according to Clawson, is a reminder of the Mason's continuing support of public education.

"Mirebeau B. Lamar was the second president of the Republic of Texas," said Clawson. "The system of funding public education in Texas started under him. He was a brother Mason, and we named this award for excellence in education after him because of that."

While the final decision on the award comes from the Masons, Clawson said the nominations have to come from the public.

"To make it easier this year,

they can drop off their nominations at any Big Spring or Forsan school," he said. "Or they can just give it to the student and let them take it to school with them. Nominations must be made in writing, and anyone can nominate a teacher."

"We want people to tell us, in their own words, why they think that particular teacher should receive the award. We're looking for the extra things that these teachers do. There are a lot of good teachers out there, but we're looking for that something spe-

SCAMS

Internet breeding ground for many bogus deals, offers

By **THOMAS JENKINS**

Staff Writer

As the reach of the Internet continues to grow all over the world, so does the reach of scam-artists promising easy money for just a few moments of your time.

According to Big Spring Police Sgt. Roger Sweatt, local law enforcement is beginning to see more and more scams being run over the Internet, and although the number of reports have recently increased, they only represent a fraction of the number being sent to local Internet-users.

"We've had at least four so far this year," said Sweatt. "We figure that's a very small fraction of the number that people get here in Big Spring. We're sure that people here in town get them pretty regularly. Most of the time people just delete them and go on, but every so often they will print them out and send them to us, just to let us know so we can put the word out to the public."

One of the more common scams involves money supposedly "hidden" from the recently deposed government of Nigeria, where the promise to help smuggle the funds into the U.S. is followed with unbelievable wealth.

"Under my custody are boxes containing \$25 million," said one such e-mail recently received by a Herald staff member. "If the new government in place sees or discovers the funds they will take the money and plunder it. I have secretly hidden the boxes containing the funds and I will move the boxes of funds to you for safe keeping to any address of your choice through diplomatic courier service or a reputable security company tagged diplomatic luggage with your name as the beneficiary."

The e-mail goes on to explain the transaction requires only a nominal fee to have the "luggage" shipped to the U.S.

While the scams themselves have changed little over the years, Sweatt said the use of the Internet has certainly changed local law enforcement's ability to track scam artists.

"When I first started in law enforcement 25 years ago, people were pulling scams by mail, phone or in person," he said. "They did the pigeon drops and different scams like that in person. Now it's a lot harder to track where some of these scams are coming from."

"We've had several people that are receiving e-mails that are addressed from Nigeria. We had another man that was trying to buy a motorcycle with a forged cashier's check. Luckily he hadn't shipped the motorcycle when the bank notified him the check was a forgery."

"Embarrassment is the reason that scams have been under-reported for years. People don't want others to know they've fallen for something like that."



Sgt. Roger Sweatt, Big Spring police

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Obituaries

Frances Katherine Wilcher

Frances Katherine Wilcher, 88, of Big Spring, died on Friday, Feb. 13, 2004. Graveside funeral services were held Monday, Feb. 16, 2004, with Elwin Collum, officiating. Interment was held in Hancock Cemetery in Lamesa.

Mrs. Wilcher was born Oct. 31, 1915, in Lamesa. She married John Luther Wilcher on Jan. 22, 1934, in Lamesa. He preceded her in death in 1976.

She was a former editor of the *Lamesa Press Reporter*. She graduated from South Plains School of Nursing, and attended Texas Tech school of nursing. She was employed as an LVN at the Medical Arts Hospital for a number of years. She was a member of Crestview Baptist Church of Lamesa.

She was preceded in death by a brother, Paul Edgmon.

Her survivors include three daughters, Gail Wells of Big Spring, Joyce English of Round Rock and Billie Ledbetter of Lamesa; one sister, Minnie Weaver of Midland; one brother, David Hughes of Horseshoe Bay; and seven grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

Visitation was held from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Branon Funeral Home. Funeral arrangements were by Branon Funeral Home.

Faded obituary

Michael Hugo Jean Chappell

Michael Hugo Jean Chappell, 5-month-old son of Kimberly Chappell and Johnny Chappell, of Big Spring, died on Sunday, February 15, 2004, in a local hospital. Graveside funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 18, 2004, at the Peace Chapel at Trinity Memorial Park.

He was born on Aug. 21, 2003, in Big Spring.

In addition to his parents, he is survived by his sister, Maranda Chappell; his brother, Johnathan Chappell; his paternal grandparents, Eva and Buck Chappell; his maternal grandmother, Susan Overton and his maternal grandfather, Klaus Quernheim, all of Big Spring; his paternal great grandmother, Annie Chappell of San Angelo; and numerous aunts and uncles.

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

Allis Wilburly "Wib" Reid

Allis Wilburly "Wib" Reid, 87, of Stanton, died on Saturday, Feb. 14, 2004, in a hospice house. Funeral services were held Sunday, Feb. 15, 2004, at the First United Methodist Church of Stanton with the Rev. Gene Weinette, pastor, officiating. Interment followed at Evergreen Cemetery in Stanton.

Mr. Reid was born on Oct. 24, 1916, in Rule, and married Margaret Elizabeth Albiez in 1943 in San Francisco, Calif. She preceded him in death in 1992.

He moved with his parents and family, the late W.P. and Lillian Reid, to the Valley View Community of Martin County in 1924. He grew up there and graduated from Stanton High School in 1935. He worked in the copper mines in Arizona until 1938, then he enlisted in the United States Coast Guard.

After retirement from the Coast Guard they lived in Inverness and later Yuba City, Calif. He worked as maintenance engineer for the Marin County Catholic School for 18 years. He moved back to Stanton in 1997. He was a member of the senior citizens group. Mr. Reid was a Methodist.

His survivors include one daughter, Kristin Brice Reid of Santa Cruz, Calif.; two brothers, Stanley Reid of Stanton and Jack Reid of Peyton, Colo.; and one sister, Elenia Haynes of Rogers, Ark.

He was preceded in death by his daughter, Sharon; his brothers, Aubrey Reid and Willie Joe Reid; and one sister, Evelyn Haynes.

Arrangements are under the direction of Gilbreath Funeral Home of Stanton. Online condolences can be made at www.npwelch.com.

Altus Kelley

Altus Kelley, 77, of Big Spring, died Monday, Feb. 16, 2004, at his residence. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory.

Lottery

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Monday night:
Winning numbers drawn: 03-09-11-27-34.
Number matching five of five: 1.
Prize per winner: \$42,120.
Winning tickets sold in: San Antonio, STar Food Mart #2.
Matching four of five: 207. Prize: \$92.
Matching three of five: 5,390. Prize: \$8.
Matching two of five: 50,299. Prize: \$2.
Next Cash 5 drawing: Tuesday night.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Monday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 4-8-0

Weather

Tonight...Clear. Lows in the mid 30s. Light winds becoming southeast around 10 mph by midnight.
Wednesday...Mostly sunny. Highs in the lower 70s. South winds 10 to 20 mph.
Wednesday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 40s. South winds 10 to 20 mph.
Thursday...Breezy. Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 70s. South winds 15 to 25 mph.
Thursday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 40s.
Friday...Breezy. Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 60s.
Friday night through Saturday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 30s. Highs in the upper 50s.
Sunday through Monday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 60s. Lows around 40.

Police blotter

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

- **RONDENY TUBBS**, 20, of 1322 Wright, was arrested Monday on two counts of theft-less than \$1,500 with two or more previous convictions.
- **VIRGINIA GRANADOS**, 38, of 109 Pettus, was arrested Monday and held for the Howard County Sheriff's Office.
- **COURTNEY AUSBIE**, 19, of 1101.5 Lancaster, was Tuesday and held for the Howard County Sheriff's Office.
- **DELAND SAVELL**, 45, of 1506 Chicksaw, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of public intoxication and two Howard County warrants.
- **SIMON ZUBIATE**, 23, of 1600 Oriole, was arrested Tuesday on charges of possession of marijuana and two traffic warrants.
- **THEFT was reported:**
 - in the 1200 block of 11th Place.
 - in the 300 block of Owens.
 - in the 1900 block of FM 700.
 - in the 100 block of Gregg Street.
- **BURGLARY OF A HABITATION** was reported:
 - in the 1000 block of Birdwell.
 - in the 1200 block of E. 15th Street.
- **CREDIT CARD OR DEBIT CARD ABUSE** was reported in the 1800 block of FM 700.
- **ASSAULT/FAMILY VIOLENCE** was reported in the 1400 block of Highway 87.

Sheriff's report

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

- **EARL PERRY HANKE**, 45, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a charge of assault/family violence.
- **DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE** was reported in the 700 block of Borden Road. Deputies responded, arrest was made.

Take note

□ **A FUND HAS BEEN** established at the First Bank of West Texas, 1810 FM 700, to help with the medical expenses of 30-year-old Misty McCullum Wilson, who was diagnosed with cancer more than two months ago. Wilson, who went to Coahoma High School before moving to Lubbock, requires radiation treatments expected to cost \$10,000 per visit.

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

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

About 85 to 90 meals are prepared, packaged and delivered to recipients within the city limits of Big Spring.

If you can volunteer, please call 263-4016 before 3 p.m.

□ **ROAD TO RECOVERY DRIVERS WANTED.** Volunteer drivers are needed to transport cancer patients to and from treatments. If you can spare a few hours each month, please consider volunteering to drive somebody along the Road to Recovery. For more information about volunteering or if you are a cancer patient in need of the service, call La Wanda Hamm, 263-7827.

Support groups

TUESDAY
□ Area Agency on Aging of the Permian Basin will hold a self-help support group for care givers in Howard County on Tuesday.

The meeting will be held at Canterbury Retirement Homes Inc., 1700 Lancaster, from 5:30 p.m. until 7 p.m. For more information, call Raynetta Williams, caregiver coordinator, at (432) 563-1061 or (800) 491-4636 or locally call Debbie Read at Home Hospice at (432) 264-7599.

This group is open to the public and funded by the Texas Department on Aging.

THURSDAY
□ Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, 12 noon to 1 p.m.; Women's meeting; 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Non-Smoking closed discussion meeting, 8 to 9 p.m.

□ The Fibromyalgia Autoimmune Disease Support Group will meet only on the second Thursday of the month at noon at the Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center. The group will no long meet weekly.

□ **Alzheimers Support Group** meets at 2 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month at The Texas State Veterans Home, 1809 North Highway 87. For more information call Orand Carroll 268-8387.



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Bulletin board

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

Intermediate line dance classes meet at 9 a.m. in the Senior Citizens Center. Call 267-1628 for more information.

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

Big Spring Art Association meets at 7 p.m. in the Howard County Library basement. The club meets the third Tuesday of each month.

Big Spring Chapter 67, Order of the Eastern Star, meets at 7:30 p.m. in the Masonic Lodge, 219 Main Street.

Big Spring Band Boosters meets at 5:30 p.m. in the high school band hall. All band parents are invited to attend.

Big Spring Shrine Club meets at 6:30 p.m. for dinner and a meeting to follow, First and Goliad streets. All Masons are welcome to attend.

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.

THURSDAY

Kiwanis Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room. Call 267-6479 for more information.

Gideon International Big Spring Camp U42060 meets at 7 a.m. at Herman's Restaurant.

The Coffee Club meets at 10 a.m. at Gale's.

American Legion Auxiliary meets at 6 p.m. at 3203 West Highway 80.

Friends of the Library meet at noon in Howard County Library.

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

Rackley-Swords 379, Vietnam Vets of America meet at 7 p.m. at 309 South Main.

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

Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association meets at 5:30 p.m. at the Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) office, 501 Rannels.

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.

Signal Mt. Quilting Guild meets from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at St. Mary's Episcopal Church. Call 267-1037 or 267-7281. Bring a lunch.

SATURDAY

Dance begins at 8:30 p.m. at Eagles Lodge, 704 West Third. Everyone is welcome.

BIG SPRING HERALD

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Reflecting A Proud Community

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Members of the Coahoma High School Interscholastic Ensemble held Feb. 7 at the front row, Megan Christie Rich and

Coahoma Solo a

Three Coahoma students qualified for the Interscholastic Ensemble contest. Eric Earto, Lauren Yeater and on a Class I solo Vocal Solo and on Feb. 7, at M Abilene. The three choirs to state solo contest May 29 or 31. Coahoma high students had a

Forsan

By LYNDEL MOORE
Staff Writer
Forsan cross-tion debate Rachel Clinton Johnson will second shot at U Interscholastic state competition. The two juniors their slot by plond in the UI contest held at City two weeks. "Forsan came third and fourth teams, and I c much happier. Debate Coach "The Stanton place qualifie tough, but my great job." Falling right team of Clir Johnson were mores Jarrod Kayla Spence in lowed by fresh Borel and Cassi. The two Forsa will head to st tion set for M in Austin to arg topic of should States establish policy which marine life in States. "That's a good West Texas ki

MASONS

Continued from P
cial." Clawson said Plains Lodge 5 accepting no for the award 16, but they're until then to s appreciation teachers, as ready to pres annual Appreciation on March 2. "We've had t fast for year Clawson. "It t during Texas School Week, the first week It's not just lim teachers. Emp the school are to come in



Courtesy photo
Members of the Coahoma Junior High Choir who placed at the UIL Solo and Ensemble contest held Feb. 7 at McMurray University in Abilene pose for a picture. Pictured are, from left, front row, Megan Conley, Krista Kerby, and back row, Alex Moore, Teryn Bibb, Kaysea Spiller, Christie Rich and William Reilly.

