



BIG SPRING

HERALD

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At the Crossroads of West Texas

50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 WEEKEND

THURSDAY

February 19, 2004

WEATHER

Tonight:



CLEAR

TONIGHT 45°-47° TOMORROW 62°-63°

BRIEFLY

Massage anyone?

Need a massage? The Howard College Sports Medicine Department is raising funds by offering a 15-minute massage for \$10.

The event will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday at the Student Union Building, 1001 Birdwell Lane. No reservations are needed.

Shrine fund-raiser

The Big Spring Shrine Club will be taking sealed bids for a 1997 Chevy Cavalier four-door car through Saturday, Feb. 29.

The sale is a fund-raiser for the club. The car includes an AM/FM radio, PS/AC cloth seats and carpeting and has 8,500 actual miles. Bidding will begin at \$3,000.

Written bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope and dropped off at Bob's Custom Wood Works, 409 E. Third St., or mailed to Bo Clawson, 1903 Alabama, Big Spring 79720.

COMING THIS WEEKEND



Cover Story: B.B. King has always set high standards, both musically and appearance-wise, as he's released about 80 albums and traveled to 90 countries. He's been inducted into both the Blues Foundation Hall of Fame and the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

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Vol. 100, No. 80

Find us online at: www.bigspringherald.com

To reach us, please call 263-7331. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you miss your paper, please call 263-7335 before 7 p.m. on weekdays and 11 a.m. on Sunday.

Young scientists to take stage for BSISD fair

By LYNDEL MOODY

Staff Writer

The public is invited to view the creative efforts of young scientists Friday at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum when the Big Spring Independent School District hosts its first science fair.

"We're very excited about hosting this for the first time," said BSISD Curriculum Director Richard Light. "There are a variety of categories and many of the projects are just amazing to see."



LIGHT

More than 300 entries are expected to be on display in the three levels — elementary, grades 3-5; intermediate, grades 6-8; and senior, grades 9-12.

"We were surprised by the number of entries, but also we were very impressed by the quality of entries," Light said.

Volunteers from Scenic Mountain Medical Center,

Howard College, ALON USA and district teachers will begin judging the plethora of entries at 8 a.m. and continue through 11:30 a.m.

The public is encouraged to attend an open house which will be held from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. The event will capped by the awards ceremony at 2 p.m.

Students who have entered a display will be allowed to leave class in order to attend the judging and the awards show at the coliseum, located on the Howard

College campus, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

The two projects will earn scholarships for their creators from Howard College.

Each category will have a first-, second- and third-place project that will advance to the Permian Regional Science Fair held at the University of Texas of the Permian Basin on Saturday, March 27. From there, students have an opportunity to qualify for state and national competitions.

A life saved: Brady's story

Public donations paid for technology to repair his heart

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

It's like a nightmare you can't wake up from.

Finding out your newborn child has a life-threatening heart condition is a reality no parent wants to face, but that's exactly what Franklin and Molly Weber found out shortly after their son Brady turned 3 months old.

"When my son Brady was born, we thought everything was fine," said Franklin Weber. "He was healthy and the doctors sent him home. He was really quiet and liked to sleep a lot.

"One day the baby-sitter called and told us he wasn't breathing right, so we took him to the doctor. He was admitted to the hospital with pneumonia and there was some debate among the doctors whether he had some sort of allergy to milk or formula."

The reality of the situation, he said, was much more severe.

"One of the doctors was convinced he had a heart murmur, a hole in his heart," he said. "However, she never



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

Nine-year-old Brady Weber, survivor of a heart condition, takes a swing on the Kentwood Elementary playground following a school day while his mother, Molly, watches. To raise funds for the fight against heart-related illness, the American Heart Association will host the "Hollywood for Heart" gala beginning at 8 p.m. Saturday at the Big Spring Country Club. Tickets will be sold at the door for \$25.

could convince the senior physician that's what was happening. He was in the hospital about 10 days while they

Hollywood for Heart 8 p.m. Saturday, Big Spring Country Club

Bond issue?

Aging facilities have Forsan ISD seeking answers

By LYNDEL MOODY

Staff Writer

Voters in the Forsan Independent School District may go to the polls in the fall to decide on a bond package of \$4 million or more to renovate aging facilities.

"Our facilities are starting to age," said Superintendent Wayne Rotan. "We need to change carpeting and the heating and air-conditioning units are 20-plus years old.

"With the current financial system we're under, we're looking at financing the renovations though a bond election to meet our future needs," Rotan continued. "We've done a facility study to look at our building and assess our long-range needs for the next 20 to 30 years."

Rotan added the proposal is in the middle stages and the district is currently researching the cost of several projects before a final number or plan is put before the voters.

Like so many rural Texas school districts, FISD trustees face an ever-tightening pool of financial resources come budget time, prompting them in past years to hold off on the upkeep and upgrading of facilities.

Now the school district may have to place the fate of its aging facilities in the hands of voters before knowing what state lawmakers plan to put in place of the current funding formula.



ROTAN

See FORSAN ISD, Page 3A

Forsan's Johnson hits sweet note, earns chair on all-state concert band

By LYNDEL MOODY

Staff Writer

Forsan High School junior Levi Johnson hit a sweet note last Wednesday, garnering fourth chair trombone in the Texas Association of Small School Bands (TASSB) all-state concert band.

The band, comprised of some of the best students in Class 1A, 2A and 3A, was showcased at the Texas Music Educators Association annual convention held in San Antonio.

"It was great," Johnson said. "I was able to play a caliber of music that we don't usually get to play here."

The four-day convention features top choir, orchestra and college music students as well as high school honor bands and the Class 4A and 5A all-state bands.

On Saturday, Johnson and his fellow concert band members performed at San Antonio's historic Scottish Rite Auditorium in front of an audience of more than 1,000.

"The only reason I made it was because of Mr. Rhodes and Mr. Higginbotham," Johnson said, speaking of band director Jim Rhodes and assistant Jeremy Higginbotham.

Thousands of young music students through-

out the state begin the process of trying out for the all-state band, but competition is quickly pared down through a two-part process.

The Forsan youth began his journey in December when he and four other students made the cut for all-region band at tryouts held in Greenwood. Also earning a chair in the all-region band from Forsan were Ruth Kaelin, flute; Kyle Biggs, baritone; and Eric Ellis, trombone.

Johnson then went on to qualify for all-state in competition held in Lubbock.

In Class 4A competition,



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

Forsan High School junior Levi Johnson plays few notes on his trombone in the high school band hall.

SkyWarn class slated tonight in city council chambers

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

With spring right around the corner, the National Weather Service wants area residents to be prepared for stormy weather as they get ready to present a SkyWarn class in Big Spring this evening.

According to Warning Coordination Meteorologist Pat Vesper, the class will include information on tracking and classifying storms and various weather conditions, but it's certainly not limited to emergency

What: Weather preparedness class.

Where: Big Spring City Council Chambers, 307 E. Fourth.

When: 7 p.m. today.

management officials and storm chasers.

"While the class is designed for storm chasers and those participating in the SkyWarn program, it has a lot to offer everyone," said Vesper. "We offer a lot of information on safety during storms and bad

weather that the average person can use to protect themselves and their family.

"Our main focus for these classes is safety. We'll also look at super-cell thunderstorms and the type of weather that can arise out of them. We want our spotters prepared for the kinds of conditions they may see out in the field."

Vespers said the class is slated for 7 to 9 p.m., at the Big Spring City Council

See SKYWARN, Page 3A

FEB 19 2004

Obituaries

June Prather McCasland



June Prather McCasland, 73, of Little Rock, Ark., formerly of Big Spring, died on Sunday, Feb. 15, 2004, in Little Rock. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, Feb. 20, 2004, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with Royce Clay, Church of Christ minister, officiating. Interment will follow at Mt. Olive Memorial Park Big Spring.

Mrs. McCasland was born on Dec. 16, 1930, in Ft. Stockton, and married Cliff Prather. He preceded her in death in 1967.

She graduated from Coahoma High School, with honors, in 1948, and from Sul Ross University in Alpine in 1952. She obtained a master of arts in education at Abilene Christian University. She was an elementary and special education teacher in the Ackerly and Big Spring School Districts for more than 25 years until her automobile accident in March of 1986. She had resided in Big Spring until she was incapacitated from her automobile accident. She had resided in nursing homes since that time. She was a member of the Church of Christ.

Her survivors include two sons and their families, Mark Prather and wife, Ann Hendrickson and daughter, Emily Prather, all of Riverside, Calif.; Paul Prather and wife, Ann Prather, daughter, Claire Prather and sons, Cliff Prather and Collin Prather, all of Little Rock; her mother, Olga Kate Stamps of New Braunfels; and her sister, Margaret Ogden of New Braunfels.

She was preceded in death by her father, Harvey Lavelle Stamps. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. today at the funeral home.

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

Paid obituary

Norvin M. Smith



Services for Norvin M. Smith, 79, of Lubbock will be held at 10:30 a.m., Friday, Feb. 20, 2004, in Sanders Memorial Chapel with the Rev. Bill Hendricks officiating.

Graveside services will be held at 3 p.m., Friday, at the Trinity Memorial Park in Big Spring. Mr. Smith died on Feb. 14, 2004.

He was born Feb. 2, 1925, in Big Spring, to Norvin M. and Louie Mae Smith. During World War II, he served in the U.S. Army making three landings in the Phillipine Islands. He married Christine Anderson Aug. 2, 1947, at her parent's ranch home in Luther. They moved to Lubbock in 1953. He was a fireman for the city of Lubbock Fire Department for 28 years.

He is survived by his wife; a son, Randall D. Smith and spouse, Judy, of Roby; a daughter, DeAnn Ramos and spouse, Tony, of Lubbock; two grandsons; a brother, Howard K. Smith and spouse, Sarah, of Lexington, Va.; a niece and a nephew.

Memorials are suggested to the Salvation Army at 1111 16th Street Lubbock 79401.

Dorothy Knight

Dorothy Knight, 96, of Wichita Falls and formerly of Coahoma, died at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 17, 2004, at Texoma Christian Care Center in Wichita Falls. Graveside services will be at 10 a.m. Friday at Trinity Memorial Park with the Rev. Ken McMeans, pastor of College Baptist Church, officiating.