Coahoma students qualify for UIL Solo and Ensemble state contests

HERALD Staff Report

Three Coahoma High School choir students qualified for University Interscholastic League Solo and Ensemble contests.

Eric Earton, Tiffany Paige and Lauren Yeater earned a first division on a Class I solo at the UIL Region II Vocal Solo and Ensemble contest held on Feb. 7, at McMurray University in Abilene.

The three choir students will advance to state solo contest in San Marcos on May 29 or 31.

Coahoma high school and junior high students had a strong showing in the

district contest with 15 members earning excellent and superior ratings.

Results are as follows: From Coahoma High School, Eric Barton, Division I; Lauren Yeater, Division I; Tiffany Paige, Division I; Callie Paige, Division I; Callie Price, Division I; Elisha Teeler, Division II; Haley Butts, Division II; and Chelsea Griffin, Division II.

From Robert "Rob" Ethridge Junior High School, Teryn Bibb, Division I; Megan Conley, Division I; Krista Kerby, Division I; Christie Rich, Division I; William Reilly, Division I; Alex Moore, Division II; and Kaysea Spiller, Division II.

Forsan pair CX debaters state bound

By LYNDEL MOODY

Staff Writer

Forsan cross-examination debate partners Rachel Clinton and Levi Johnson will get their second shot at University Interscholastic League 2A state competition.

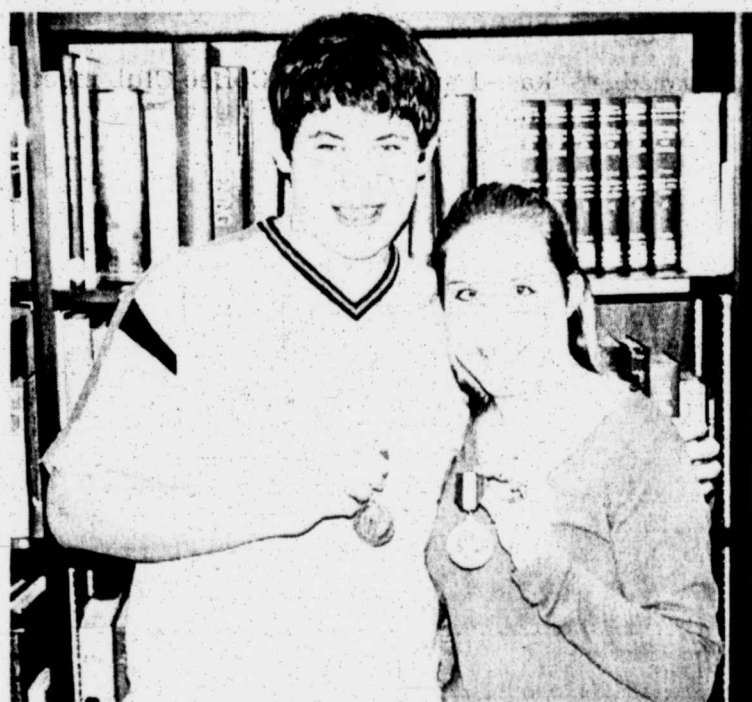
The two juniors earned their slot by placing second in the UIL district contest held at Colorado City two weeks ago.

"Forsan came in second, third and fourth out of 10 teams, and I couldn't be much happier," said CX Debate Coach Jan Sims. "The Stanton boys (first place qualifiers) were tough, but my kids did a great job."

Falling right behind the team of Clinton and Johnson were sophomores Jarrod Price and Kayla Spence in third, followed by freshmen Dani Borel and Cassi Wash.

The two Forsan juniors will head to state competition set for March 15-16 in Austin to argue on the topic of should the United States establish an ocean policy which protects marine life in the United States.

"That's a good topic for West Texas kids," Sims



Courtesy photo/Bob Fishback
Forsan High School juniors Rachel Clinton and Levi Johnson, cross-examination debate partners, earned a second shot at the University Interscholastic League state contest set for March. The two placed second at the UIL district contest two weeks ago in Colorado City.

quipped. "We learned a lot."

Cross-Debate is an activity that requires an enormous amount of self-discipline and dedication, Sims said, and if successful can result in scholarship opportunities.

"If the students break to octa-finals at state they are eligible for scholarships," Sims said.

"Because debate is such a demanding event, the kids have a good chance at scholarships."

The Clinton-Johnson qualification marks the fourth straight time teams from Forsan High have earned a berth at state competition during the school's four-year-old cx debate program.

breakfast with us as well.

"In the past, we had presentations to go along with the meal, but we decided not to do that anymore."

"We just want them to come in and eat and not

be a captive audience. It's not limited to any particular school district either."

The breakfast will be held from 6:30 a.m. until 8 a.m. on March 2, at 219 Main Street.

MASONS

Continued from Page 1A

cial."

Clawson said the Staked Plains Lodge 598 will be accepting nominations for the award until April 16, but they're not waiting until then to show their appreciation to local teachers, as they get ready to present their annual Teacher Appreciation Breakfast on March 2.

"We've had this breakfast for years," said Clawson. "It takes place during Texas Public School Week, which is the first week in March. It's not just limited to the teachers. Employees of the school are welcomed to come in and have

Hawaii may let dogs dine with people

HONOLULU (AP) — Cpl. Rita Levergood and her husband disagree whether four-legged members of their family should be able to join them out to dinner. The state, however, is clear: It's against the law.

A state senator's proposal going before a Department of Health committee this week would make it easier for animal lovers like Levergood to dine out with the pets they say are like family.

"I hate to leave them at the house by themselves," said Levergood, 21, who owns two dogs. "I most definitely would like to bring them."

Sen. Fred Hemmings, a Republican, wants to see state health rules eased to give restaurants the option of allowing dogs into outdoor seating areas.

His request faces a vote Thursday by

the state's Advisory Council on Food Protection Practices. If it is adopted, Hawaii would join 21 other states with similar pet-friendly dining rules, according to Tara Kain of DogFriendly.com.

Current Hawaii health regulations ban pets from food establishments. Violators face fines and, for repeated offenses, closure.

It was at a small cafe in the French resort Biarritz that Hemmings came up with the idea of relaxing the regulations. He says he still can't erase the memory of an elderly woman whose tiny dog was seated beside her.

"I would have to surmise that this dog was a very important part of this woman's life," he said.

Man eats 3 cherry pies in 10 minutes

WESTAMPTON, N.J. (AP) — A man devoured three cherry pies in 10 minutes to win the first New Jersey Presidents Day cherry pie-eating contest Monday.

Bill Howe, 30, topped a field of nine contestants at the Deerwood Country Clubs Estates community.

Howe received \$500 for winning first

prize.

Cash prizes also went to the second place finisher, Kassiem Robinson, 32, of Mount Holly, and the third-place finisher, Ed Taboada Jr. of Easton, Pa.

The contestants received their instructions from a George Washington reenactor, William Agress of Lawrenceville.

SCAM

Continued from Page 1A

Because of the electronic anonymity afforded by the Internet, Sweatt said most scam cases get turned over to the FBI, but because of the sheer number of scams being run and the financial magnitude of some of the more serious cases, results can sometimes be slow or non-existent.

"The FBI requests that we send most of these to them," he said, "because they are more able to track things like this. They aren't actively working most of them because the amounts are too small, however. The FBI doesn't generally mess with these with losses of \$500 to \$600 dollars. They're more concerned with the ones that have netted \$10,000 and more. That's kind of the threshold that they work with."

While the embarrassment of being duped by a scam artist has kept many people from coming forward and reporting the crime, Sweatt said it's important to remember how many people have fallen for the same trick and the need to warn others before they fall victim as well.

"It's really important to us because we want to know if scams like these are running in town," said Sweatt. "If one person has fallen for it and sent the money off, you can bet that other people have too. Embarrassment is the reason that scams have been under-reported

for years. People don't want others to know they've fallen for something like that. That's how these scam artists make a living. They make these things really believable and tempting."

"We encourage people not to be embarrassed by it because there have been hundreds and thousands of people that have fallen for these before, and a lot of them have gone unreported because of embarrassment. If we know a scam like this is going on, we can go to the media and put the word out. Even if people want to report it to us anonymously, we want to know about it."

While the number of scams involving everything from deposited foreign governments to unclaimed prizes and lottery winnings, is increasing, Sweatt said people can fall back on an old adage when questioning the validity of a questionable e-mail.

"Pay attention and use common sense," explained Sweatt. "It's just like we've always said: If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is. A lot of the scams that people run is simply sending you an e-mail from overseas saying you've won their lottery and you're going to get \$25 million. All you have to do is send them some amount to cover the taxes or the transaction fees."

"If people will think about it a little while and not let greed overcome them, they'll see that it just doesn't sound right.

Unfortunately, greed usually takes over and that's how people get scammed."

If you believe you've been the target of a scam, Sweatt said reporting it is easy and hassle-free.

"Just call us at the police department," he said. "Or if they really don't want to get that involved with it, they can mail it to us. If they don't want us to call them, we won't. All they have to do is put a note on it saying they don't want us to call."

"Sometimes we like to talk to them just to see how they were approached, whether it was by phone first, or straight through e-mail. Sometimes, if it was by phone, we can backtrack the number and see where it started."

For more information, contact the BSPD at 264-2550.

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

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Michael Mansfield, 25, died Friday night. Funeral Services were at 10:00 AM Tuesday at First Baptist Church. Burial was at Trinity Memorial Park.

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FEB 17 2004

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
PublisherJohn A. Moseley
Managing EditorBill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEWS

Giving to moving wall a matter of community honor

With preparations for the arrival of The Moving Wall already in high gear, members of the Big Spring Vietnam Memorial Committee are still in need of financial donations to help cover the cost of the Wall's visit and volunteers to work during its week-long stay.

After more than 16 years, the Vietnam Memorial Moving Wall will once again be on display in Big Spring, March 27 through April 2, and it will be an event that most definitely needs to involve people throughout the community.

The Moving Wall first came to Big Spring in 1987, and the emotion evoked during that visit led to creation of the Big Spring Vietnam Memorial.

Following that Big Spring exhibit, the group that would later become known as the Vietnam Memorial Committee of Big Spring Inc. decided to commemorate the event by planting a tree where the wall had been displayed.

From that start the VMC developed a plaza and the obelisk in that spot. Since that time the memorial has continued to expand with erection of the Gold Star Mother's Chapel, honoring men and women of all services and all wars who have given the supreme sacrifice. The VMC has also added static displays of an F4 Phantom jet, AH-1 and UH-1 helicopters and a M-60 tank.

Now organizers have the task of raising the funds and volunteers needed for the memorial's visit.

"We are going to need a lot of help," noted Gene Wilson, president of the VMC. "Even with the Vietnam Memorial Committee, the Vietnam Veterans of America chapter here, the VA Medical Center, the Disabled American Veterans, American Legion, the Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez State Veterans Home, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Hangar 25, Mission Possible and The Military Support Group serving as hosts, we still need all the help we can get from the community."

Sponsors for the visit to date include the *Big Spring Herald*, KBST, KBYG, Freecom and the Eagles Lodge.

Monetary donations to cover costs, as well as in kind services have come in from many local businesses and individuals, but Wilson admits that more is needed.

The same can be said about the need for volunteers. Wilson explains that the site will have to be manned 24 hours a day for the entire week of the wall's visit. "That in itself is going to take a lot of manpower," he noted, "so we're going to need all the help we can get. Anyone that can help out is needed, even if its only for a couple of hours. We're not going to turn away any help, that's for sure."

For more information on the Vietnam Memorial Committee and the Moving Wall's visit, go to the VMC website at www.bigspringvietnammemorial.org.

To make a tax-deductible contribution toward the memorial's visit mail donations to: Vietnam Memorial Committee, P.O. Box 2854, Big Spring 79720.

Those interested in serving as volunteers should contact Vicki Osburn, the committee's treasurer, at 267-7828.

Once again, we're encourage all area residents to get involved in this most worthwhile project.

It is without question a matter of honor for our community.