She was born May 15, 1907 in Lineville, Clay County, Ala. She was the daughter of Samuel Fowler and Sarah Rebecca Coper Fowler. She married George Knight in 1927 and he died in 1979. Mrs. Knight lived most of her life in Howard County, moving to Wichita Falls in 1999. Mrs. Knight was a homemaker and a member of First Baptist Church of Coahoma.

She is survived by four granddaughters, Charlotte Burson and her husband John of Wichita Falls, Nancy Rich and her husband Richard and Jill McLeod and her husband Jon, all of Big Spring, and Jami Knight of Arizona; one grandson, Eddie Mann Jr. and his wife Kay of Ft. Worth; one sister, Annie Bennett of Alabama; 14 great-grandchildren; and 11 great-great-grandchildren.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by two sons, Jim Knight and a still born son; one daughter, Patricia Knight Mann.

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

Paid obituary

Richard W. Reagan

Richard W. Reagan, 84, of Big Spring, died Thursday, Feb. 19, 2004, in a local hospital. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle and Welch Funeral Home and Crematory. The family will be at 2609 Rebecca Drive.

Support groups

FRIDAY

□ AA open discussion meeting from noon to 1 p.m. at 605 Settles. Noon Open Big Book Study Meeting, 8 to 9 p.m.

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Police blotter

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

- **FELISHA LYNN BURNS**, 31, of Lubbock, was arrested Wednesday on two DPS warrants.
- **MARTHA CRENSHAW**, 38, of 4200 Hamilton, was arrested Wednesday on three capias warrants.
- **THEFT** was reported:
 - in the 400 block of Gregg Street.
 - in the 600 block of Second Street.
- **BURGLARY OF A HABITATION** was reported:
 - in the 1200 block of Blackmon.
 - in the 4000 block of Alma Circle.
- **ASSAULT BY THREAT** was reported in the 3300 block of Highway 80.
- **ASSAULT/FAMILY VIOLENCE** was reported in the 100 block of 24th Street.
- **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported in the 400 block of Fourth Street.
- **DISORDERLY CONDUCT** was reported in the 400 block of Fourth Street.

Sheriff's report

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

- **JAMES THOMAS WILSON**, 22, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a charge of assault.
- **WANDA SUE PESNELL**, 44, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a charge of assault by physical contact.
- **COREY HARRIS**, 23, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on charges of bailman off of bond for aggravated assault with a deadly weapon and possession of marijuana-more than 2 ounces, less than 4 ounces.
- **JOHN CARL RUTHERFORD**, 17, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a charge of bailman off of bond for criminal mischief.
- **RANDY RAY MIER**, 26, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of assault with intent to cause bodily injury.
- **VIOLATION OF A PROTECTIVE ORDER** was reported in the 700 block of Borden.

Lottery

Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Wednesday night:

- Winning numbers drawn: 16-21-22-32-39. Bonus Ball: 09.
- Number matching five of five, plus Bonus Ball: 0.
 - Number matching five of five: 1. Prize: \$24,910.
 - Number matching four of five, plus Bonus Ball: 5. Prize: \$4,522.
 - Number matching four of five: 425. Prize: \$114.
 - Number matching three of five, plus Bonus Ball: 405. Prize: \$166.
 - Number matching three of five: 16,388. Prize: \$5.
 - Number matching two of five, plus Bonus Ball: 5,056. Prize: \$5.
 - Number matching one of five, plus Bonus Ball: 23,783. Prize: \$3.
- Estimated jackpot for Saturday night drawing: \$10,000,000.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Wednesday night:

- Winning numbers drawn: 05-11-14-16-34.
- Number matching five of five: 1.
 - Prize per winner: \$39,553.
 - Winning tickets sold in: Houston, Main Food Store.
 - Matching four of five: 138. Prize: \$129.
 - Matching three of five: 4,193. Prize: \$10.
 - Matching two of five: 42,912. Prize: \$2.
- Next Cash 5 drawing: Thursday night.

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

Weather

Tonight...Windy. Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 40s. West winds 20 to 30 mph.

Friday...Partly cloudy. Cooler with highs in the lower 60s. North winds 10 to 20 mph.

Friday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 30s. Northeast winds 10 to 15 mph.

Saturday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 50s. East winds around 10 mph.

Saturday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 30s.

Sunday...Mostly cloudy. Highs in the lower 60s.

Sunday night...Mostly cloudy. Lows in the mid 40s.

Monday...Mostly cloudy. A 20 percent chance of showers. Highs in the lower 60s.

Monday night...Mostly cloudy. A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the lower 40s.

Tuesday...Mostly cloudy. A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the lower 60s.

Tuesday night...Mostly cloudy. Lows in the upper 30s.

Wednesday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 60s.



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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

Kiwanis Club meets at noon at Howard County Cactus Room. Call 267-6479.

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

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

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

Rackley-Swords 379 Vietnam Veterans of America meets at 7 p.m. at 309 S. Main Street.

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

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

FRIDAY

Spring City Senior Citizen Country and Western Dance meet 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 Club meets at noon at Howard County Cactus Room.

SATURDAY

The dance of Eagles Lodge begins at 8:30 p.m., 703 West Third.

Potton House, 200 Gregg, is a restored historical home, is open from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. One-time admission fees of \$2 for adults; \$1 for children and senior citizens is welcomed.

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

Hangar 25 Air Museum, located at McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark, is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Sunday from 1:30 p.m. to 4 p.m.

For information on Big Spring Squares, call 267-7043 or 263-6305.

Big Spring Shrine Club meets at 6:30 p.m. for a meal and meeting to follow at Goliad and First streets.

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.

□ **BIG SPRING AND SURROUNDING** counties are in critical need of foster families.

Foster parents are the caretakers for the children in the community who have been abused or neglected.

BIG SPRING HERALD

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The Herald is a member of The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, West Texas Press Association, Texas Daily Newspaper Association, The Associated Press, Texas Press Association, Inland Press Association, National Newspaper Association, Newspaper Association of America, Small Newspaper Federation, Southern Newspaper Publishers Association and American Newspaper Association.

Published afternoons Monday through Friday and Sunday mornings, except Christmas Day. All materials copyrighted. Postmaster: Send address changes to Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, Texas 79721. Periodicals postage paid at Big Spring, Texas. USPS 1431-48 USPS 0055-940 ISSN 0746-6811
BY THE MONTH HOME DELIVERY: Evenings and Sunday, \$8.65 monthly; \$93.42 yearly (includes 10% discount for yearly).
MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$12.50 monthly Howard & Martin Counties. \$13.25 elsewhere.

HEART

Continued from Page 1

tried to get the nia cleared up. His first Easter in gen tent."

Brady was Brackenridge Ho Austin, a trip and Weber said he would forget.

"They finally do send him to Aus Brackenridge Ho rode down with I had bet my par there wasn't a wrong with him," through a wave tion. "The doctor hand on my sor and told me I had He could actually way the heart wa and tell these w thing seriously w

Weber said it w ing time for him wife at that point end result prov stories really do happy ending.

"His heart was of a walnut, ar was hole the wi dime in the tw chambers of his Weber explained n't develop until about 3 months c really started pu was returning fl to his lungs and I couldn't handle i

"They put hi bunch of medica we took him hor he was 5 month took him back ; did open-heart

They put a I patch on his h healed up fine had no adverse this day. He's 9 now and he ha athletic heart. I is actually stron most people."

Weber said he wife's main conc ing those early y nothing more th their son get we he looks back on ation, it's imp understand ho work was go behind the sce just for Brady, everyone strugg heart disease a

SKYWAR

Continued from Page 1

Chambers, locat E. Fourth Street. class for people Martin County a for March 25 fro p.m. at the Marti Courthouse Courtroom. A Glasscock Count yet been sched Vespers said he have one in Gar with the date announced.

"The SkyWarn are an integral p system," said "They provide r

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Sym
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Big Spring

Funded in part



HEART

Continued from Page 1A

tried to get the pneumonia cleared up. He spent his first Easter in an oxygen tent."

Brady was sent to Brackenridge Hospital in Austin, a trip and arrival Weber said he will never forget.

"They finally decided to send him to Austin, to the Brackenridge Hospital. I rode down with him, and I had bet my parents \$50 there wasn't anything wrong with him," he said through a wave of emotion. "The doctor put his hand on my son's chest and told me I had lost \$50. He could actually feel the way the heart was beating and tell these was something seriously wrong."

Weber said it was a trying time for him and his wife at that point, but the end result proves some stories really do have a happy ending.

"His heart was the size of a walnut, and there was hole the width of a dime in the two bottom chambers of his heart," Weber explained. "It didn't develop until he was about 3 months old and it really started pumping. It was returning fluid back to his lungs and his lungs couldn't handle it."

"They put him on a bunch of medication and we took him home. When he was 5 months old we took him back and they did open-heart surgery. They put a polyester patch on his heart. He healed up fine and has had no adverse effects to this day. He's 9 years old now and he has a very athletic heart. His heart is actually stronger than most people."

Weber said he and his wife's main concerns during those early years was nothing more than to help their son get well, but as he looks back on the situation, it's important to understand how much work was going on behind the scenes, not just for Brady, but for everyone struggling with heart disease and disor-

ders. "When you're going through something like that, you don't really know what other people are doing," he said. "You're just focused on keeping that child alive and getting him better. We didn't have a lot of interaction with the American Heart Association during that time."

"I think any organization whose primary focus is research and preventative education is very important. There were babies that died while Brady was there at the hospital because medicine and research hadn't gotten to that point. We have to keep funding the research so the American surgeon's skills can continue to grow, so they can save lives."

Those early trips to Brackenridge Hospital serve now as a reminder for the Webers. A reminder of the advancements in medicine made possible through charitable organizations such as the American Heart Association, and the need for continuing research.

"While we were there, we ran into a lot of other children and families that were a lot worse off than we were," he said. "We got to see the difference the advances they have made in surgery and other techniques has made for other families over the years."

"They can do this surgery now at a much younger age, and that really lessens the adverse impact it has on the kids' lives. What the American Heart Association has done is allow research and funding to go to the point that these doctors can cut a child's heart, something the size of a walnut, in half and miss all of the nerve endings; sew it back together; and a month later, he's better than he was when he went in."

Area residents can help the American Heart Association in its fight against heart-related illnesses, as the organiza-

tion prepares to present the "Hollywood for Heart" gala Saturday.