The debate about environmental debates

Let's focus the mind on what really matters. Heat, water, ozone and all that. Two excellent books address disparate aspects of man's folly concerning water, but before we even plunge into those H2Os, let's take a look at a larger debate about environmental debates in general.

To oversimplify (always an inviting option), we find a lot of people who know a fair amount about earth sciences seriously worried about what mankind is doing to the planet Earth. On the other hand, we have a lot of people with an ideological commitment to pure capitalism arguing that this is all hokey.

My favorite guy in the Hoey School is the late Julian Simon, author of "The Ultimate Resource 2" (that's the revised edition). I wish I'd known about Simon some 25 years ago when I went to a big deal conference near Houston of assorted experts all discussing the Club of Rome report.

For all you baby enviros, that was a gloomy assessment du jour predicting that the world would shortly run out of practically everything, and that pretty much our best option was to fall on our swords immediately. I exaggerate, of course — but then, so did the Club of Rome. Being of congenitally cheerful disposition, I dubbed them the Doom Conference and found the whole thing hilarious.

As we have since been through many more reports of impending doom without finding it on our doorsteps, it is most tempting to adopt Simon's chipper theory that all natural resources are infinite. He figures this in several ways.

His economic theory of pollution is that resources and pollution are opposite sides of the same coin. His economic theory of resources is that money finds a way to make

them cheaper, and what's more, he's got some dandy evidence to that effect. Naturally, he's practically a god to market fundamentalists, who never could figure out what to do with pollution except to make sure the corporations that cause it don't have to pay to clean it up. "Socialize pollution" has been their strategy so far, but Simon is more sophisticated.

If you accept that capitalism is an accounting system that does not count either environmental or social costs, then you will find Simon alarmingly off base. And I must admit there is something slightly blasphemous about his contention that the Market will solve all our problems; you could almost substitute the Market for God in a standard prayer, and it would sound very like Simon. But he is an economist, so there are also lots of charts and graphs and some truly funny case histories.

I suspect that the ultimate weakness of Simon's argument is precisely that he is an economist. It's always interesting to see how different the world looks when you slip the lens of one discipline out of the viewer and slip in another. Physicists, obviously, view the world in an entirely different way from historians; biologists do not see the world the same way geologists do, and so forth. And then there are the English majors of whom we are so fond.

Many good minds have noticed that one of the great weaknesses of higher education in this country is the separation of disciplines. A few schools have even tried to break down the normal departmental system and integrate history, art, economics, anthropology, sociology, etc. But if you accept that Simon represents economists — or at least market fundamentalists — then you find that discipline in direct contradiction with earth scientists, particularly climatologists.

It's one thing for Simon to take on an alarmist popularizer like Paul Ehrlich, author of "The Population Bomb," which Simon deliciously deflates. But that's a

case of shooting fish in a barrel. It's quite another to challenge the enormous majority of reputable scientists in their area of expertise.

Simon essentially contends that all forecasts of doom heretofore have been wrong. Ergo, we're justified in dismissing current forecasts of doom. That leaves the climatologists of the world in the awkward position of saying, "But this time the sky IS falling!" (OK, so they're actually saying there's a big hole in the sky — don't bother me with details.)

I'm perfectly comfortable with the notion that all the experts could be wrong; one of my favorite books is the Cerf-Navasky classic, "The Experts Speak." But to dismiss the best science available because experts have been wrong before is evidence of another factor that often warps judgment. As they say, "Denial is not just a river in Egypt."

If the experts are right, the future will be very hot, very expensive and real hard to fix. So, of course, we'd rather not think about it.

All science is provisional, eternally subject to revision in the light of new evidence. (The people who keep claiming that the theory of evolution is "just a theory" seem not to have grasped that.) If there's not a big hole in the sky, or if we figure out how to fix it by manufacturing a new ozone layer, think how happy we will be.

And Mr. Simon (who, alas, died last year) would have us believe that the market can do this for us — and enable us to create pure water, clean air, fresh oceans, etc. As I say, the Market's resemblance to God in his work is a little alarming.

I think God gave us brains so we could use them, and maybe we can figure out how to do all that, spurred along by the Market. But our better bet at this point is to follow the First Rule of Holes: When you are in one, stop digging. Discussion of the water books to follow.

MOLLY
IVINS

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Anything goes in the senate

Democratic Whip Harry Reid of Nevada, who each day roams the Senate floor protecting the minority party and pummeling George W. Bush, showed up Wednesday carrying a paperback book. It was David Brock's "Blinded by the Right," and Reid used it as a blunt weapon against President Bush's choice of Judge Laurence Silberman as Republican co-chairman of the bipartisan commission to investigate Iraq intelligence failures.

Reid cited at length Brock's screed against the author's erstwhile conservative colleagues, including his former mentor, Judge Silberman. Sen. Byron Dorgan of North Dakota, another Senate Democratic leader, on cue showed up to join the auto-da-fe. They accepted as gospel Brock's accusations against Silberman, who is now in senior status on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia. While Silberman describes Brock as "an unmitigated liar," Reid used the book as justification for calling on Bush to withdraw the judge's selection. Republican senators were as feckless as ever. Not one of them rose to speak in defense of Silberman.

Not since Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy's attack on Gen. George C. Marshall half a century ago has the Senate been such a cockpit for calumny against a distinguished lifetime public servant. Harry Reid is certainly no Joe McCarthy,

but he is not the soft-spoken, deferential young lawyer first elected to Congress 22 years ago. Caught up in today's coarsely partisan ethos, Reid is intent on using the Iraq war as a political weapon against Bush. Silberman's co-chairmanship of the intelligence commission is seen by Democratic senators as an obstacle to that plan. In the Senate of 2004, anything goes.

When the semi-retired judge was named co-chairman (along with a Democrat, former Sen. Charles Robb), Brock's book came out of mothballs. A right-wing hit man turned left-wing hit man, he leveled unsubstantiated accusations against Silberman that within 24 hours of the Bush commission's unveiling were repeated around Washington. Brock was cited as a principal source in a Los Angeles Times article published Wednesday that questioned Silberman's impartiality.

Reid took the floor that afternoon armed with the book and the newspaper. He read the LA Times's quote from Herman Schwartz, a liberal law professor from American University who sees a conspiracy to pack courts with conservative judges. This combative critic designated Silberman as "fiercely partisan, pugnacious and very political." Reid agreed, calling Silberman "one of the most partisan people in all of America." Dorgan, chairman of the Senate Democratic Policy Committee, chimed in to call Silberman "a very strident, aggressive, partisan supporter" of Bush.

This verbal abuse has been heaped on a throwback to The Establishment's heyday, when

prominent citizens sacrificed significant income to devote themselves to the nation. Silberman served as a Labor and Justice department official and ambassador to Yugoslavia before being named to the second highest federal court. He is a conservative Republican but stubbornly independent. At the Labor Department, he dickered with the Nixon White House. He threatened to quit as deputy attorney general if the Justice Department did not pursue a corruption case against John B. Connally. His pro-choice views on abortion probably kept him from a Supreme Court nomination.

Silberman has six times been confirmed by the Senate without a dissenting senator, but those votes were cast in a very different institution than exists today. The current minority whip accepts the word of a journalist, whose veracity often has been challenged, over a distinguished public servant.

On Wednesday, Reid went on the Senate floor to repeat Brock's claim that the judge gave him "a specific tip involving the president's (Bill Clinton's) sex life to pursue." This allegation is totally false, Silberman said, adding that he knew nothing about Clinton's sex life. This, he said, is part of a book that is "laced with fiction."

"Here is a man," Reid told the Senate, "who is violating the canons of judicial ethics and responsibilities that judges have." Which canon? This column got no answer from the senator's office. There is no canon about judges expressing political opinions privately. They cannot talk politics publicly, and Silberman never has. Such nuances are lost as total war is waged in the Senate.

ROBERT
NOVAK

NEWS

Five convicted

CRAWFORD last year en President Bush lating the city's A jury deliberating the guilty v demeanor of vision ordinance. "It's an over nation and h protest zone ar 23, of Austin, o

What

The most question come ac desk the concern online and whether or firewall is the a users' concerns Before you ru by a firewall pr which range in from \$19.95 all up to the netw istrator version cost hundreds t sands of dolla, ask yourself this: Do I know what a firewall is, how it works and what it can protect?

A fire wall is a system or group of systems that enforces an access contr between two ne The actual mea which this is a plished varies but in principle wall can be th a pair of mecha One which ex block traffic, a other which ex mit traffic. Som walls place a g emphasis on b traffic, while o emphasize per traffic.

Probably the important thin nize about a fi that it implem access control you don't have idea of what k access you wa or to deny, a fi really won't he It's also impo recognize that wall's configur because it is a nism for enforc cy, imposes its everything beh Administrators walls managin nectivity for a ber of hosts the have a heavy r ity.

So why woul or need a firew

The Internet, other society, i with the kind who enjoy the e equivalent of w other people's spray paint, te mailboxes off, ting in the stre their car horns people try to g work done ove Internet, and o sensitive or pr data they must Usually, a firew pose is to keep out of your net while still letti your job done.

Many traditi corporations a centers have c security polici practices that adhered to. In where a compa cies dictate ho must be protec wall is very im since it is the e ment of the co policy. Freque hardest part of to the Internet a large compar justifying the e

NEWS BRIEFS

Five convicted of violating city ordinance

CRAWFORD (AP) — Five peace activists arrested last year en route to a demonstration outside President Bush's ranch were convicted Monday of violating the city's protest ordinance.

A jury deliberated about 90 minutes before returning the guilty verdicts for the five on the Class C misdemeanor of violating Crawford's parade and procession ordinance.

"It's an overall picture of the complacency of our nation and how the president has this sort of no-protest zone around him at all times," Amanda Jack, 23, of Austin, one of the defendants, said in a story in

Tuesday's Waco Tribune-Herald. "It's completely absurd that you can't even get near the peoples' president. You can't even petition your own government representative."

The Crawford ordinance required 15 days' notice and \$25 before the chief of police could issue a permit to protest within the city. The rule has since changed to allow for a seven-day notice.

The five, who were given fines ranging from \$200 to \$500, plan to appeal.

Trial for woman accused of smothering baby set

HOUSTON (AP) — A Beaumont woman accused of smothering and abandoning her newborn son almost six years ago and then leaving a second baby in a ditch over the summer has a lot to overcome when she faces trial Tuesday on a capital murder charge, a legal

expert said.

Kenisha Berry, 26, is charged with capital murder for the smothering and abandonment of her son shortly after his birth in 1998. She also faces a separate abandonment charge for leaving her newborn daughter in a ditch over the summer. The little girl survived, but was covered with hundreds of ant bites when a passer-by spotted her in June.

The baby boy's body was found years earlier in a black plastic bag tossed in a trash bin in the parking lot of a Beaumont apartment building. Duct tape was stretched across his mouth and belted his tiny arms to his body.

Authorities later learned he still had milk in his stomach.

"She doesn't look sympathetic at all," South Texas College of Law professor, Shelby A.D. Moore, said Monday of Berry.

What firewalls can do and whether you need one or not

The most common questions that come across my desk these days concern online security, and whether or not a firewall is the answer to users' concerns.

Before you run out and buy a firewall program, which range in price from \$19.95 all the way up to the network administrator versions which cost hundreds to thousands of dollars, ask yourself this: Do I know what a firewall is, how it works and what it can protect?



THOMAS JENKINS

A firewall is a system or group of systems that enforces an access control policy between two networks. The actual means by which this is accomplished varies widely, but in principle, the firewall can be thought of as a pair of mechanisms: One which exists to block traffic, and the other which exists to permit traffic. Some firewalls place a greater emphasis on blocking traffic, while others emphasize permitting traffic.

Probably the most important thing to recognize about a firewall is that it implements an access control policy. If you don't have a good idea of what kind of access you want to allow or to deny, a firewall really won't help you.

It's also important to recognize that the firewall's configuration, because it is a mechanism for enforcing policy, imposes its policy on everything behind it. Administrators for firewalls managing the connectivity for a large number of hosts therefore have a heavy responsibility.

So why would you want or need a firewall?

The Internet, like any other society, is plagued with the kind of jerks who enjoy the electronic equivalent of writing on other people's walls with spray paint, tearing their mailboxes off, or just sitting in the street blowing their car horns. Some people try to get real work done over the Internet, and others have sensitive or proprietary data they must protect. Usually, a firewall's purpose is to keep the jerks out of your network while still letting you get your job done.

Many traditional-style corporations and data centers have computing security policies and practices that must be adhered to. In a case where a company's policies dictate how data must be protected, a firewall is very important, since it is the embodiment of the corporate policy. Frequently, the hardest part of hooking to the Internet, if you're a large company, is not justifying the expense or

effort, but convincing management that it's safe to do so. A firewall provides not only real security — it often plays an important role as a security blanket for management.