AHA Corporate Market Director Angela Watson said the gala will feature both live and silent auctions, with a number of "goodies" up for grabs.

"For the silent auction there's going to be things like gift baskets and dinners up for grabs," said Watson. "During the live auction they will present the more expensive items, such as vacations and trips. I understand there are also going to be some Rockhounds tickets on the block as well."

While the gala is for the enjoyment of those in attendance, Watson said it's important not to lose sight of the reason for the annual event.

"We've all been touched by heart disease in some way," she explained. "Almost everyone has had a family member or friend go through heart problems at some point in their life, if they themselves haven't. It's the No. 1 killer in America, causing more than 40 percent of the deaths in this country."

"The money raised by the gala will go to research and public education. We do a lot of work right here in Big Spring, but there's also a whole array of operations that are done statewide. Every time something is invented or discovered to help in the war against heart disease, it's done with donations from the public. It's the generosity of the people that allow us to move ahead in our research and help those suffering with heart disease."

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.

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

BAND

Continued from Page 1A

The Big Spring High School band did not qualify any students for all-state this year, but did have a number of strong performances at all-area tryouts held in Odessa in January.

Results from Class 4A area tryout were: French horn: Jessica Ray, sixth; Kristen Richard, 11th; and Alyssa Rains, 13. Flute: Melody McDaniel, eighth; Mellissa Franco, 17th; Meredith Fillingim, 18th; and Alex Garipey, 19. Tenor trombone: Ryan Harris, ninth. Oboe: Meagan Smith, fifth. Percussion: Cody Carnes, ninth; and Nick Ross, 10th. Tuba, Vincente Flores, 10th. Baritone: Cierra Butler, seventh. Bb flat clarinet: Cynthia Padron, 27.

At all-region contest held in December, the BSHS band blew away the competition, earning 48 positions and qualifying 28 student to advance to all-area competition. Results from the all-

region competition were: Flute: Melody McDaniel, first; Crystal Ward, second; Mellissa Franco, third; Alex Garipey, fourth; Meredith Fillingim, fifth; Paige Gaine, sixth; Angela Banks, seventh; Deanna Carlisle, eighth; Amy Hanes, ninth; and Morgan Metcalf, alternate.

Bb clarinet: Cynthia Padron, first; Jennifer Hernandez, second; Rochelle McMeans, third; Julie Cadenhead, fifth; and Malerie Aguilar, seventh.

Bass clarinet: Monica Lara, first; Chris Rieger, second; and Chrissie Walters, third.

Oboe: Meagan Smith, first; Kami Huddleston, second; and Kelly Wingert, alternate.

Bassoon: Whitney Weir, first.

Alto saxophone: Spencer Roberts, second; Jared Sanchez, third; Ryan Beall, fourth; and Oscar Natividad, alternate.

Tenor saxophone: Scott Fankhouser, alternate.

Baritone saxophone: Brandon Green, first.

Cornet/trumpet: Gracie Acosta, first; Braden Burchett, third; Mark Lozano, fourth; David Welch, fifth; Anthony Riddle, sixth; Royce Perez, seventh; Landon Jenkins, eighth; Joel Flores, ninth; Bridgett Rodriguez, 10th; and Brian Juan, 12th.

French horn: Jessica Ray, first; Kristen Richard, second; and Alyssa Rains, third.

Tenor trombone: Ryan Harris, first; Adam Heinis, third; Mitchell Lowery, fifth; Jacob Martinez, sixth; and Desmond Garcia, seventh.

Baritone, Cierra Bulter, first; Health Wilkerson, alternate.

Tuba: Vincente Flores, first; Jeff Stanley, third; and Jonathan McMeans, fourth.

Percussion: Cody Carnes, first; Nick Ross, second; Curtis Osborn, fourth; and Austin Cox, alternate.

String bass: J.W. Beauchamp, first.

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

FORSAN ISD

Continued from Page 1A

"Certainly that's one of the considerations we're looking at," Rotan said. "At the same time, we have things that need to be addressed here. Our science labs are severely out of date; our gym over at Elbow needs some updating as well."

The question of how public schools will be

funded is a current concern with school districts throughout the state as elected officials grapple with finding an equitable funding system.

A special session of the legislature to address the matter is expected to be called this spring by Gov. Rick Perry.

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

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Doug Knight, 96, died Tuesday. Graveside services will be at 10:00 AM Friday at Trinity Memorial Park.

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SKYWARN

Continued from Page 1A

Chambers, located at 307 E. Fourth Street. Another class for people in the Martin County area is set for March 25 from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Martin County Courthouse District Courtroom. A class for Glasscock County has not yet been scheduled, but Vespers said he expects to have one in Garden City, with the date to be announced.

"The SkyWarn spotters are an integral part of our system," said Vesper. "They provide reports to

us from out in the field, which allows us to combine that information with satellite and radar data to get a good picture of what's going on."

"Even if someone doesn't want to become a spotter, I think these classes go a long way to prepare them and their families for a severe weather situation. We're preparing for the storm season now, and we hope everyone else in the area will do so as well."

For more information on the SkyWarn program and the Midland branch of the National Weather Service, visit them online

at www.srh.noaa.gov/maf, or call 432-563-5006.

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

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EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Susanne Reed
PublisherJohn A. Moseley
Managing EditorBill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEWS

Let's all support
recognition of our
farmers, ranchers

If you want to understand the impact agriculture has on Howard County and the surrounding area, walk into any retail business in Big Spring and ask. They'll tell you that agricultural producers are vital to their business. That's because the hundreds of farmers and their families who reside in the Crossroads area are exactly like the rest of us — they buy their groceries and clothes here; their gasoline, diesel, chemicals, seed, tires and implements here; send their children to school here, worship here; and pay taxes here.

In short, while oil and gas have been a major shot in the arm for our area, industries come and go. The agriculture industry has long been the mainstay.

That's why, each year, we take time out to honor those men and women who make their living off the land.

Right now, the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce is making plans to host the annual Agricultural Appreciation Luncheon for ag producers in the area. The event will be held Thursday, March 25, in the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum, and in conjunction with the west Texas Ag Expo and Garden Show.

Annually, between 350 and 400 farmers and ranchers are fed at the event, which costs around \$4,000. What is needed are contributions to help pay for the meals and other expenses. Extra food tickets for non-producers will be available as usual, of course, at a cost of \$10 each.

If you or your business would like to contribute, it would be greatly appreciated. This year, the chamber plans to display signs with a listing for all contributors. Therefore, contributions should be made by March 19, in order to get all of the names of contributors to the printer. To help out, call Liz Adamson at 263-7641.

We hope you will take time to help the chamber make this possible, through your donations. And of course, we hope to see you for the luncheon expo and garden show on Thursday, March 25.

LETTERS POLICY

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

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

How To Contact Us

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions. In order that we might better serve your needs, we offer several ways in which you may contact us:

- In person at 710 Scurry St.
- By telephone at 263-7331
- By fax at 264-7205
- By e-mail Managing Editor John Moseley at jmoseley@crcom.net or News Editor Bill McClellan at newsdesk@crcom.net.
- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

Mayor Newsom - In defiance of the law

Officials in San Francisco are engaged in an act of civil disobedience of stunning hubris. Buoyed by a Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court ruling that ordered the legislature in that state to allow homosexuals to marry, San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom last week ordered city officials to begin issuing marriage licenses to homosexual couples, in open contravention of state law. In the first four days, the city issued more than 2,000 such licenses.

But voters in California rejected gay marriage by nearly a two-to-one margin just four years ago, when 61 percent voted in favor of Proposition 22, a ballot initiative that said: "Only marriage between a man and a woman is valid or recognized in California." If a handful of city officials can circumvent the will of the people — as expressed in a state law passed by the majority of California voters — can anarchy be far behind?

Gay rights activists claim that granting same-sex couples the right to marry is simply a matter of equity and fairness. They reject the notion that there is anything radical about their demand or that it would do harm to the institution of marriage itself. They frequently compare prohibitions on same-sex marriage to anti-miscegenation laws that prohibited interracial couples from marrying in some states until the U.S. Supreme Court struck them down as unconstitutional in 1967 in *Loving v. Virginia*.

stitutional in 1967 in *Loving v. Virginia*.

But the comparisons are fatuous. Allowing men and women of different races to marry in no way threatens the institution itself, but same-sex unions require a fundamental redefinition of marriage. No society since the dawn of civilization had ever even contemplated institutionalizing same-sex unions until the late 20th Century (and to this date, only two countries recognize gay marriage: the Netherlands and Belgium).

If the courts uphold San Francisco's flagrant violation of the law, what possible rational basis will there be from denying all sorts of other unconventional — and most would argue, immoral — unions? If two men or two women may marry, what rational — as opposed to normative or moral — basis is there to reject the union of one man with several women, or several men, for that matter, or any other combination of multiple partners? Many societies and some religions — most notably Islam — allow a man to take more than one wife. If the "right" to marry can encompass two persons of the same sex, on what basis can that "right" be denied to multiple partners?

On what basis could the "right" to marry be denied persons who happen to be closely related by blood? Taboos against incest are as old as civilization itself. But then so were taboos against homosexuality. If two men have the right to marry, what rational basis is there to deny that same right to a brother and a sister who want to do so, or a father and daughter, for that matter, so long as both are adults?

Make no mistake, gay marriage will fundamentally alter the institution itself, rendering it virtually meaningless. Some gay rights activists have been more open and honest about their aims. Jonathan Katz, the executive director of the Larry Kramer Initiative for Gay and Lesbian Studies at Yale University (named for the founder of the confrontational gay rights group ACT-UP) admitted on National Public Radio's "Talk of the Nation" this week that gay marriage "would revolutionize the institution of marriage itself. The advent of lesbian and gay marriage might, in fact, serve to not only reinvigorate but to redefine an institution that is increasingly viewed by many in our culture as having outlived its usefulness."

Perhaps Mr. Katz believes that marriage has outlived its usefulness, but most Americans do not. The United States has the highest marriage rate of any nation, according to the United Nations' Bulletin of Statistics. If marriage is going to be redefined, shouldn't the American people have some say in it? Voters or their representatives in state legislatures in some 38 states have made it clear that they want to restrict marriage to the union of one man and one woman. In a democracy, those votes should count for something, the defiant acts of San Francisco's mayor notwithstanding.