Lastly, a firewall can act as your corporate "ambassador" to the Internet. Many corporations use their firewall systems as a place to store public information about corporate products and services, files to download, bug-fixes and so forth. Several of these systems have become important parts of the Internet service structure (for example, whitehouse.gov) and have reflected well on their organizational sponsors.

What sort of online attacks can a firewall protect my PC or network against, or more importantly, what sort of attacks can't it protect against?

Some firewalls permit only e-mail traffic through them, thereby protecting the network against any attacks other than attacks against the e-mail service. Other firewalls provide less strict protections, and block services that are known to be problems.

Generally, firewalls are configured to protect against unauthenticated interactive logins from the "outside" world. This, more than anything, helps prevent vandals from logging into machines on your network. More elaborate firewalls block traffic from the outside to the inside, but permit users on the inside to communicate freely with the outside. The firewall can protect you against any type of network-borne attack if you unplug it.

Firewalls are also important since they can provide a single "choke point" where security and audit can be imposed. Unlike a situation where a computer system is being attacked by someone dialing in with a modem, the firewall can act as an effective

"phone tap" and tracing tool. Firewalls provide an important logging and auditing function, often providing summaries to the administrator about what kinds and amount of traffic passed through it, how many attempts there were to break into it and other useful tidbits of information.

Providing this "choke point" can serve the same purpose on your network as a guarded gate can for your site's physical premises. That means anytime you have a change in zones or levels of sensitivity, such a checkpoint is appropriate. A company rarely has only an outside gate and no receptionist or security staff to check badges on the way in. If there are layers of security on your site, it's reasonable to expect layers of security on your network.

Firewalls can't protect against attacks that don't go through the firewall. For a firewall to work, it must be a part of a consistent overall organizational security architecture. Firewall policies must be realistic and reflect the level of security in the entire network. For example, a site with top secret or classified data doesn't need a firewall at all. They shouldn't be hooking up to the Internet in the first place, or the systems with the really secret data should be isolated from the rest of the corporate network.

Another thing a firewall can't really protect you against is traitors or idiots inside your network. While an industrial spy might export information through your firewall, he's just as likely to export it through a telephone, fax machine or disk. Disks are a far more likely means for information to leak from your organization than a firewall!

Firewalls also cannot protect you against stupidity. Users who reveal sensitive information

over the telephone are good targets for social engineering. Attackers may be able to break into your network by completely bypassing your firewall, if he can find a "helpful" employee inside who can be fooled into giving access to the network.

Lastly, firewalls can't protect against tunneling over most application protocols to Trojaned or poorly-written clients. There are no magic bullets and a firewall is not an excuse to not implement software controls on internal networks or ignore host security on servers. Tunneling "bad" things over HTTP, SMTP and other protocols is quite simple and trivially demonstrated. Security is anything but fire and forget.

Can a firewall protect me against viruses?

Most firewalls don't protect very well against things like viruses. There are too many ways of encoding binary files for transfer over networks, and too many different architectures and viruses to try to search for them all. In other words, a firewall cannot replace security-consciousness on the part of your users.

In general, a firewall

cannot protect against a data-driven attack — attacks in which something is mailed or copied to an internal host where it is then executed. This form of attack has occurred in the past against various versions of sendmail, ghostscript and scripting mail user agents like Outlook and Outlook Express.

Organizations that are deeply concerned about viruses should implement organization-wide virus control measures. Rather than trying to screen viruses out at the firewall, make sure that every vulnerable desktop has virus scanning software that is run when the machine is rebooted. Blanketing your network with virus scanning software will protect against viruses that come in via disks, modems and Internet. Trying to block viruses at the firewall will only protect against viruses from the Internet — and the vast majority of viruses are caught via disks.

Two of the most popular firewall systems on the market are Norton Personal Firewall and ZoneAlarm. The Norton offering carries a \$50 to \$70 price tag and requires an annual

renewal. The Internet Securities edition also comes with virus protection and parental controls. The 2004 version of the suite carries firewall, anti-virus, privacy control, anti-spam and parental control. For more information, visit the Norton Personal Firewall site online at www.symantec.com/sabun/nis/nf.

If you're not too sure whether or not you need a firewall, then ZoneAlarm is most certainly your best bet. It comes in three different levels of service, including a free personal firewall edition. While it lacks some of the bells and whistles of Norton Firewall, it's just as effective. ZoneAlarm users wanting to upgrade their firewall will also be pleased with the premium-program prices, which are \$40 for ZoneAlarm Plus and \$50 for ZoneAlarm Pro. For more information, visit the ZoneAlarm home page at www.zonelabs.com

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

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FEB 17 2004

Dean insists run won't end in Wisconsin

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Democratic front-runner John Kerry looked to Wisconsin on Tuesday for a victory to snuff out the struggling campaign of Howard Dean, who denied his organization was in turmoil and that a loss would end his bid for the nomination.

"We're moving forward and we're gonna go to Super Tuesday and on beyond that. We have very strong field organizations," Dean told "Today" on NBC. "I think there needs to be a continued debate in the party about what we're doing."

Kerry appeared confident as polls in Wisconsin showed him with a comfortable lead over Dean and John Edwards, his other major rival for the state's 72 delegates. Dean's own national chairman, Steve Grossman, left the campaign Monday amid speculation he would join Kerry.

Dean declined to say Tuesday whether Grossman had quit or had been fired after telling reporters that Dean was likely to leave the race if he lost in Wisconsin. Instead, Dean contended his campaign remained solid with more delegates than anyone but Kerry, the strongest presence in Wisconsin of any candidate, and a better infrastructure than any other campaign for the Super Tuesday contests March 2.

"We have an enormous base of grass-roots support who wants to fundamentally change America," Dean said. "We've struggled with fundamentally changing the Democratic Party. Many of the folks now running, including Senator Kerry, have adopted our positions on many issues, and I think that's terrific. We intend to

have real change in Washington, and that's what this campaign's about. And we can't get there by quitting."

Kerry continued to ignore Dean and Edwards as he criticized President Bush, labeling the president missing in action on the economy. He ridiculed the president on Monday for taking a trip to the Daytona 500 auto race in Florida at

Political roundup

a time when the economy should have his undivided attention.

"We don't need a president who just says, 'Gentlemen, start your engines,'" Kerry said. "We need a president who says, 'America, let's start our economy and put people back to work.'"

Edwards said he would sharpen the differences he has with all of his rivals and argued that he was in the race for the long haul. He said it was not too late for a surge in polls that have given Kerry a wide lead in the latest primary test.

"It's not too late because this primary process is going well into March," Edwards said. "I want the voters to know what the differences are between us."

The Democratic rivals swept across Wisconsin on the eve of a primary that could offer the last chance to blunt the momentum that Kerry has built in piling up 14 wins in the first 16 contests.

The departure of Grossman obscured Dean's message in a state with a tradition of supporting liberals, mavericks and Washington

outsiders — a state Dean has said he badly needed to bounce back from a long string of losses.

The move was the second shake-up in recent weeks in a campaign that had been the presumptive front-runner but then failed to win a single primary or caucus. Former campaign manager Joe Trippi was forced out earlier.

For his part, Edwards tried to sharpen the differences he has with both Kerry and Dean on trade issues, and he said it would be easier to get his message out now that the Democratic field has shrunk to half the size it began with.

"Voters will get a better sense of who we are and what the differences are between us," said Edwards.

Edwards was making plans for a campaign post-Wisconsin, scheduling a fund-raiser in New York for Wednesday night and announcing plans for a three-day swing through five states that will hold primaries on Super Tuesday.

He said trade could be a powerful issue in Wisconsin, where more than 74,000 manufacturing jobs have been lost, with many blaming the decline on companies shipping jobs overseas to take advantage of cheap labor.

That, however, was all based on the assumption that he scores well enough in Wisconsin to continue to be a force in the Democratic primaries. While he was generally upbeat, Dean's future was also in doubt. Aides described him as torn between reaching a pragmatic conclusion that the campaign is coming to a close, and his emotional attachment to a race in which he's been running for well over a year.

Gay marriage foes are headed to court

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Their wedding march on City Hall produced marriage licenses in the hundreds, but gay and lesbian couples who took part may not even finish opening gifts before their nuptials are null and void.

Opponents of Mayor Gavin Newsom's decision to defy state law and have marriage licenses issued to gay and lesbian couples were to have their day in court Tuesday, with hearings scheduled on the petitions of two groups.

By Monday night, 2,340 same-sex couples had taken their vows at City Hall since the county clerk, under Newsom's directions, started issuing "gender-neutral" marriage licenses Thursday.

Hundreds of couples, aware their opportunity may be fleeting, spent a rainy Monday in a three-block-long line outside the ornate building waiting for the historic chance to wed with the city's blessing.

"We really felt that if we didn't make it by today that we wouldn't be able to," said Deb Agarwal, 40, after she and her partner of six years, Diane Pizza, 55, were married by an elected city supervisor, one of the dozens of city officials deputized to officiate at the nonstop nuptials.

In a brief submitted for a court hearing Tuesday, lawyers for one of the groups seeking to block gay weddings said Newsom was in blatant violation of state law when he ordered marriage licenses for gay couples.

Newsom has argued that the equal protection clause of the California

Constitution makes denying marriage licenses to gay couples illegal. But lawyers for a group formed to defend Proposition 22 — a 2000 ballot initiative that says the state will recognize only marriages between a man and woman as valid — contend the mayor lacks the authority to make that decision.

"What the mayor and his cronies have attempted to do is short-circuit the legal process by being both judge and jury themselves," said attorney Benjamin Bull.

"What the mayor and his cronies have attempted to do is short-circuit the legal process by being both judge and jury themselves."

Attorney Benjamin Bull

The city's lawyers said they will argue that local government agencies or officials are not barred from advancing their own interpretations of the state constitution.

They also claim the plaintiffs have failed to demonstrate that continuing to issue licenses for same-sex couples would cause the irreparable harm necessary to obtain a court stay.

"Same-sex couples denied the right to marry face far greater harm than the petitioners here," stated a legal brief filed by the city Monday.

Most of the gay couples getting married at City Hall are from the Bay Area but about 50 are from other states, including New York, Georgia, Minnesota, Pennsylvania and South Carolina, Assessor Mabel Teng said.

Many of the city workers who helped process the licenses during the holiday weekend were volunteering their time, Teng said.

The city will continue issuing marriage licenses "unless told otherwise by the city attorney," she said. But she added that the city will be able to

Report: 11,000 clergy abuse claims filed

NEW YORK (AP) — A draft of the upcoming national survey of sex abuse claims against Roman Catholic priests has been viewed by CNN, which reported Monday that 4,450 clergy have been accused of molesting minors since 1950.

The draft survey said 11,000 abuse claims have been filed against the U.S. churchmen during that period, CNN reported.

The survey is being overseen by the National Review Board, a lay watchdog panel the American bishops formed, and conducted by researchers from the John Jay College of Criminal Justice in New York.

John Jay refused to

comment on the CNN report, while board members contacted Monday by The Associated Press wouldn't say whether or not the latest statistics were accurate. They stressed the report is not finished, and that any numbers tallied so far could change before the study is released Feb. 27.

The figures are roughly in keeping with a trend the AP reported on last week.

Some individual dioceses have released the abuse statistics they compiled for the national survey, and the AP has been tracking those reports. Through Monday, 84 of 195 U.S. dioceses had reported claims — with 1,413 clergy accused of

abuse since 1950. Tens of thousands of priests worked in those dioceses during that period.

The number of accused clergy is already much greater than the scope of abuse previously estimated by victims' groups and the media.

"I would hope that the public would kind of withhold any immediate judgment until they get the full story on Feb. 27th," said Leon Panetta, the former Clinton White House chief of staff and a National Review Board member.

Robert S. Bennett, a prominent Washington attorney and another review board member, said survey drafts are circulating only among

board members and John Jay researchers.

No bishops have seen the draft, said Bennett, who also is overseeing the board's investigation into the causes of the clergy abuse crisis. The results of that inquiry will also be released Feb. 27.

"Both the National Review Board report and the John Jay study are still in the process of being written," Bennett said. "People should wait until then to draw their conclusion."

Bishop Wilton Gregory, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, said he has not seen the drafts and can't comment on any numbers until a final report is issued at month's end.



Lewis, the Lightning Bug

Lewis was a lightning bug, but he was no ordinary lightning bug! When he lit up, he really lit up! He was so bright that you could see for miles and miles even on a very dark night. All of the other lightning bugs would not play with him because he was so strange. But he was a very good boy and so sad because the other bugs would not play with him.