To find out more about Linda Chavez and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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6965; Work (BSISD): 264-

3600.

Enjoying my role as the 'Godfather'

When I was first asked to be Sarah's godfather, I was completely baffled.

"It's supposed to be an honor," Sarah's mother, Karen, told me on the phone. "It's a great privilege."

Is it like in the movie? I asked.

"What movie?" Karen said.

"The Godfather," I said. Where Marlon Brando plays Vito Corleone, and Sonny gets shot at the toll booth, and Michael becomes the Godfather, and Luca Brazzi sleeps with the fishes.

"Maybe we'll ask our second choice," Karen said.

Who's that? I asked. "Anybody," she said. Which is her way of showing affection. Her husband, Mark, got on the phone.

"You really don't know anything about being a godfather?" he asked.

Nothing, I said. "In that case," he said, "being godfather means you have to pay for the kid's college."

"And grad school!" I could hear Karen shouting in the background.

Would this be a state college or private? I asked.

"We've got 18 years to decide," Mark said.

Any other duties? He thought for a second. "If you die, she gets everything," he said. But this jogged some vague memory in my head.

Wait a second, I said, it seems to me the whole purpose of godfa-

thers is that if you die, I get to raise Sarah.

"Before I would let you raise my daughter, I would put her in an orphanage," Mark said. "And if the orphanages are too crowded, we want her raised by wolves. If no wolves can be found, you would come next."

It seemed like a fair deal. And as Sarah has grown into a bright and beautiful 7-year-old, my role in her life has become the Negative Example.

"If you don't eat your Brussels sprouts, you will grow up to look like Uncle Roger, and you don't want that to happen, do you?" Karen asks Sarah.

"If you don't clean your room this instant, we will send you to live with Uncle Roger instead of wolves!" Karen tells Sarah.

It is quite effective.

A few days ago, I was on the phone with Karen, getting present-approval.

I have been required to get the pre-approval from Karen for any gifts to Sarah ever since I sent Sarah an electric drill for her fifth birthday, which Karen did not consider age-appropriate.

It's a toy restaurant, I said. "How many parts does it have?" Karen asked.

Who cares? I asked. "You don't have to pick them up!" Karen said.

She had me there. It's very educational, I told her. "What's the age range?" Karen asked.

You can't tell parents the truth about this. If the age range is 3 to 6 and you get it for a 6-year-old, that is like saying the 6-year-old is as dumb as a 3-year-old.

The age range is from, uh, junior

to senior in high school, I said. You have to have combined SATs of 1200 just to open the wrapping.

"I am sure Sarah could handle it," Karen said. "What's in it?"

It's 95 pretend foods including bacon and eggs, pancakes, burgers and fries, and pizza with four toppings, I said.

Karen was silent, and I knew she was visualizing picking up all those pretend edibles every day.

"I'm not sure she'll like it," Karen said.

Put her on the phone, I said. After a moment, a tiny voice said, "Hello?"

"Some day, and that day may never come," I said in low and gravelly tones, "I'll call upon you to do a service for me. But until that day, accept this justice as a gift on my daughter's wedding day."

The phone fell to the floor. "She's crying," Karen said. "I told you not to do your Brando imitation anymore!"

I'll make it up to her, I said. I'll bring her the toy restaurant.

"OK," Karen said, "but when you do, don't make her kiss your hand. It's creepy. And see if you can get her to pick up the toy food by herself."

Hey, I said, I'll make her an offer she can't refuse.

Now if I could only find a plastic horse's head.

Roger Simon can be e-mailed at WriteRoger@aol.com. To find out more about Roger Simon and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at www.creators.com.

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and Kim E.
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Turbo Baja

Subaru adds more power to 'sport plus utility' in '04

LAKE PLACID, N.Y. — More power, more power, more power.

Subaru has taken its all-wheel drive, four-door pickup and added an intercooled, turbocharged boxer engine, giving its crossover vehicle 210 horsepower and "sport plus utility."

With the driving dynamics, safety and comfort of a passenger car and the ruggedness of a compact pickup, the 2004 Baja Turbo was introduced earlier this spring during a new product launch in Lake Placid, N.Y. It will begin arriving in dealer showrooms later this summer.

Baja models share a family resemblance with the Outback, including large-type front fenders, four-beam multi-reflector headlights (two-beam on Baja Sport), large foldable

mirrors and integrated foglights with stone guards.

In addition to the functional hood scoop, Baja Turbo is distinguished by six-spoke, 16-inch aluminum-alloy wheels.

The 2.5-liter powerplant is mated to an advanced four-speed electronic direct control automatic transmission and Variable Torque Distribution All-Wheel Drive.

The Baja Turbo inherits its engine technology from the recently introduced 2004 Impreza WRX Sti model, and emphasizes strong torque at low engine speeds. For those who enjoy active lifestyles in the mountains, the Baja Turbo offers outstanding output at high altitudes.

The horizontally opposed 4-cylinder engine is based on a specially reinforced semi-closed deck engine block, while



The 2004 Subaru Baja Turbo.

aluminum-alloy pistons, forged high-carbon steel connecting rods and sodium-filled exhaust valves help ensure consistent and reliable performance under all driving conditions.

The functional hood scoop provides a stream of outside air to the engine-mounted intercooler.

Producing 235 lbs.-ft. of peak torque (42 percent more than naturally aspirated Baja models), on-ramp merging and passing power is comparable to six-cylinder engines. An Electronic Throttle Control (ETC) system provides direct engine response while ensuring optimal fuel efficiency and lower emissions. The Baja Turbo is certified as

a Low Emissions Vehicle. Additionally, all Baja models have a tow rating capacity of 2,400 pounds.

Introduced last fall, the Subaru Baja is designed with the active-lifestyle person in mind.

Featuring the Subaru-designed Switchback system, the rear seatback folds down to add interior storage, and the Switchback door between the cargo bed and interior section can be lowered to extend the cargo area length.

The expandable 41.5-inch pickup bed can handle a variety of outdoor equipment, such as mountain bikes, surfboards or scuba gear. Lowering the tailgate and attaching the optional Subaru accessory bed

extender lengthens the bed to more than 58 inches. By lowering the rear seatback and Switchback door, a maximum load floor length of more 90 inches is available for longer items.

Inside, Baja Turbo is more like a sports sedan than a pickup. All Baja models are configured strictly as a four-passenger vehicle with the rear seating area providing each passenger with the feeling of personal space and comfort.

Baja Turbo features luxury amenities and exclusive design features, including leather-trimmed upholstery, a six-way power driver's seat, a 100-watt AM/FM stereo with six-disc in-dash CD changer and six

speakers and a black leather-wrapped steering wheel designed by MOMO. The shifter handle is also black leather-wrapped.

The Baja Turbo features more than 60 standard amenities, including air conditioning, power tilt wheel, retractable moonroof, power windows, power mirrors and door locks, cruise control, a digital outside temperature gauge and remote keyless entry.

Neal White has been covering the automotive industry for more than 10 years and is affiliated with the Texas Auto Writers Association and the Midwest Automotive Media Association. Comments may be sent to Neal at neal.white@waxa-

ON THE ROAD



By NEAL WHITE

Who's who

Local student named as an ambassador

Courtney Rodriguez, daughter of Kerry and Freddy Rodriguez, has been selected by the People to People Organization to take part in their Student Ambassador program.

Miss Rodriguez, a sophomore at Big Spring High School, will leave for Australia in June for three weeks to learn, share and represent her country, community and school.

During her journey, she will have the opportunity to explore Australia, learning about the history, government, economy and culture, through a visit to local schools, meetings with government officials and a home stay with a local Australia family.

The People to People



Courtney Rodriguez

Student Ambassador Program was founded in 1956 by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in an effort to bring together citizens worldwide.

Since that time eight

presidents have served as honorary chairmen of People to People. Their purpose is to enhance international understanding and friendship through educational, cultural and humanitarian activities involving the exchange of ideas and experiences directly among young people of different countries and diverse cultures.

By becoming a student ambassador, participants gain an appreciation for the world in which they live and learn how they can directly affect the world.

The process to become a student ambassador takes approximately six months, and includes meeting with the People to People staff, getting letters of recommendations and personal interviews.

Funds for the trip must be raised by the student, and Rodriguez is working at raising the \$5,000 it will cost for her trip.

During the next month she and her family and friends will take orders for crispy Kream doughnuts for \$6 a dozen, and will give away an electric scooter. Also they are asking for donations.

The total amount must be raised by March 10 to send her to People by March 15.

Anyone wishing to help Rodriguez can send donations to Miss Rodriguez, 2609 Carleton, Big Spring 79720. Make checks payable to People to People. To help by placing a doughnut order, call 432-263-6100 or 432-268-9756 and leave a message.

Serving America

Air Force Airman 1st Class Gabriel M. Stone has graduated from the C-130 aircraft maintenance mission-ready airman technician (MRT) course at Little Rock Air Force Base, Jacksonville, Ark.

He is the son of Steve L. and Kim E. Stone of Austin.

His wife, Shelly, is the daughter of Debbie Gregory of Big Spring.

The airman is a 2000 graduate of American Youth Works Charter School in Austin.

The course includes 88 days of pre-training at Sheppard Air Force Base, Wichita Falls, and an additional 20 days of hands-on-training at

Little Rock Air Force Base.

The student received instruction in all facets of maintenance on the C-130 cargo/transport aircraft to maintain the aircraft in operational mission-ready status.

Training included performing tasks and checks involved during pre-flight to post-flight, refueling, tire changes, and towing. This course must be completed by C-130 aircraft maintenance career field apprentices and all new crew chiefs.

Stone is assigned to Pope Air Force Base, Fayetteville, N.C. He has served in the military for eight months.

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An early wreck in the Busch series race plus a blown engine in the Daytona 500 combined to make for a frustrating weekend for Kasey Kahne.

Off on the wrong foot

Kasey Kahne hopes to put a disappointing Daytona behind him

By JIM UTTER
Knight Ridder Newspapers

Nearly two weeks of preparation work during Speedweeks and Kasey Kahne barely was able to break a sweat.

NASCAR's Nextel Cup and Busch series opened their seasons at Daytona International Speedway (Fla.) last weekend, but Kahne — who was entered in both races — was barely noticed on the track.