In the same yard where Lewis lived, there was a house that Johnny lived in. And poor little Johnny had a problem. He was always afraid to go to sleep because he always thought that he heard noises under his bed. It was always dark under there, and Johnny was afraid to look and see what it might be. His mother and father would always look under the bed for him and tell him it was all right. But after they shut the bedroom door, Johnny would hear the noises again. It would frighten him so much that he could not go to sleep. Really, there were no noises, but Johnny just thought there were!

One day just as it was getting dark, Johnny was playing in the yard when he saw Lewis light up. Boy, was he bright! Johnny went over to Lewis and saw the sad look on his face. "Why are you so sad?" Johnny asked Lewis. "No one likes me because I am so bright," Lewis said. "Well, I like you because you are so bright and different!" said Johnny.

Now Lewis and Johnny got to be good friends that day. They played and stayed until Johnny had to go into the house and get ready for bed. So Lewis just flew up to Johnny's bedroom window to stay there for the night and be close to his new friend. He saw Johnny go to bed and told him goodnight. Then Lewis went to sleep. But something woke him up! It was Johnny crying because he was afraid to go to sleep. He just knew that there was something under his bed!

Lewis tapped on the window. Johnny came over to the window and let Lewis in. "What is wrong, Johnny?" Lewis asked. "Every night when I try to go to sleep, I hear noises under my bed and I am scared!" Johnny said. "Let me take a look," Lewis said. He flew under the bed and turned on his lightning bug light and showed Johnny that there was nothing under the bed. That light really lit the bedroom up!

"I'll tell you what," Lewis said. "I'll sleep under here tonight and every time you think you hear a noise, just poke me and I will light up and you can see for yourself that there is nothing under the bed." "Will you, please?" Johnny asked Lewis. "If you do that, I will be able to sleep all night!"

So Lewis and Johnny went to sleep, and you know what? They both slept all night! They both were happy, and they couldn't wait until the next day so they could play with their new best friend!

Time for bed. Lights out! You too, Lewis!

Good Night!

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Fax: 264-2263
Library Hours:
Mon.-Fri. 9 am-6 pm
Sat. 8 am-1 pm
www.howard-county.lib.tx.us

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IN BI

Several play on tap for...

Area play ball fans will have a full slate of choices from the Cross play host than three bouts.

The Garden Kats and R Lions will take area's slate at the Dorothy Coliseum. 1 Bravettes an Lady Pied P meet at 8 p.m.

The Grady and the A Lady Hornets at 7 p.m. in V

Steers set to hoop season

The Big Spring will close 2003-2004 high school basketball season today with against the Lobos.

Big Spring begin play at

The Big Spring School seniors honored prior start of their games. Am seniors are Ornales-D Wesley Smi Partee, C.J. Kyle Flenkic Cobb, Brandt and Alvin Ru

Baseball to meet Thu

The Big Spring School baseball club will hold Thursday Athletic Center. The will begin at

All baseball or interested are urged to a

BSCC to hold scramble on

The Big Spring Country Club a 4-Person Sc Feb. 28-29 t with a 1 p.m start on bo Entry fee is player plus g For more info call (432) 267-5

Little League ups set for F

Registration 2004 Big Spring League season held Feb. 21. Big Spring Registration the week will from 5:30 p.m p.m. During t end, sign-ups from 9 a.m. to Children through 16 v within the boundaries are Registration required even child played ly.

For more tion, call Rosenbaum at

Coahoma LL set for Feb. 2

Coahoma League regist scheduled to Coahoma on from noon to the high school

ON THE

Event, Time	Feb. 17
Mavericks vs. Memphis, 6:30	Feb. 18
Lady Hawks (softball) vs. Mid	Feb. 19
Lady Hawks vs. Odessa, 5:45	Feb. 19
Hawks vs. Odessa, 7:45 p.m.	

IN BRIEF

Several playoff bouts on tap for today

Area playoff basketball fans will have a full slate of games to choose from today as the Crossroads will play host to no less than three bi-district bouts.

The Garden City Lady Kats and Roby Lady Lions will tip off the area's slate at 6 p.m. in the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. The Iraan Bravettes and Hamlin Lady Pied Pipers will meet at 8 p.m.

The Grady Lady Cats and the Aspermont Lady Hornets will meet at 7 p.m. in Westbrook.

Steers set to close hoop season today

The Big Spring Steers will close out their 2003-2004 high school basketball campaign today with a home against the Levelland Loboes.

Big Spring is slated to begin play at 7:30 p.m.

The Big Spring High School seniors will be honored prior to the start of their final prep games. Among the seniors are Michael Ornales-Doporto, Wesley Smith, Erin Partee, C.J. Lowery, Kyle Flenniken, Jordan Cobb, Brandon Hughes and Alvin Russell.

Baseball boosters to meet Thursday

The Big Spring High School baseball booster club will hold a meeting Thursday in the Athletic Training Center. The meeting will begin at 6 p.m.

All baseball parents or interested persons are urged to attend.

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.

For more information call (432) 267-5354.

Little League sign-ups set for Feb. 21

Registration for the 2004 Big Spring Little League season will be held Feb. 21-28 at the Big Spring Mall. Registration through the week will be held from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. During the weekend, sign-ups will be from 9 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Children ages 5 through 16 who live within the league's boundaries are eligible. Registration is required even if the child played previously.

For more information, call Chuck Rosenbaum at 263-1792.

Coahoma LL sign-ups set for Feb. 28

Coahoma Little League registration is scheduled to begin in Coahoma on Feb. 28 from noon to 4 p.m. at the high school.

ON THE AIR

Sports Broadcast Schedule		
Feb. 17		
Event, Time	Station	
Mavericks vs. Memphis, 6:30 p.m.	1490	
Feb. 18		
Event, Time	Station	
Lady Hawks (softball) vs. Midland, 6 p.m.	1490	
Feb. 19		
Event, Time	Station	
Lady Hawks vs. Odessa, 5:45 p.m.	1490	
Hawks vs. Odessa, 7:45 p.m.	1490	

Hawks complete four-game sweep of Odessa

By BRANDON HALLFORD
Special to the Herald

The Howard College Hawks completed a four-game sweep of the Odessa Wranglers Monday by pounding out wins of 6-2 and 13-12 at Jack Barber Stadium.

With the victories, the Hawks improved to 12-2 for the year and opened Western Junior College Athletic Conference play with a 4-0 mark.

Howard College received six strong innings from Adam Jones in the first game. The sophomore struck out six and allowed just four hits. Pat Criss pitched a scoreless seventh for the save.

Odessa drew first blood in the contest as they touched Jones for a run in the first.

The Hawks didn't waste any time in pulling even. After first

Hawks at a glance

On Deck: McMurry JV
Where: Abilene
When: Thursday at 3 p.m.
Radio: None
Records: HC 12-2, 4-0.

baseman Eric Ashbrook had been hit by a pitch, Scott Mitchell drilled a shot to the wall for a run-scoring double.

The Wranglers battled back in the second. Odessa pushed home a run in the top of the ensuing inning and grabbed a 2-1 lead.

HC answered back again. After Robert Martinez had singled to lead off the Hawks' second, Scott Sage hit his fourth home run of the season — a two-run home run to left — to give Howard a 3-

2 advantage.

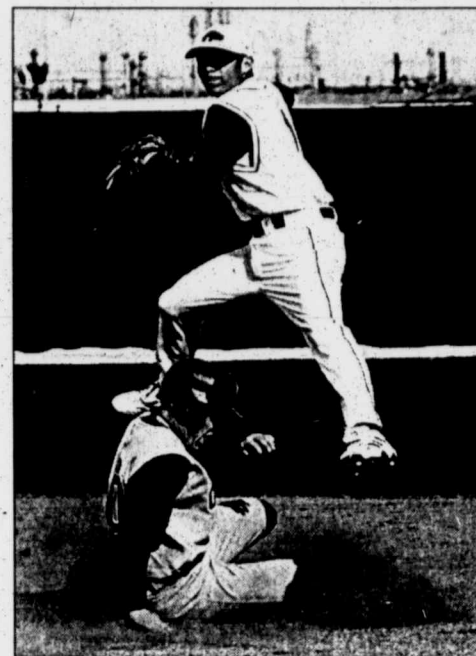
"Scott doesn't miss many," said first-year head coach Britt Smith. "When he connects, he hits it hard and straight. He gets cheated sometimes because most of his shots never get higher than 20 or 30 feet off the ground."

That was all the offensive support Jones would need. The sophomore right-hander held the Wranglers scoreless over the final five innings.

Ryan Femath finished off the scoring for the Hawks in the sixth. After a Gerardo Cervantes solo homer had pushed the lead to 5-2, Femath singled, stole second and later scored on a passed ball.

The second game of the twin-bill proved to be a nail-biter. The

See HAWKS, Page 2B



HERALD PHOTO/Whitney Wells
HC shortstop leaps over a baserunner during the Hawks' sweep of OC.



Courtesy photo
Forsan's Corbin Brown saw his attempt at qualifying for the Loretta Lynn National MotoCross Invitational end this past weekend when he suffered a broken leg while competing in a race in Midland.

Brown's bid for berth in national motocross event ends with injury

By TOMMY WELLS
Sports Editor

Corbin Brown's attempt at gaining a berth in the national motocross championships this summer ended abruptly Saturday when the Forsan High School standout suffered a broken leg while competing in Midland.

Brown sustained a broken left femur when his motorcycle flipped and landed on him during a race. After the accident, the 15-year-old motocross veteran was transported to Midland Memorial Hospital where doctors implanted a titanium rod to stabilize the leg.

"It was just a freak accident," said his father Ricky Brown. "He was going about 45 miles an hour and his front wheel got into a rut and the bike flipped and landed

on him."

Prior to the race, Brown had been well on his way to earning a berth in the Loretta Lynn National Motocross Invitational in Tennessee. In his most recent outing, he placed third in the schoolboy division at the Fort Worth Motocross Invitational.

"It wasn't good news for him," he said. "It looks like his leg has been hit with a shotgun right now. I would think it would make it impossible for him to ride at nationals. Right now, he's on crutches and in a wheelchair."

Following the surgery, doctors informed Brown he could be sidelined for up to 18 months, depending on how rapidly the main weight-bearing bone in the leg heals.

Brown said his son would

attempt to come back as quickly as possible. Last year, he was riding again only a few weeks after suffering an injury that caused him to lose a portion of a finger.

"He's handling the situation pretty well," he said. "When it happened, he told me he thought he had broken his leg and then asked about his bike. He's already asking people to check it out so he's already mentally getting ready."

A comeback won't be easy.

"It's going to be a tough comeback but I think he can do it. The big thing will be getting healthy enough to have the rod removed. He can't ride with the rod in his leg. God willing, he'll be able to get that out in about seven months and he'll be able to come back."

Tahoka sprints past Stanton in bi-district

By TOMMY WELLS
Sports Editor

LAMESA — The Tahoka Lady Bulldogs reeled off a 14-0 run in the closing minutes of the first quarter Monday night and raced to a 58-34 win over the Stanton Lady Buffaloes in Class 2A bi-district playoff action.

With the loss, the Lady Buffaloes closed out their 2003-2004 basketball season with a 20-11 record. Tahoka improves to 19-9 and will advance to face Wall in the next round.

Stanton jumped out to an early lead in the contest. The District 3-2A runners-up hit three of their first five shots and took an 11-7 lead before Tahoka managed to his stride.

The Lady Bulldogs held a 21-11 lead at the start of the second quarter.

See STANTON, Page 2B



HERALD PHOTO/Whitney Wells
The Howard College Hawks suffered a 72-58 loss to NMMI.

Broncs deal HC' playoff hopes a serious setback

By TOMMY WELLS
Sports Editor

The Howard College Hawks' playoff hopes aren't dead, but they may be on life-support.

The Hawks slipped to fifth place in the Western Junior College Athletic Conference standings Thursday night after dropping a 72-58 decision to New Mexico Military Institute at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

With the loss, Howard College fell to 5-6 in

WJCAC play and now trail Odessa College by one game for the final Region V Basketball Tournament berth.

Odessa defeated Clarendon College Monday. "We kind of dug a hole for ourselves," said Howard College head coach Jim Lewis. "We still have some life, but we have to hope we can find it quickly."

New Mexico Military, now 11-12 and 2-7 overall, See NMMI, Page 2B

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HERALD PHOTO/Brandon Hallford
Andy Lasater and the Big Spring Steers closed out their pre-season baseball scheduled with a bout against Midland High Monday. Big Spring will begin the 2004 season on Feb. 24 against Greenwood. The game will begin at 4:30 p.m. at Steer Park.

Ivy powers Sweetwater past Greenwood

By **BRANDON HALLFORD**
Special to the Herald

COAHOMA — In a game that was dominated by tough interior play, the smallest player stood tallest of all at the end.