He was involved in an early wreck in the Busch race and completed 11 of 100 laps. Making his Cup debut in the Daytona 500, Kahne lost the engine in his No. 9 Dodge and finished 41st, completing 42 of 200 laps.

That's 53 laps of work out of a possible 300. Kahne, obviously, was disappointed in the outcomes.

"We had a great week going in both cars. I thought we were going to have some really good runs and then all that stuff started happening and it ruined our weekend," Kahne said.

"At the time I was upset. I got home and things started getting better, and then I watched the (rain-delayed) Busch race. Dale (Earnhardt Jr.) won three (races) that weekend, and we're sitting in the pits and 50 laps is all we made. "It started irritating me a little more."

Asked if he received any encouraging advice from team owner Ray Evernham or mentor Bill Elliott after his rough weekend, Kahne said, "I never saw Bill after the race. I went out to my motorcoach and watched it from there. I saw Ray at the airport when we were leaving. He wasn't very happy with the way the cars ran for sure."

"That was the biggest thing, he wasn't happy, either. There will be a lot of work going on before we go back to Talladega for the next



Kahne's spin-out on pit road during last week's Gatorade Twin 125 foreshadowed his poor showing at the 2004 Daytona 500.

superspeedway race."

While many drivers got a whirlwind start to their season last weekend, Kahne, 23, will look to restart his this weekend as both series move to North Carolina Speedway in Rockingham.

"I need to forget about (Daytona) and not let it happen again. I need to just forget about it and go on," Kahne said. "I was a little upset (Monday) night watching some of that stuff again, but I'm feeling better. "I'm fine. The team's fine. We just need to

have a good run and hopefully we'll get it this weekend in both cars."

Kahne is driving the No. 9 Dodge in Cup this season for Evernham Motorsports and the No. 38 Dodge in the Busch series for Akins Motorsports. He is one of three drivers attempting to run the entire Cup and Busch schedules.

One bright spot for Kahne as he enters another weekend of "double duty" is that his Evernham team, with Elliott at the helm, won the most recent Cup race at Rockingham in November 2003.

"When we went down there and tested they still had a good package and Tommy Baldwin (crew chief) changed it up a little bit and it was even better," Kahne said.

Although Kahne hasn't produced any top-10 finishes at Rockingham during his Busch career, he believes he is capable of putting together some strong runs to re-energize the start of his season.

"We ran in the top five last year the whole race and had a battery go out late in the race and ended up 29th or something," he said. "We've always been fast there, just never had the great finishes."

His struggles at Daytona also likely made his work running Busch and Cup seem that much more difficult. Kahne said he remains upbeat about the prospects of his busy schedule.

"I've been trying to get ready for this stuff the past couple of months, and I think I'm ready for it. I'm excited to do both," Kahne said.

"Mentally, it's going to be all about the performance. If we're performing, mentally it's going to be great. If we have things go wrong or I get in a wreck or different stuff, it'll be tough."

3. Jimmie Johnson (car No. 48):

Easily had the most solid Speedweeks performance among Hendrick Motorsports teams. Preseason ranking: 2.

4. Kevin Harvick (car No. 29):

Took what he could get in finishing fourth in the Daytona 500, but clearly wanted more. Preseason ranking: 3.

5. Ryan Newman (car No. 12):

This team clearly wouldn't like to see another plate race added to the 10-race playoff. Preseason ranking: 1.

6. Matt Kenseth (car No. 17):

Sidled quietly into a top-10 finish at Daytona as he opened his defense of the title. Preseason ranking: 5.

7. Jeff Gordon (car No. 24):

Didn't make any headlines during Speedweeks, but got season off to a decent start. Preseason ranking: 6.

8. Kurt Busch (car No. 97):

If he'd caught a caution to get back onto the lead lap, he'd have been a factor in 500. Preseason ranking: 8.

9. Bobby Labonte (car No. 18):

Made it through Speedweeks unscathed, which all in all isn't a terrible thing to say. Preseason ranking: 9.

10. Dale Jarrett (car No. 88):

A year ago he won at Rockingham. He says he's forgotten what happened after that. Preseason ranking: 14.

For the rest of the top-40 rankings, go online and visit www.thatracin.com.

RANKINGS

THAT'S RACIN'S TOP PICKS

1. Dale Earnhardt Jr. (car No. 8):

So much for all of the talk about internal turmoil at Dale Earnhardt Inc., huh? Preseason ranking: 7.

2. Tony Stewart (car No. 20):

The way this team improved its car during Speedweeks bodes well for the rest of the season. Preseason ranking: 4.

In Nextel Cup racing, you can't please everyone

Ever since NASCAR announced its new "Chase for the Championship" format for determining the Nextel Cup champion, many drivers in the series have been muttering about not being consulted about the change beforehand.

"They didn't ask us before they changed it," goes the general lament, "so I don't guess they cared what we thought about it."

But anybody who listened to drivers during the still-ridiculously-too-long Speedweeks now must understand why NASCAR chairman and chief executive officer Brian France didn't survey them before pulling the trigger on the change.

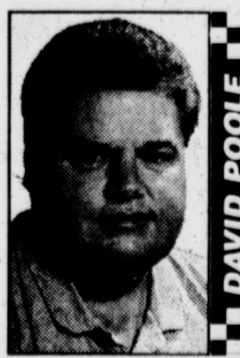
They say a giraffe is a horse designed by a committee. If they let a committee of race-car drivers design it, it'd look like a kangaroo riding an ostrich.

In the run-up of activities leading to Sunday's Daytona 500, drivers

talked about tires so much even sports-writers who obsess about such things got tired of hearing it.

The tires were wearing more than they did last year. This was because last year, drivers were complaining the tires didn't wear out fast enough. That forced teams to plot strategies on whether to change two tires, four tires or no tires at all during key pit stops that sometimes determined how well they finished.

In other words, that forced them to make tough choices. Given their preference, most people in racing would rather not have to do that. For them, Coke vs. Pepsi or Powerade vs. Gatorade is a decision made for them by who's cutting a sponsorship check.



DAVID POOLE

So Goodyear was asked to build tires that "fell off" as they were run, meaning cars went faster on new tires than they did once the tires had some laps on them. By all measures, Goodyear did exactly that. Strategy is now all but erased — the only sane decision is to put four new tires on the car every time it comes down pit road.

What the race teams apparently forgot, however, is that when tires wear out you have to make another whole set of those dreaded decisions. Do you set up your car to work best when the tires are good or when the tires are worn?

When it finally came time to race, the Daytona 500 looked a little bit different than it has in recent years. Instead of having everybody jumbled up in a big knot, running around the track two- and three-wide all day,

things actually got stretched out. For a while Sunday, it looked like a race at Lowe's Motor Speedway (N.C.), where the drivers and teams that did everything the best were significantly out front of those who hadn't.

Every car in that second group was back there because the driver or team had made some error or misstep on pit road or in some other circumstance. In past years, drivers have complained loudly about being prisoners to the draft, about how they couldn't do anything without help. But when the power of the draft was not sufficient enough to help them erase their own miscues, they missed it.

Drivers drive. They're really, really good at it, too. But most of them are no more nuanced than talk radio. Ask 25 drivers to tell you how a champion should be determined and you'd get 25 different systems.

Things are either good or they're bad, and self-interest is the litmus test.

THIS WEEK'S RACE

SUBWAY 400

Where: North Carolina Speedway, a 1.017-mile paved banked oval located in Rockingham.

When: Sunday at 1 p.m. (all times ET). Qualifying is 3:10 p.m. Friday.

TV: Fox.
Radio: Motor Racing Network.

Purse: \$4,751,466.

Last year's winner: Dale Jarrett.



Jarrett

Worth mentioning: Jeff Gordon has qualified in the top 10, including two poles, in 16 of his 22 career races at Rockingham, yet has not qualified in the top 15 in his past four races there. Rusty Wallace leads all active drivers with five wins at Rockingham, including back-to-back wins in fall 1988 and spring 1989 and three consecutive races: a sweep in 1993 and the spring 1994 race. Terry Labonte has been running at the finish for 43 consecutive races — the longest active streak in Cup racing.

POLL POSITION

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

Which disappearing NASCAR tradition will you miss most this season?

Cast your vote at:
www.thatracin.com

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION

Who will win the Daytona 500?
Number of votes: 10,401

Driver	No. of votes	Percent
Dale Earnhardt Jr.	4,069	39.1%
Someone else	3,333	32%
Dale Jarrett	953	9.2%
Kevin Harvick	717	6.9%
Mark Martin	632	6.1%
Ryan Newman	364	3.5%
Jamie McMurray	333	3.2%

STOP 'N GO

RANDOM THOUGHTS

A list of who's hot and who's not in Nextel Cup racing:

WHO'S HOT

■ **Jimmie Johnson** has eight straight top-10 finishes, a streak that began at Kansas Speedway last October.

■ **Tony Stewart** has three straight top-10 finishes, a streak that began at Rockingham last November.

■ **Kevin Harvick** finished the 2003 season with a second-place finish at Homestead-Miami Speedway (Fla.) and starts the 2004 season with another top-five, his fourth-place Daytona 500 finish.

WHO'S NOT

■ **Ricky Rudd** and **Rusty Wallace** have each gone seven races since their last top-10 finish, at Kansas Speedway last October.