Sweetwater's Dacy Ivy, — all 5-feet-5 of her — achieved perfection from the charity stripe in the last two minutes of Monday's bi-district matchup and powered the Lady Mustangs to a 57-43 win over the Greenwood Rangerettes.

For the most part, the matchup turned into a war of wills. Both teams exerted solid runs that gave them leads.

The Lady Mustangs, the district 3-3A runners-up, finally grabbing the momentum over the last half of the first quarter.

Ivy kicked things off by sinking a mid-range jumper at the 4:07 mark and igniting an 11-2 run that ended the frame with Sweetwater holding a 17-8 lead.

Greenwood, which finished the season at 13-15, answered back to begin

the second. The duo of Katie Howard and Landrie Johansen teamed to outscore Sweetwater by a 7-2 mark over a five minute span. Johansen finished the run by sinking one from the line after slashing down the lane for a basket.

The run left the Rangerettes, the third-place seed in the District 4-3A race, trailing by a 19-16 margin.

Greenwood trailed by a slim 29-22 score at the half.

The Rangerettes sank three attempts from behind the arc in the first eight minutes of the second half and pulled to within 39-35 with a minute left in the third.

Tracy Cowain propelled the Lady Mustangs on the final run of the evening, starting an 18-8 run over the remainder of the game by connecting on two shots inside the paint to end the third.

Ivy salted the game away, as the petite sophomore calmly stepped to the line eight times down

the stretch without missing.

Ivy grabbed game-high honors torching GHS for 16, while Cowain and Reinhart hit double figures with 15 and 11, respectively.

The Rangerettes' senior

combo of Amy Hopper ended her prep career going for 15, while Johansen and Howard tallied 13 apiece.

Sweetwater, 24-6 overall, will face the No. 3-ranked Muleshoe Lady Mules in the second round.

Report: Noland Ryan agrees to rejoin Astros' franchise

HOUSTON (AP) — Hall of Fame pitcher Nolan Ryan has agreed to a personal services contract with the Houston Astros, according to a broadcast report Monday night.

Ryan agreed to a five-year contract with the team after meeting with Astros owner Drayton McLane Jr. in Temple on Monday, Houston television station KRIV reported, quoting Major League baseball sources.

A woman answering the phone in the team's media relations office, who declined to give her name, told The Associated Press she could not confirm the

report. Astros general manager Gerry Hunsicker said Feb. 10 that Ryan and McLane have had several conversations about a possible position with the organization.

Ryan ended his formal relationship with the Rangers a week ago by deciding not to sign a new personal services contract.

Ryan, the all-time leader in strikeouts, played nine years for Houston and helped guide the franchise to its first-ever postseason appearance in 1980 to 1988. He signed as a free agent with Texas in 1989.

YANKS

Continued from Page 1B

the Yanks' captain and shortstop.

Jeter's job seems safe for now, with Cashman saying, "There is no position issue. We have arguably the best left side of the infield in baseball history. . . . Derek is our captain and world championship shortstop." But no one promised that Jeter would be shortstop-for-life, either.

Tuesday ought to be a fun day for the Yanks and A-Rod, but Rodriguez already has had an introduction of sorts to the Yankee Way. Owner George Steinbrenner said Monday at the team's complex in Tampa that he

was delighted to have Rodriguez, but he also released a statement reminding his team that winning remains, to quote an old Steinbrenner saw, "second only to breathing."

"In acquiring Alex Rodriguez, we are bringing to New York one of the premier players in the history of the game," Steinbrenner's statement read. "The Yankees are in the toughest division in baseball and now, with the team we have assembled, we have to go out and produce on the field."

Cashman echoed Steinbrenner's sentiment, saying, "The only thing we've won with this is the back and front pages and the lead story on some networks. That's power-

ful, but the players still have to go out and prove it on the field. That starts with pitchers and catchers and building a special season. We have to stay healthy, injuries, all those things that baseball will throw at you.

"But there is no question we are a better team having done this and it gives us a better chance to compete with everyone else who improved themselves during the off-season."

One of those teams is the Red Sox, who had their own chance to get Rodriguez and failed. The fact that the Yanks succeeded should spice up the best rivalry in baseball and so should some of the verbal sparring done between the two clubs

over the deal.

Levine bristled when told of comments made by Red Sox honcho Larry Lucchino, who once described the Yankees as "the Evil Empire." Lucchino congratulated the Yankees for "deploying their resources," obviously referring to Yankee dollars.

"I think Larry Lucchino is probably disappointed, but this day is about the New York Yankees," Levine said. "We do know what we're doing here."

The Yankees and Rangers had completed the deal Sunday, but it wasn't official until Selig signed off on it Monday. The Rangers are paying \$67 million of the \$179 million left on Rodriguez's \$252 million deal.

HAWKS

Continued from Page 1B

Wranglers battled back from five-run deficits on two occasions before dropping a 10-inning decision.

Howard built a 5-0 lead after two innings.

Odessa stormed battled back, however. — The Wranglers scored runs in the fifth and sixth before breaking through with three in the seventh to cut the Hawks' lead to one, at 6-5.

Howard managed to get going from there. The Hawks reeled off four in the bottom of the seventh to push their lead to 10-5.

Odessa erupted for a five runs in the eighth to tie the game at 10-10.

The Hawks responded to the Wranglers onslaught. Howard

College scored twice in the bottom half of the eighth and took a 12-10 cushion into the ninth.

The HC bullpen failed to hold the lead, though. Odessa scored twice in their ensuing at bat and forced the game into extra innings.

The Wranglers found the going rough in the 10th. Howard retired Odessa's three batters in the frame in order.

Sage started the Hawks' 10th by doubling to the left-center gap. Australian Ben Moore then laid down a bunt up the third base line that OC misplayed, allowing Safe to race home with the winning run.

Howard College will return to play Thursday against the McMurry University junior varsity in Abilene. The game is slated to start at 3 p.m.

NMMI

Continued from Page 1B

got off to a quick start against the Hawks. Sophomore guard Ed Phillips helped the Broncos run to quick 10-9 lead before the wheels bega coming off the HC wagon.

New Mexico build a nine point lead over the final 14 minutes of the first half by outscoring Howard by a 22-15 clip.

NMMI, which had suffered a 67-65 loss to the Hawks last month, held a 32-23 lead at the half.

The Hawks never got

untracked in the second. NMMI, sparked by the play of Travis DeGroot, built a 19-point lead midway through the final 20 minutes and never looked back.

Offensively, NMMI was led by Phillips' game-high 22 points. DeGroot added 20 more. The Hawks garenerd 11 points from Steve Goff and 10 and nine from freshman Matt Stroud, who came off the bench in the second half and sank three three-point shots. Dwayne Abraham added eight.

Howard faces Odessa Thursday at the OC Sports Complex.

STANTON

Continued from Page 1B

Tahoka stretched its lead to 12 in the second by posting an 8-6 run in the frame.

Stanton, which lost two junior high coaches this past weekend in an auto-

mobile accident, was outpointed by a 29-17 clip in the second half.

Shelby Harp led the Lady Buffaloes offensively, pouring in 16 points. Kristi Bridges had 11.

Meghan Saldana and Ashdon Hancock led Tahoka with 20 and 13, respectively.

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Especially for kids and their families
The Mini Page

By BETTY DEBNAM



A tiny statue of Morgie is on display in the new mammal exhibit at the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History.

To find out about mammals, The Mini Page visited the Kenneth E. Behring Family Hall of Mammals at the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History in Washington, D.C. In the exhibit are 277 mammals.

Beginning mammals

About 210 million years ago, during the time of the dinosaurs, there was a tiny little creature about 4 inches long. She probably hid from the huge dinosaurs during the day and hunted at night.

Scientists discovered this animal's bones in an ancient cave. They nicknamed her "Morgie" (short for her scientific name, *Morganucodon oehleri*).

Scientists think that Morgie:

- had a brain that was bigger than those of other tiny animals of the time.
- was probably warm-blooded and active.

- had special ear and jawbones.

These bones have some of the characteristics that all mammals have.

Scientists think that she is one of the earliest true mammals. Morgie and other animals like her have passed on mammal traits to billions of descendants for millions of years.

**Beginnings, Changes, and What They Are ...
All About Mammals**



A specimen of a giraffe as it bends to drink at a water hole in the exhibit. Giraffes must spread their front legs far apart in order to reach the water. Their neck valves keep the blood from rushing down.

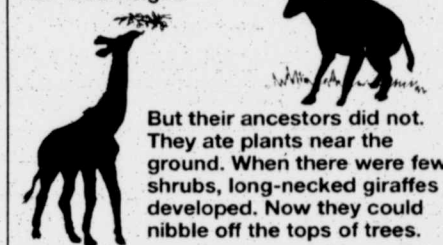
Changing mammals

When the dinosaurs became extinct 65 million years ago, Morgie's descendants began to diversify, or branch out.

Over millions of years, Morgie's descendants and other animals like her have produced 5,000 species of mammals that are on Earth today — and that includes us, because we are mammals, too.

As the world changed, so did the mammals as they adjusted to many climates.

Today's giraffes have necks that make up half their height.



But their ancestors did not. They ate plants near the ground. When there were fewer shrubs, long-necked giraffes developed. Now they could nibble off the tops of trees.

What makes a mammal

Mammals are animals that have:

- hair that keeps them warm and dry. Hair helps them hide. It can also send warnings and sometimes can be used as a weapon.



The polar bear's thick fur keeps it warm and helps it blend into the white snow.

- mothers that nurse their young.



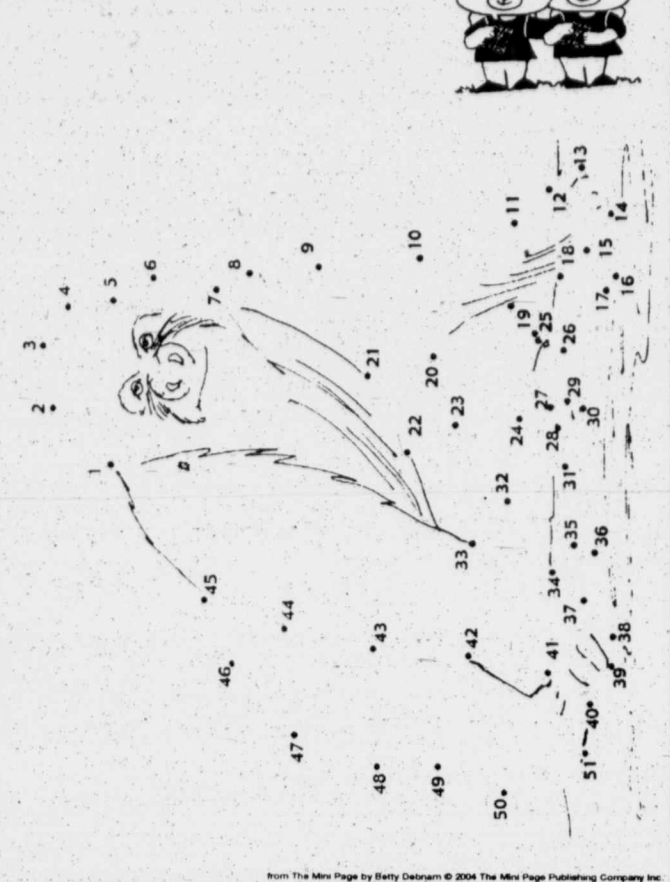
Mother deer usually have one to two calves at a time.

- special bones in their inner ear. You can't see them, but they are there.



The Mini Page thanks Sally Love, exhibit director, for help with this issue.
Site to see: www.mnh.si.edu

Go dot to dot and color this big primate.



**Rookie Cookie's Recipe
Mini Baked Black Bean Cakes**

You'll need:

- 1 (16-ounce) can black beans, drained
- 1 egg, lightly beaten
- 1/2 cup white cornmeal
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 cup plain bread crumbs
- 2 tablespoons butter, cut in pieces

What to do:

1. Mash black beans with a fork. Add egg and mix.
2. Mix in cornmeal and salt.
3. With clean hands, make 8 mini cakes.
4. Dip each cake in a bowl of bread crumbs to coat.
5. Place each cake in a well-greased casserole dish and top with butter.
6. Bake in a preheated 375-degree oven for 25 minutes until lightly browned. Serve with salsa. Makes 8 mini bean cakes.

Note: You will need an adult to help with this recipe.

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**Gus Goodsport's Report
Supersport: Emeke Okafor**

Height: 6-10 Weight: 252

More than 3,000 athletes play Division I college basketball, and many experts rank Emeke Okafor as the best of the bunch.

The University of Connecticut center leads the nation in blocked shots, with nearly five per game. The Huskies' famous No. 50, who is big, agile and athletic, also excels offensively and grabs rebounds with ferocity.

Emeke, whose full name is Chukwueke Emeke Okafor, was born in Nigeria and grew up in Texas.

At Connecticut, Emeke also excels in the classroom, where he is studying finance. Next year he should be earning millions playing professionally in the NBA.

But this year, his basketball goal is to lead UConn to the national championship. Who is to say he can't do it?

Meet Rachel Hurd-Wood

"Peter Pan" is the first movie for young English actress Rachel Hurd-Wood. Rachel, 13, plays the character of Wendy, the girl who flies off with her two brothers to Neverland with Peter Pan.

Rachel had acted only in a couple of plays at her school when she was chosen to star in the movie. The makers of the movie discovered Rachel when she showed up with other girls in what is known as a casting call.

While she wants to act in a few more movies, Rachel doesn't plan to be an actress when she grows up. She likes dolphins and hopes to become a marine biologist.

Rachel lives with her parents and a younger brother in their home near London. She enjoys ice skating, music and art.

MIGHTY FUNNY'S Mini Jokes

All the following jokes have something in common. Can you guess the common theme or category?

Alana: Where do geologists like to go for entertainment?
Warren: To rock 'n' roll concerts!

Julia: Where do geologists like to relax?
Wesley: In a rocking chair!

Nelson: What is a geologist's favorite kind of transportation?
Lenora: A rocket!

More About Mammals

The mammal family
All of the following are members of the mammal family.

Rodents
By gnawing, beavers can cut down trees. They are awkward on land but are good swimmers.

Ungulates
There are about 330 species of ungulates (UHN-gyoo-lates). Ungulates have grinding teeth and hooved feet. They eat mostly hard-to-digest leafy plants and spend as much as three-quarters of their time eating. They are good at fleeing when threatened.

Primates
Like us, gorillas live in social groups. They look after their young for as long as eight years.

Carnivores
There are 291 species of carnivores. They are meat eaters with shearing teeth and slashing claws. While humans eat meat, they are not true carnivores, as they do not have shearing teeth or claws.

Bats
There are 1,100 species. They make up the second-largest group of mammals. Bats are the only mammals that can fly.

A few Australian animals
Australia is an isolated continent with some unusual mammals.

Monotremes (MON-uh-treems) are mammals that are hatched from eggs. These include the platypus and the echidna.

Marsupials (mar-SOO-pea-ulz) are mammals that grow up in pouches.

Baby wallabies are about the size of a lima bean when they are born.

Grizzly bears often stop and sniff to smell what's nearby to eat. They have an excellent sense of smell.

The colobus monkey can digest tough leaves that other monkeys can't eat.

There are more than 200 species of primates. Primates have grasping hands and feet and complex brains. They have 3-D vision, which means they can see depth. The word primate means "first" or "most important." Humans are the only primates that do not have a gripping, or sixth, toe.

Look through your newspaper for photos of mammals.

TRY 'N FIND

Words and names that remind-us of mammals are hidden in the block below. Some words are hidden backward or diagonally, up and down, and some letters are used twice. See if you can find: MAMMAL, BAT, MARSUPIAL, CARNIVORE, PRIMATES, UNGULATE, ANTLERS, NOCTURNAL, DIURNAL, AFRICA, AUSTRALIA, SOUTH AMERICA, NORTH AMERICA, ANCESTRY, RAIN, FOREST, MIGRATE, MAN, ELK, APE, LION, LEMUR, FOX, TIGER.

WHAT MAMMALS LIVE IN YOUR HOME?

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T I G E R I J Y B A T S U N O
A G U O S R E L T N A T M R V
M R L X O F O R E S T R E U I
I A A E P A D I U R N A L T N
R T T M A R S U P I A L I C R
P E E L A M M A M A N I O O A
N O R T H A M E R I C A N N C

Mini Spy ...

Mini Spy and her friends are visiting a mammal exhibit. See if you can find: word MINI • mushroom • brush • elephant head

two keys
letter C
apple • comb
number 3
kite • ruler
needle • heart
number 7
ladder
letter A
banana
pencil • tooth
number 2
football
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Tomorrow's Horoscope

BY JOYCE JILLSON
Over most of the day, the moon is what's referred to as void of course. The ideal plan is to ride the wave of what's already going on around you instead of trying to start something new. When you flow with your environment, a feeling of camaraderie develops, which helps your work be successful later in the week.



Joyce Jillson

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Things heat up at work. You are honest when others are not. This is one of the most difficult situations, especially because you hate to blame anyone or be the big,

mean whistle blower. Playing card games or board games is lucky. **TAURUS (April 20-May 20).** This is a day of high enthusiasm from the start, and something beautiful happens, too. You have the courage to face the very thing that damaged your confidence in the past. You can quickly put old issues behind you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). It's never perfect at work, but why is it that everyone comes to you to try to make it so? Problem solving requires research, and you may have to root around quite a bit to get to the heart of the matter.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Being absorbed in the moment is a fantastic feeling, one that you'll experience often on this day of making internal connections. You're in the zone, enjoying what you do and liking the new people you meet while doing it.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). More than willpower or discipline, an attitude shift is needed in order to meet your goal in the time you want to. Teamwork helps you tap into a creative flow, too, especially if an Aquarius or Gemini is part of that team.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Be aware of other people's sensitivity around the workplace; it's more than usual. Keep your eye on the bottom line, and don't let your feathers get ruffled by the power plays others make for their ego's sake.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You probably feel that you are under fire from the competition, a deadline or a mean old authority figure. Don't think in

terms of what you are running from but rather what you are running toward. New partners are featured.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). The rules change, but knowing the "why" will allow you to adapt quickly. Ask questions, without being too direct or invasive. New love is promising when you don't think too much and simply relax into it.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You're always the first to dive in, push the boundaries and hurl yourself into the unknown. But today, the real unknown is not out there — it's inside you. Insightful and quiet aspects encourage inner growth.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Analyzing why you are the way you are is a valid pastime perhaps but one you don't have time for now. It's better to enjoy being a powerful mover, shaker and visionary extraordinaire! Turn down "free" advice.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Following through with commitments large and small will keep the money flow regular. Perseverance can no longer be a part of your life if you want to move forward. A casual comment could jolt someone's perception of you.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Unexpected developments keep you on your toes. Obligations build up — get them off of your conscience by completing them one by one. Keeping fun as a major element in your life is a challenge worth taking on.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You probably feel that you are under fire from the competition, a deadline or a mean old authority figure. Don't think in

terms of what you are running from but rather what you are running toward. New partners are featured.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). The rules change, but knowing the "why" will allow you to adapt quickly. Ask questions, without being too direct or invasive. New love is promising when you don't think too much and simply relax into it.

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The Local Employee Committee (LEC) of the State Employee Charitable Campaign (SECC) is accepting applications from (IRS 501c3) Health and Human Service Charitable Organizations, including federations of such organizations, desiring to participate in the Midland-Odessa 12-county campaign area of the 2004 SECC. Call the current campaign manager at 432-685-7709 for application kits. Applications kits will be provided automatically to organizations that participated in 2003. United Way (or comparable federation) member or service provider agencies must submit applications to the respective United Way/Federation by April 2, 2004. Deadline for other charities' applications and for United Way/Federation applications is April 9, 2004, to the SECC/LEC. #1120 February 17 & 18, 2004.

Annie's Mailbox

Dear Annie: I read your column about dog droppings with interest. Poop pollutes more than just friendships and neighborly relations. Animal waste is one of the top two contaminants of waterways in suburban areas (the other is lawn fertilizers and pesticides). The poop creates algae growth, which strangles waterways and kills oyster beds and other life. So picking up after your pet makes you not just a good neighbor but also an environmentalist.

As for offending neighbors, the Virginia Beach SPCA has created flyers for folks to leave on the doorsteps of offending neighbors. For more info, visit www.vbspca.com/poop. — Dale Bartlett, Virginia Beach SPCA, Virginia Beach, Va.

Dear Dale Bartlett: One never knows what will pique the readers' interest. We were amazed at the number of folks who are focused on dog droppings. Read on:

From Hayden, Texas: I have a simple sign on my lawn. It has a picture of a pet with a red line through it and the words, "This is not a bank. Leave no deposits."

Midwest: We kept a plastic bag and scoop in the garage. If a dog stopped to defecate, we'd hand these to the owner and stand there until the mess was cleaned up. We were friendly and even offered helpful hints. We had very few repeat customers.

Apache Junction, Wis.: Our neighbor's large dog pooped on our lawn every day. One day, I scooped up his deposition on a newspaper (not your column!) and put it on their doorstep. Their dog never set foot, or butt, on our lawn again.

Atlanta, Ind.: We had a neighbor with five dogs, and not one was on a leash. Talking with the owners didn't help, so I started taking pictures of each dog using my grass as a restroom. I then filed a charge with our local police. The police turned the pictures over to the county prosecuting



KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

attorney, who sent our neighbor four citations at \$150 each. The neighbor was given the option of paying the fines or putting a fence within 30 days. He chose the fence. Problem solved.

Fremont, Calif.: I had a similar dilemma, so I placed a little paper umbrella in the middle of the deposit. (It's a visual thing.) The dog owner got the message.

Montreal: One of my friends had this problem. He gathered the "donations," wrapped them nicely and left them at the neighbor's with a note saying, "I've been collecting this for you."

Out West: When visiting Colorado, I noticed a small headstone on a lawn. It said, "Here lie bones we do not mourn, of the last damn dog to poop on our lawn."

Connecticut: Almost 50 years ago, a neighbor allowed her dog to leave its pile on my lawn. After a few days, I asked the neighbor to quit. She didn't, so I told her, in the future, I would gift-wrap the pile and leave it at her door. She laughed. The next day, the dog returned. When it left, I scooped the mess into a shoebox, wrapped it in pretty paper with a big bow and delivered it to her front porch.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net.

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TUESDAY

	WFAA (2) Dallas	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	WTBS (11) Atlanta	KMLM (12) Odessa	KOCV (13) Odessa	DISC (20) Discovery	AMC (21) Classics	TNT (23) Atlanta	BET (26) Black Ent.	DISN (27) Disney	ESPN2 (28)	ESPN (29) Sports	USA (30) New York	TMC (250)
6:30 PM	News (CC)	News Wheel-Fortune	Amar Otra Vez	King of the Hill Raymond	News Ent. Tonight	Pasion de Gavilanes	News Sentinel (CC)	Sentinel (CC) Friends (CC)	Booker John Hagee	News Lehrer	Justice Files (CC)		Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Live BET.com	Sister, Sister Lizze McGuire	College Basketball: Louisville at Texas	College Basketball: Purdue at Michigan State	Law & Order: Special Victims	Where Are You? (CC)
7:30 PM	8 Simple Rules I'm With Her	8 Simple Rules I'm With Her	Veio de Nova	American Idol (CC)	Navy NCIS (CC)	Amor Descarado	Fear Factor (CC)	Movie: The Patriot (CC)	Update/Israel N. McBride	Nova (CC) (DVS)	New Detectives-Forensic CrimeTime	Movie: Urban Cowboy	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	The Parkers Coming to the Stage	Movie: Miracle in Lane 2 (CC)	NBA Fastbreak Tuesday	College Basketball: Florida at Georgia (CC)	Movie: Happy Gilmore (CC)	Movie: Rollerball (CC)
8:30 PM	Accordng Jim Less-Perfect	Accordng Jim Less-Perfect	Te Amare en Silencio	24 (CC)	The Guardian	El Alma Herida	Scrubs (CC)	Law & Order: Special Victims	10 Movie: Hard to Kill	Innovation (CC)	CrimeTime		Charmed (CC)	Comcview	Sister, Sister Boy World	Streetball Gonzaga	SportsCenter (CC)	Movie: Happy Gilmore (CC)	45 Movie: Men With Brooms (CC)
9:30 PM	NYPD Blue (CC)	NYPD Blue (CC)	Casos de la Vida Real	70s Show Drama-Greg	Judging Amy (CC)	Mujeres Apasionadas	Law & Order: Special Victims	10 Movie: Hard to Kill	The Hour of Healing	Independent Lens (CC)	CrimeTime	45 Movie: Smokey and the Bandit II	Angel (CC)	Nightly News-Grown Folks	Kim Possible Proud Family	Streetball Gonzaga	SportsCenter (CC)	Movie: Happy Gilmore (CC)	Movie: And God Created Woman
10:30 PM	News (CC) Nightline	News (CC) Nightline	Primer Impacto Noticias Univ.	70s Show Raymond	News Late Show	Noticias Laura	News The Tonight Show (CC)	10 Movie: The Patriot (CC)	Rev. J. Harsten Richman	Sign Off	CrimeTime	45 Movie: Urban Cowboy	The X-Files (CC)	Midnight Love	Even Stevens Sister, Sister	NBA Fastbreak Streetball	Outside-Lines Gamernight		Movie: And God Created Woman
11:30 PM	Ent. Tonight Jimmy Kimmel	Extra (CC) Jimmy Kimmel	En las Mejores Familias	Becker (CC) Spin 'n' City	The Late Late Show (CC)	Ar Pojo Vivo-Maria Celeste Conte-Familia	Show (CC) Late Night (CC)	10 Movie: The Patriot (CC)	Update/Israel Booker		CrimeTime	45 Movie: Urban Cowboy	The X-Files (CC)	Comcview	Boy World Recess (CC)	Winter X-Games (CC)	SportsCenter (CC)	Law & Order: Special Victims	12:15 Movie: Novel Desires
12:30 AM	Live (CC) Oprah Winfrey	Live (CC) Oprah Winfrey	Angela	Blind Date	Blind Date	Street Smarts	Fraser (CC)												



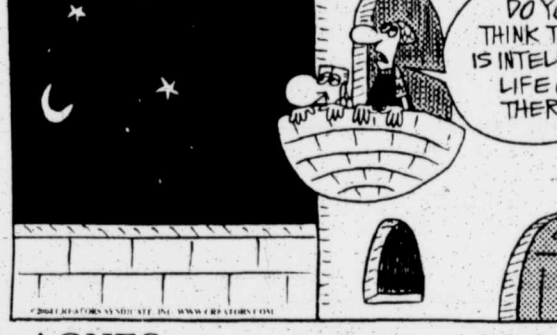
"If you guys can keep a secret, I'll tell you how much my mom weighs."