Johnson

— Jim Utter

BY THE NUMBERS

NEXTEL CUP DRIVERS AS LEADERS

The top-40 drivers as of Feb. 15:

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1. D. Earnhardt Jr. (8)	185	21. K. Petty (45)	105
2. T. Stewart (20)	180	22. M. Skinner (33)	97
3. S. Wimmer (22)	170	23. R. Craven (32)	94
4. K. Harvick (29)	165	24. J. Spencer (7)	91
5. J. Johnson (48)	160	25. J. Mayfield (19)	88
6. J. Nemechek (01)	150	26. J. Sauter (30)	85
7. J. Gordon (24)	147	27. J. Bension (09)	82
8. E. Sadler (38)	146	28. L. Foyt (14)	79
9. M. Kenseth (17)	143	29. R. Wallace (2)	76
10. D. Jarrett (88)	134	30. D. Cope (50)	73
11. B. Labonte (18)	130	31. R. Newman (12)	70
12. J. Andretti (1)	129	32. K. Lepage (4)	67
13. G. Biffle (16)	127	33. J. Green (43)	64
14. C. Mears (41)	121	34. S. Riggs (10)	61
15. D. Blaney (23)	118	35. R. Gordon (31)	58
16. K. Busch (97)	115	36. J. McMurray (42)	55
17. W. Burton (22)	112	37. S. Marlin (40)	52
18. R. Rudd (21)	109	38. M. Waltrip (15)	49
19. T. Labonte (5)	108	39. B. Vickers (25)	46
20. B. Gaughan (77)	106	40. K. Schrader (49)	43

BUSCH SERIES POINTS LEADERS

The top-20 drivers as of Feb. 16:

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1. D. Earnhardt Jr.	190	11. D. Green	134
2. J. Sauter	175	12. K. Wallace	127
3. R. Gordon	170	13. B. Hamilton Jr.	124
4. K. Harvick	165	14. A. Lewis	121
5. M. Kenseth	155	15. C. Atwood	118
6. R. Homaday	151	16. T. Fedewa	115
7. D. Stremme	150	17. R. Pressley	112
8. J. Leffler	142	18. M. Waltrip	111
9. J. Keller	138	19. G. Wasson	109
10. G. Biffle	135	20. D. Cope	108

NEXT RACE: Saturday, Goody's Headache Powder 200, Rockingham, N.C.

TRUCK SERIES POINTS LEADERS

The top-10 drivers as of Feb. 13:

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1. C. Edwards	190	6. D. Setzer	155
2. T. Kvapil	175	7. F. Kimmel	147
3. M. Wallace	170	8. J. Wood	146
4. R. Crawford	160	9. D. Feutimann	143
5. T. Cook	160	10. B. Hamilton	135

NEXT RACE: March 13, Esocare Vehicle Service Contracts 200, Hampton, Ga.

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Independent league may expand to Crossroads

By TOMMY WELLS
Sports Editor

Professional baseball could be on the Big Spring map again if Bob Lipp has anything to say about it.

Lipp, the president of the fledgling Southwestern Baseball League, spent much of Wednesday afternoon scouting Midland and Big Spring as a possible site for a new Class A franchise. Clovis and Carlsbad, New Mexico, are also being considered.

"This is a great area with a tremendous baseball past," said Lipp, who will oversee the six-team short-season independent league. "I think the area could be a great spot for a team because of its love for the game and its proximity to the border and the league's other teams."

Any expansion team would likely call Midland its permanent home, however. The team would look to play several games locally, assuming a deal with one of

the city's two existing stadiums could be worked out.

Currently, Lipp said the league was negotiating with Midland officials for the rights to use Christiansen Field — the former home of the Midland Rockhounds.

"Right now we're looking at this area along with two others," said Lipp, who said the new league is being financed by a current Major League Baseball player. "We're looking for places that love the game and can support a team."

Big Spring could fit that billet. The city fielded a professional team through much of the 1950s and 1960s in the Longhorn and Texas leagues.

Already the Southwestern Baseball League has placed four

franchises — the Roswell Aliens, Alamogordo Dust Devils and Las Cruces Stealth in New Mexico and the Juarez Cowboys in Mexico. Lipp said he expected to announce plans for another team within the next few days.

"We want to try and move as quickly as possible," he said. "Our 54-game short season will run from May to July. We'd like to give the team a chance to get settled before beginning."

Lipp said the league, which will feature mostly Mexican League players, would be built around a local appeal. He expected any franchise to try and attract as many local players as possible.

"We want to be a part of the community and have our players recognized as an important part of it," he said.

Unlike the Rockhounds, Midland's Double A affiliate of the Oakland A's, the independent Southwestern League will operate on a small budget. Lipp said

the league would operate at approximately \$200,000 for the first year — meaning most of the players will be "working" players.

That smaller overhead will have a positive impact on local fans, he said.

"By keeping the bottom line small, it will make it easier for the league to get started," he said. "Our ticket prices will range from \$2 to \$6 apiece. We'll only need around 400 people a game to break even the first year."

Lipp said the quality of play will be high despite the league's budget.

"It'll be pretty good," he said. "Most of the players will come from the Mexican League so they'll have some skills. I would think if we played the other team (the Rockhounds) in a five-game series we'd win one or two."

For more information about the SBL contact Lipp at baseballoffice@swlbaseball.com



Southwestern Baseball League

IN BRIEF

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.

Barnett placed on leave as CU coach

DENVER (AP) — Colorado football coach Gary Barnett was placed on paid administrative leave over comments he made after a former player alleged she was raped by a teammate four years ago.

School president Elizabeth Hoffman said Barnett had made "unacceptable" comments about former kicker Katie Hnida.

The move was the latest at a school that's been hit with an almost daily barrage of accusations against its football program, including rapes and alcohol-fueled sex parties for recruits.

Knight drops suit against Indiana

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Bob Knight dropped his breach-of-contract lawsuit against Indiana University almost four years after being fired as its basketball coach.

Knight sued Indiana in 2002, saying it failed to follow proper procedures in dismissing him. He said losing the job cost him \$2 million in income from media contracts, basketball camps and endorsements.

Referees suspend game following fight

CAMDEN, N.J. (AP) — Referees suspended a game between Rutgers-Camden and Montclair State after a fight under the basket.

The brawl halted the Division III game with 4:03 remaining in the first half. No one was injured during the fight, which started when the visiting Red Hawks were leading the Scarlet Raptors 37-19.

ON THE AIR

Sports Broadcast Schedule
Feb. 19
Event, Time, Station
Lady Hawks vs. Odessa, 5:45 p.m., 1490
Hawks vs. Odessa, 7:45 p.m., 1490

FEB 19 2004

Ready for Another Go

GC, Grady, Coahoma gear up for playoffs

By TOMMY WELLS
Sports Editor

High school basketball action will again take center stage Friday when four area teams hit the hardwood throughout West Texas for key playoff bouts.

Among the biggest games of the evening will be the Garden City Lady Kats' area playoff showdown with Lorenzo. Garden City enters the second round of the Class A schoolgirl playoffs sporting a 25-4 record.

The Lady Kats, who roasted Roby by a 53-20 margin Tuesday at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum, are scheduled to play Lorenzo at 7 p.m. at Brownfield High School.

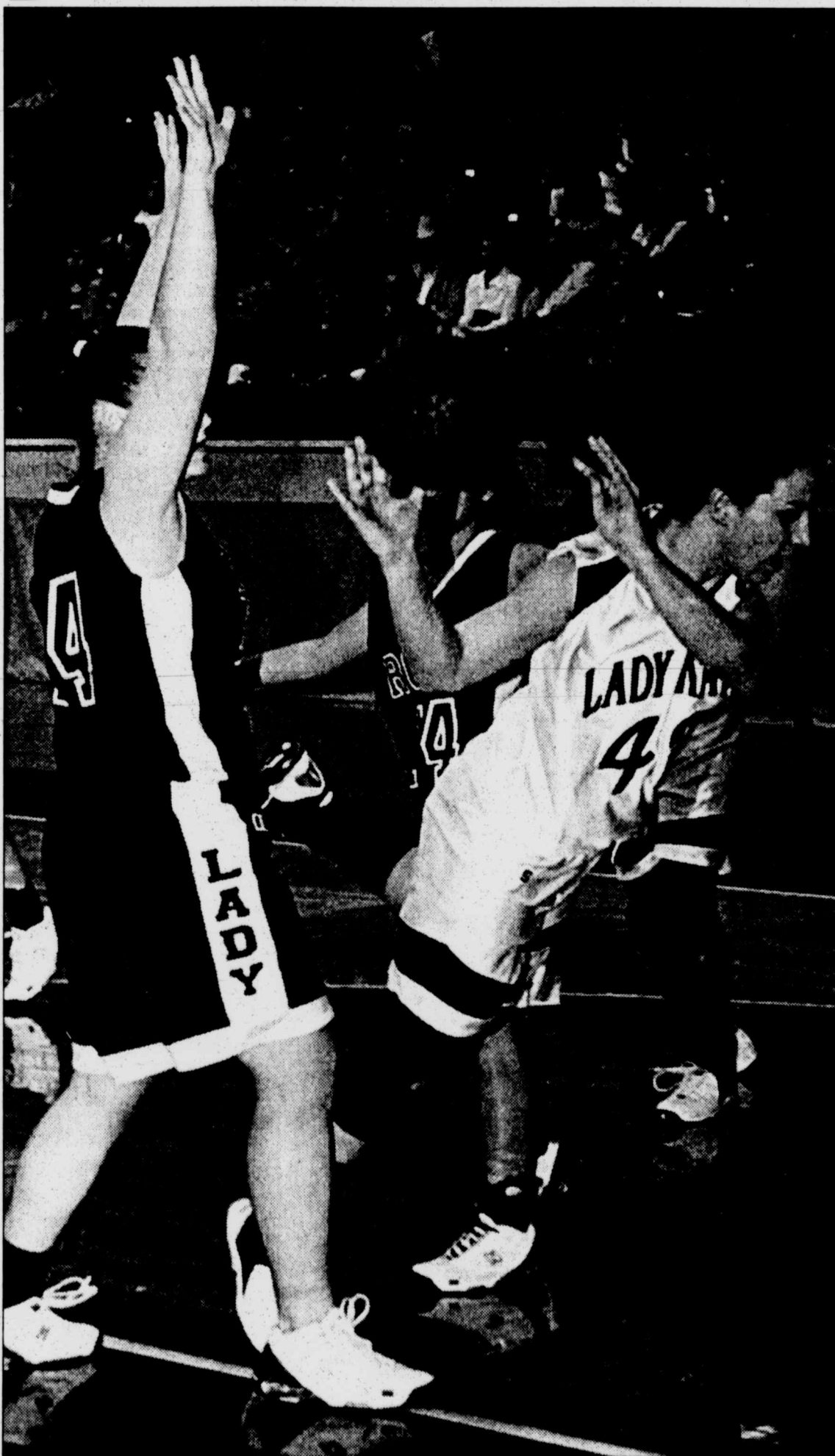
The Grady Lady Cats, fresh off a stunning upset of No. 5-ranked Aspermont, will continue their playoff run with a bout against the Spur Spurettes Friday in Post.

The Lady Cats, 23-6 overall, will begin play at 8 p.m. at Post High School.

Like Garden City and Grady, the Coahoma Bulldogs will be fighting to see another day Friday. The Bulldogs are scheduled to face off against Crane in a one-game district playoff beginning at 5:30 p.m. in Greenwood.

Coahoma and Crane enter the matchup tied for third in the District 3-2A race. Both teams posted 7-3 records in loop play.

The Grady Wildcats, ranked No. 3 in the latest Texas Basketball Coaches Association poll, will face Lorenzo in a warm-up game, beginning at 4 p.m. at the Rip Griffin Center in Lubbock.



Megan Niehues scrambles for a loose ball during the second quarter of the Garden City Lady Cats' 53-20 rout of Roby Tuesday night at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. Niehues and the GCHS girls will be one of four area teams in action Friday.

No. 5 Midland opens WJCAC action with sweep of Howard

By TOMMY WELLS
Sports Editor

The Midland College Lady Chaparrals used an eighth-inning home run and four fielding errors to race to a 5-4 come-from-behind win over the Howard College Lady Hawks in Midland.

With the win, the fifth-ranked Lady Chaparrals completed a two-game sweep of the Lady Hawks

and improved to 12-2 and 2-0 in Western Junior College Athletic Conference. HC pitcher Jennifer DeMay allowed just four hits in the game.

Midland, despite collecting just five hits off HC star Andrea Renteria, won the opener by a 3-0 mark.

The Lady Hawks, now 6-3 and 0-2, will play in the Cowtown Classic Friday in Fort Worth.



HERALD PHOTO/Brandon Hallford
Ryan Slate and the Big Spring Steers will begin the 2004 season on Feb. 24 against Greenwood. The game will begin at 4:30 p.m. at Steer Park.

JV Steers end season with loss to Levelland

The Big Spring Steers junior varsity closed out an impressive season Tuesday with a 66-49 setback to the Levelland Loboes.

Brandon Boling led the Steers offensively, scoring nine points. Matt Hilario and Shay Long added eight apiece.

Big Spring finished the season with a 12-13 record.

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GARAGE SALE, 1725 Purdue. Saturday, 8:00-? Baby items, computer, TV., 2 beds, misc. furniture.

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MOVING SALE: 6601 East Midway Rd. Sat. 8-?. Lots of furniture, TV's, twin bed, microwave, toys, clothes, lots of misc.

YARD SALE, 2500 Carleton Dr. Saturday, 7:30 a.m.-? Kids clothes size 12-16, Jrs. 3-5, womens clothes, furniture, misc. items.

Help Wanted

The Texas Department of Criminal Justice is hosting a **CORRECTIONAL OFFICER HIRING SEMINAR**

at the Workforce Network of Big Spring
Thursday, February 26, 2004
7:00 pm
For more information, call 936-437-4098

\$250 TO \$500 a week. Will train to work at home. Helping the U.S. Government file HUD/FHA mortgage refunds. No experience necessary. Call Toll Free 1-800-778-0353

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BARTENDER/ WAITRESS, part-time (Mixed Drink). Apply after 5 pm at 703 W. 3rd. No Phone Calls.

COOK NEEDED for 4 days a week from 1:30-6:30 p.m. Apply in person at SWICID Cafeteria.

DAY CARE Employee needed, full-time at established Day Care in Big Spring. Call (432)267-3797 or after 6:00 p.m. call (432)263-5915.

Help Wanted

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY for a fast-paced, growing company. Requirements include strong organizational and people skills, along with work processing and spreadsheet proficiency. Minimum of one year experience required. Mail or bring your resume to 3604 Bethel Dr., Big Spring TX., 79720

FIBER GLASS SYSTEMS is now taking applications for the position of Maintenance Supervisor. Applicants should have strong electrical knowledge and experience. Please call Wayne Johnke at (432)263-1291 for further information.

GOOD OFFICE help, good computer skills & phone personality. Be at work on Time. Preferred Non-Smoker. Send resume: c/o Big Spring Herald, PO Box 1431/221, Big Spring, TX 79721.

HIRING IMMEDIATELY! Truckdrivers needed with oil-field experience. Must be able to travel. No need to relocate. Two years truckdriving experience required. Class A CDL and good driving record a must. Call 1-800-588-2669 Mon-Fri 8am-5pm.

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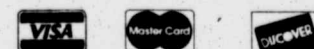
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4 BEDROOM, 2 bath, CHA, newly remodeled. Call 270-3848.

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

801 WEST 17th., Nice efficiency Apt.. No pets, Non-smokers, NO HUD. \$350 month + deposit includes utilities. Stop by and leave message. (432)264-3700.

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

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

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FOR LEASE OR SALE: Commercial Building, 7000 sq. ft. warehouse. Approx. 600 ft. of office space. 4.81 acres located on North Lamesa Highway. Good for any type Oilfield Service, Trucking, Storage or other use. Call (432)523-2730.

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NEW CONSTRUCTION Open House. Sat-Sun. 1-6 pm. or any time by appt. 1904 Marijo. Call (432)520-9848.

Real Estate for Rent

Tomorrow's Horoscope

BY JOYCE JILLSON

The sun moves into the intuitive realm of wise Pisces, the final sign of the zodiac. At the end of this lunar phase (a new one starts tomorrow), it's best to gather your strength, assess needs and account for resources. The next four weeks are about helping one another grow as part of the human family. Figure out what you have to give.



Joyce Jillson

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You realize just how different you are from the rest of the lot. For instance, what qualifies as exciting to you is downright terrifying to others. You might even find yourself being secretive about your plans in order to quell their fears.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Adventurous impulses are featured, especially at work. You normally wouldn't dream of escaping just when the powers that be are telling you to stay put, but today is different. True friends show unconditional acceptance of you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You have a voracious appetite this morning for everything, not just food. You take ideas to the limit, and though it cracks up

everyone around you, you don't mean to be funny. Oh well, being entertaining has its rewards.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Think outside the box, and be relentless. Imaginative solutions might not work, but they will open you up to something that does work if you don't give up. Bold moves attract powerful people.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Recent accomplishments are foremost in your mind, and the last thing you are is discreet. It's silly to open the window and shout, "Hey, world, I'm a winner!" but sometimes, the silliest ideas are the ones that can build your confidence.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You can solve problems by homing in on your relationship with yourself. Once that is established, you can turn your relationship with someone else into whatever you want it to be: deep, flirty, serene or civilized.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You are a solid friend but feeling a little naughty today. You may show your love in teasing, comical ways. Hey, balanced, healthy love comes in many forms. Work calls for you to be smooth, hip and now.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Watch your words. Sensitive people around you can be so egocentric. You, on the other hand, realize that not everything

is about you. You'll have a dreamy date tonight. This one is persistent, with an engaging personality.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). It may be difficult for you to respect someone who constantly takes a submissive position with you, and in fact, you don't like to be catered to - it makes you suspicious. That suspicion is well founded. Go with it.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). The one thing you require is that your loved ones be faithful. This proves a fair stipulation, and they will uphold their end. Consider this when you are tempted by that smooth talker. Don't reveal every detail of your life.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Many of you will be considering a real-estate purchase. Expansion is a fine idea on many levels. Who you choose as your loan officer will be key. Lucky signs are Scorpio and Aries. Powerful friends have super suggestions.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). This will be a mellow day, just the way you like it. That eager sidekick of yours doesn't even get on your nerves because you are so zen in your approach. There are two kinds of problems: 1) yours and 2) everyone else's.

If you would like to write to Joyce Jillson, please go to www.creators.com

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Real Estate for Sale

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1995 DODGE Intrepid, automatic, AC, good tires, high mileage, but nice! \$3,500. or best offer! Call 432-816-3030.

Legals

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
The Big Spring Independent School District shall receive sealed bid proposals until 4:00 P.M., February 26, 2004, on the following:

- Cross Country Track Supplies
- Football Supplies
- Tennis Supplies
- Volleyball Supplies

Specifications and bid documents may be secured from the school district's Business Office located at 708 East 11th Place, Big Spring, Texas 79720-4648, phone number (432)264-3620. Bids will be publicly open and read immediately following the deadline for receiving the bids in the Business Office of the Big Spring Independent School District. Bidders are invited to be present at the bid opening. Bids received after the opening date and time will be returned unopened. Bids will be presented for consideration to the Board of Trustees on March 18, 2004, at 5:15 P.M. at their regularly scheduled board meeting. The Big Spring Independent School District reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids.

#4115 February 12 & 19, 2004

CITY OF BIG SPRING PUBLIC NOTICE

THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF BIG SPRING, TEXAS, WILL HOLD A MEETING ON TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 2004, AT 5:30 PM, IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 307 EAST 4TH, BIG SPRING, TEXAS TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING REQUEST FOR A ZONE CHANGE:

The owner of a 5 acre tract out of the SW/4 of Section 32, Block 33, T-1-N, T. & P. RR Co. Survey, Howard County, Texas (1 block east of W. Marcy Drive, North side of Martin Luther King Boulevard) has requested a zone change from Single Family -2 (SF-2) to Light Commercial (LC) for the use of a Multi-Family Complex.

#4125 February 19 & 22, 2004.

Legals

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

CLERK OF THE COURT:
COLLEEN BARTON, DISTRICT CLERK
P.O. BOX 2138
BIG SPRING, TX 79721-2138
PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY:
John T. Ferguson,
WEAVER & FERGUSON, P.C.
P.O. Drawer 1750
Big Spring, TX 79721-1750
NOTICE TO DEFENDENTS: "You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of forty-two (42) days after the date of issuance of this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you."

TO: VIVIAN E. POWELL STEWART and WILLIAM J. WEAVER and MARJORIE WEAVER, Individually and as Independent Executrix of the Estate of William J. Weaver, THE UNKNOWN DEVEISEES OF WILLIAM J. WEAVER, and, if any of such persons are deceased, the heirs and devisees, known or unknown, of each of such persons who are deceased.