BC



WHAT KIND OF CLEANER DO YOU USE?
"ENVIRONMENTALLY CORRECT."
WHAT'S THAT MEAN?
SHE USES A NON-TOXIC STICK.
WHAM WHAM WHAM

WIZARD OF ID



AGNES



HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH

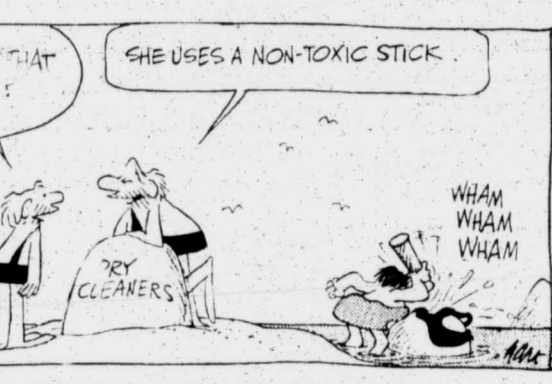


BETLE BAILEY



"... Now he hides them in his computer."

2-17



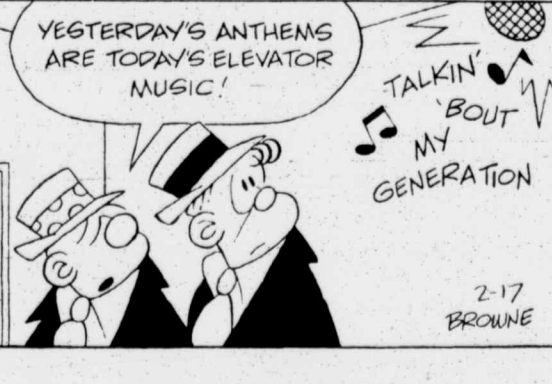
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AGNES



HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BETLE BAILEY



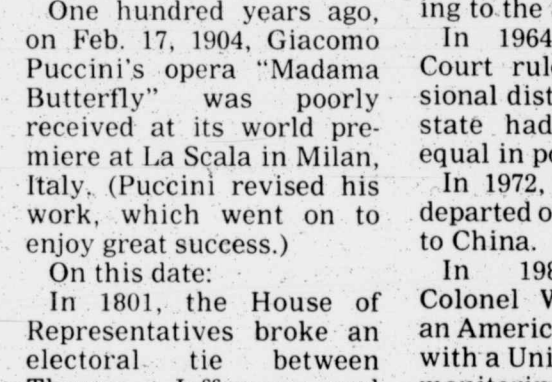
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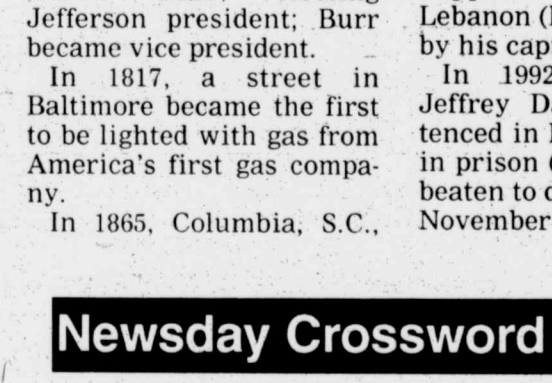
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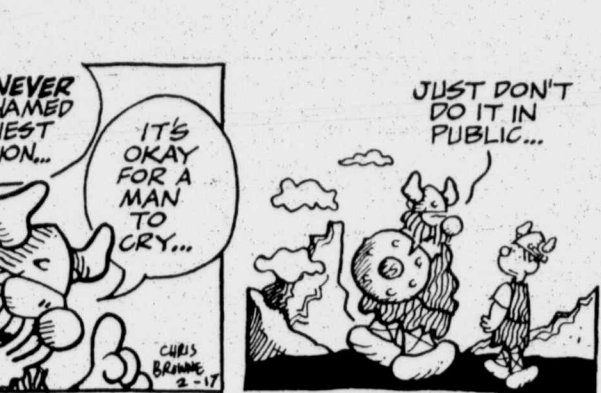
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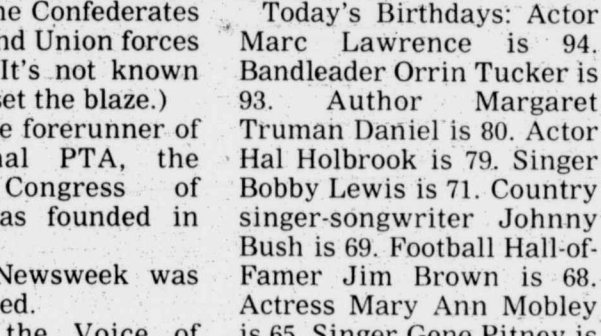
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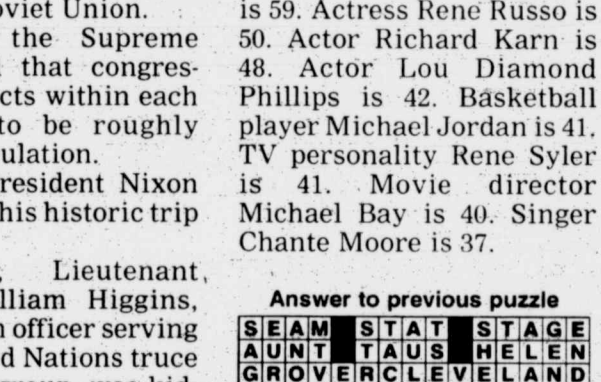
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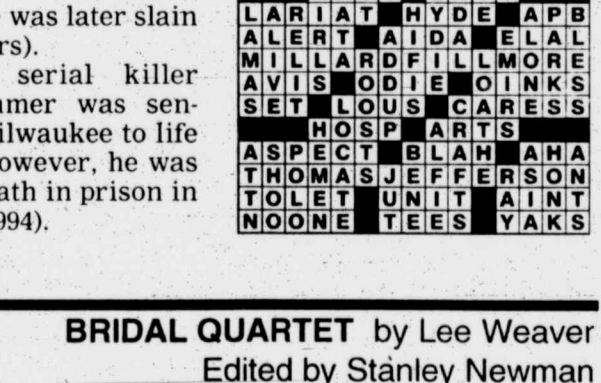
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This Date In History

By The Associated Press

Today is Tuesday, Feb. 17, the 48th day of 2004. There are 318 days left in the year.
Today's Highlight in History:
One hundred years ago, on Feb. 17, 1904, Giacomo Puccini's opera "Madama Butterfly" was poorly received at its world premiere at La Scala in Milan, Italy. (Puccini revised his work, which went on to enjoy great success.)
On this date:
In 1801, the House of Representatives broke an electoral tie between Thomas Jefferson and Aaron Burr, electing Jefferson president; Burr became vice president.
In 1817, a street in Baltimore became the first to be lighted with gas from America's first gas company.
In 1865, Columbia, S.C.,

burned as the Confederates evacuated and Union forces moved in. (It's not known which side set the blaze.)
In 1897, the forerunner of the National PTA, the National Congress of Mothers, was founded in Washington.
In 1933, Newsweek was first published.
In 1947, the Voice of America began broadcasting to the Soviet Union.
In 1964, the Supreme Court ruled that congressional districts within each state had to be roughly equal in population.
In 1972, President Nixon departed on his historic trip to China.
In 1988, Lieutenant Colonel William Higgins, an American officer serving with a United Nations truce monitoring group, was kidnapped in southern Lebanon (he was later slain by his captors).
In 1992, serial killer Jeffrey Dahmer was sentenced in Milwaukee to life in prison (however, he was beaten to death in prison in November 1994).

Today's Birthdays: Actor Marc Lawrence is 94. Bandleader Orrin Tucker is 93. Author Margaret Truman Daniel is 80. Actor Hal Holbrook is 79. Singer Bobby Lewis is 71. Country singer-songwriter Johnny Bush is 69. Football Hall-of-Famer Jim Brown is 68. Actress Mary Ann Mobley is 65. Singer Gene Pitney is 63. Actress Brenda Fricker is 59. Actress Rene Russo is 50. Actor Richard Karn is 48. Actor Lou Diamond Phillips is 42. Basketball player Michael Jordan is 41. TV personality Rene Syler is 41. Movie director Michael Bay is 40. Singer Chante Moore is 37.

Answer to previous puzzle

SEAM	STAT	STAGE
AUNT	TAUS	HELEN
GROVER	CLEVELAND	LAND
SON	RAID	ALLIES
	GRIT	ENVY
LARIAT	HYDE	APB
ALBERT	AIDA	ELAL
MILLARD	FILLMORE	AARD
AVIS	ODIE	OINKS
SET	LOUS	CARESS
	HOSP	ARTS
ASPECT	BLAH	AHA
THOMAS	JEFFERSON	TOLET
UNIT	AIN'T	NOONE
TEES	YAKS	

Newsday Crossword

BRIDAL QUARTET by Lee Weaver
Edited by Stanley Newman

- ACROSS**
- 1 June honoree
 - 4 Ungentlemanly sort
 - 7 Like a lot
 - 12 Before, poetically
 - 13 Run (go wild)
 - 15 Lend out again
 - 17 Undomesticated animals
 - 19 Adhere closely
 - 20 Whiskey cocktail
 - 22 Raggedy doll
 - 24 Maiden-name indicator
 - 25 standstill
 - 26 First-place prize
 - 33 Barber-pole markings
 - 36 Measuring device
 - 37 Leapt over a barrier
 - 38 Germ-free
 - 40 Gay
 - 41 No longer an issue
 - 42 Maine, Vermont et al.
 - 46 Free from moisture
 - 47 Atmosphere
 - 48 Ed.'s work
 - 49 What daredevils may live on
 - 57 Open, as wine
 - 58 In a lavish manner
 - 62 Philadelphia university
 - 63 Magazine stand
- DOWN**
- 1 Morning moisture
 - 2 Mr. Onassis
 - 3 Dover is its cap.
 - 4 Use a telephone
 - 5 Surrounded by
 - 6 Tip, as one's hat
 - 7 Bow and arrow user
 - 8 Pastrami emporium
 - 9 Vegetable spread
 - 10 Red horse
 - 11 Roof overhang
 - 14 Matrix star Reeves
 - 16 Author Buntline
 - 18 Slip into
 - 21 Match a raise
 - 22 Bring into harmony
 - 23 Like a country road
 - 25 Extremely pale
 - 26 Flower visitor
 - 27 Brit. money of yore
 - 28 "the idea now!"
 - 29 Homer's kid
 - 30 Constructs
 - 31 They leer
 - 32 Underprivileged
 - 34 Not doing much
 - 35 Strategy
 - 38 Form of ID
 - 39 Baseball great Williams
 - 43 Rubbernecked
 - 44 Trumped-up story
 - 45 Intense devotion
 - 48 Bumped into
 - 49 Except for
 - 50 Wallet fillers
 - 51 Mounties' org.
 - 52 Cowboy's gear
 - 53 Heraldic border
 - 54 Streetcar, in Liverpool
 - 55 Ancient Andes native
 - 56 Manufacture
 - 59 Elongated fish
 - 60 Soap ingredient
 - 61 Up to now

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