You and each of you are hereby commanded to appear and answer before the 118th Judicial District Court in the 118th District Court Building in Big Spring, Howard County, Texas, at or before 10:00 a.m. on the first Monday, after the expiration of forty-two (42) days from the date of issuance hereof, being at or before 10:00 a.m. on Monday, the 15th day of March, 2004, then and there to answer the petition of L.E. OPPERMANN, in Cause No. 43,400, styled "L.E. OPPERMANN vs. VIVIAN E. POWELL STEWART, ET AL" wherein the said L.E. OPPERMANN is Plaintiff, and the said VIVIAN E. POWELL STEWART and WILLIAM J. WEAVER and MARJORIE WEAVER, Individually and as Independent Executrix of the Estate of William J. Weaver, THE UNKNOWN DEVEISEES OF WILLIAM J. WEAVER, any if any of such persons are deceased, the heirs and devisees, known or unknown, of each of such persons who are deceased, are Defendants. The said petition, filed on the 30th day of January, 2004, discloses that the nature of said suit is as follows:

This suit is brought to have a receiver appointed under the provisions of § 64.091 and § 64.093 of the Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Code for undivided mineral interest owned by the Defendants in the following described land in Howard County, Texas:

W/2 Section 10, Block 34, T-1-N, T & P Ry. Co. Survey And to execute oil and gas leases and take such other action deemed necessary under the provisions of said statute.

If this citation is not served within ninety (90) days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

ISSUED AND GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF SAID COURT on this 30th day of January, 2004, at Big Spring, Howard County, Texas.
COLLEEN BARTON, District Clerk
118th Judicial District Court, Howard County, Texas
By: Priscilla Ginnetti, Deputy
#4105 February 5, 12, 19 & 26, 2004

Legals

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

CLERK OF THE COURT:
COLLEEN BARTON, DISTRICT CLERK
P.O. BOX 2138
BIG SPRING, TX 79721-2138
PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY:
John T. Ferguson,
WEAVER & FERGUSON, P.C.
P.O. Drawer 1750
Big Spring, TX 79721-1750
NOTICE TO DEFENDANTS: "You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of forty-two (42) days after the date of issuance of this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you."

TO: JANET G. GRESHAM, and her heirs of devisees, known or unknown, if she is deceased. You and each of you are hereby commanded to appear and answer before the 118th Judicial District Court in the 118th District Court Building in Big Spring, Howard County, Texas, at or before 10:00 a.m. on the first Monday after the expiration of forty-two (42) days from the date of issuance hereof, being at or before 10:00 a.m. on Monday, the 15th day of March, 2004, then and there to answer the petition of L.E. OPPERMANN, in Cause No. 43,400, styled "L.E. OPPERMANN vs. JANET G. GRESHAM, ET AL" wherein the said L.E. OPPERMANN is Plaintiff, and her heirs or devisees, known or unknown, if she is deceased, are Defendants. The said petition, filed on the 30th day of January, 2004, discloses that the nature of said suit is as follows:

This suit is brought to have a receiver appointed under the provisions of § 64.091 and § 64.093 of the Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Code for undivided mineral interest owned by the Defendants in the following described land in Howard County, Texas:

The W. 10 acres of NE/4 of Section 10, Block 34, T-1-N, T&P Ry. Co. Survey

And to execute oil and gas leases and take such other action deemed necessary under the provisions of said statute.

If this citation is not served within ninety (90) days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

ISSUED AND GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF SAID COURT on this 30th day of January, 2004, at Big Spring, Howard County, Texas.
COLLEEN BARTON, District Clerk
118th Judicial District Court, Howard County, Texas
By: Priscilla Ginnetti, Deputy
#4106 February 5, 12, 19, 26, 2004

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FEBRUARY 19, 2004

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THURSDAY

	WFAA (2)	KMID (3)	UNI (4)	KPEJ (5)	KOSA (7)	KTLE (8)	KWES (9)	WTBS (11)	KMLM (12)	KOCV (13)	DISC (20)	AMC (21)	TNT (23)	BET (26)	DISN (27)	ESPN2 (28)	ESPN (29)	USA (30)	TMC (250)		
6:00 PM	News (CC)	News Wheel-Fortune	News Wheel-Fortune	Amar Ora Vez	King of the Hill Raymond	News Ent. Tonight	Pasion de Gavilanes	Survivor: All-Stars (CC)	Amor Descarado	Friends (CC)	Will & Grace	Update/Israel Biblical Israel	Joe McGee	News-Lehrer	New Discovery	NBA Tip-Off NBA	Live BET com	Sister, Sister Lizzie McGuire	College Basketball	Baseball JAG (CC)	Thinking (CC)
7:00 PM	The Bachelor	The Bachelor	veio de Nova	Movie: Planet of the Apes (CC)	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgn	Without a Trace (CC)	Mujeres Apasionadas	News The Tonight Show	Movie: Lethal Weapon 2 (CC)	The Hour of Healing	Charie Rose (CC)	Sign Off	Extreme Tribes	45 Movie: The Undeclared	NBA Basketball Philadelphia 76ers at 106 & Park Prime	Nightly News Maad Sports	Kim Possible Proud Family	Best of Poker Interruption	NHL Hockey Bruins at Flyers or Sharks at 13 (CC)	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit (CC)	Movie: Apollo 13 (CC)
8:00 PM	Extreme Makeover	Extreme Makeover	Te Amare en Sierico	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgn	Without a Trace (CC)	Mujeres Apasionadas	News The Tonight Show	Movie: Lethal Weapon 2 (CC)	The Hour of Healing	Charie Rose (CC)	Sign Off	Extreme Tribes	45 Movie: The Undeclared	NBA Basketball Philadelphia 76ers at 106 & Park Prime	Nightly News Maad Sports	Kim Possible Proud Family	Best of Poker Interruption	NHL Hockey Bruins at Flyers or Sharks at 13 (CC)	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit (CC)	Movie: Apollo 13 (CC)	
9:00 PM	News Nightline	News Nightline	Primer Impacto Noticiero Univ	70s Show Raymond	Becker (CC)	Spin City	The Late Late Show (CC)	Al Rolo Vivo	Mana Celeste (CC)	Fraser (CC)	Movie: The Undeclared	More Than Human (CC)	Seattle Sonics Inside the NBA	Midnight Love	Even Stevens Sister, Sister	Gamewright Winter X	Rome Is Burning (CC)	SportsCenter	Arrival (CC)	Movie: The Undeclared	
10:00 PM	Ent. Tonight Jimmy Kimmel	Extra (CC)	En las Mejores Familias	Blind Date	Blind Date	Blind Date	Blind Date	Blind Date	Blind Date	Blind Date	Blind Date	Blind Date	Blind Date	Blind Date	Blind Date	Blind Date	Blind Date	Blind Date	Blind Date	Blind Date	
11:00 PM	Live (CC)	Live (CC)	Live (CC)	Live (CC)	Live (CC)	Live (CC)	Live (CC)	Live (CC)	Live (CC)	Live (CC)	Live (CC)	Live (CC)	Live (CC)	Live (CC)	Live (CC)	Live (CC)	Live (CC)	Live (CC)	Live (CC)	Live (CC)	
12:00 AM	Oprah Winfrey	Oprah Winfrey	Oprah Winfrey	Oprah Winfrey	Oprah Winfrey	Oprah Winfrey	Oprah Winfrey	Oprah Winfrey	Oprah Winfrey	Oprah Winfrey	Oprah Winfrey	Oprah Winfrey	Oprah Winfrey	Oprah Winfrey	Oprah Winfrey	Oprah Winfrey	Oprah Winfrey	Oprah Winfrey	Oprah Winfrey	Oprah Winfrey	

DENNIS THE MENACE



"Oh, well... it looks like the sun took another day off."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"The reason the astronauts walked on the moon is because there weren't any benches."

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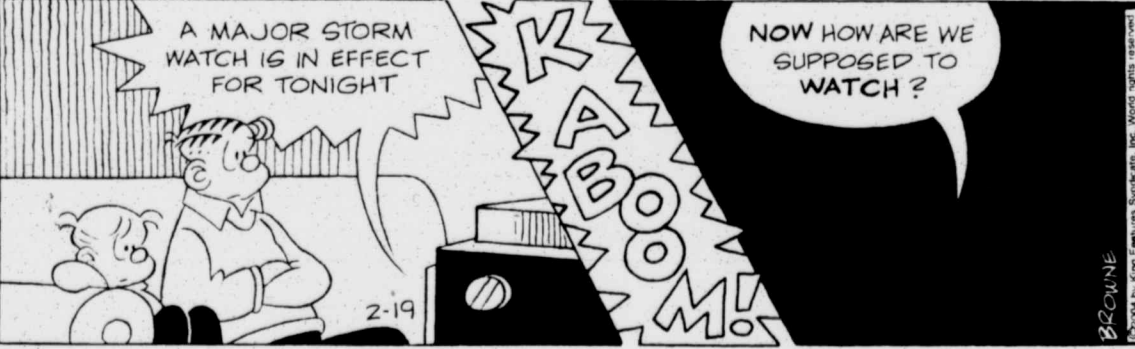
WIZARD OF ID



AGNES



HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEEBLE BAILEY



This Date In History

By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, Feb. 19, the 50th day of 2004. There are 316 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 19, 1945, during World War II, some 30,000 U.S. Marines landed on Iwo Jima, where they began a monthlong battle to seize control of the island from Japanese forces.

On this date: In 1803, Congress voted to accept Ohio's borders and constitution.

In 1807, former Vice President Aaron Burr was arrested in Alabama. (He was subsequently tried for treason and acquitted.)

In 1846, the Texas state government was formally installed in Austin.

In 1878, Thomas Edison received a patent for his

phonograph.

In 1881, Kansas became the first state to prohibit all alcoholic beverages.

In 1942, President Franklin Roosevelt signed an executive order giving the military the authority to relocate and intern Japanese-Americans as well as Japanese nationals living in the United States.

In 1942, about 150 Japanese warplanes attacked the Australian city of Darwin.

In 1963, the Soviet Union informed President Kennedy it would withdraw "several thousand" of an estimated 17,000 Soviet troops in Cuba.

In 1986, the U.S. Senate approved a treaty outlawing genocide, 37 years after the pact had first been submitted for ratification.

In 1997, Deng Xiaoping, the last of China's major Communist revolutionaries, died.

Ten years ago: With Bosnian Serbs facing a NATO deadline to withdraw heavy weapons encircling Sarajevo or face air

strikes, President Clinton delivered an address from the Oval Office reaffirming the ultimatum. American speedskater Bonnie Blair won the fourth Olympic gold medal of her career as she won the 500-meter race in Lillehammer, Norway.

Today's Birthdays: Singer Smokey Robinson is 64. Singer Bobby Rogers (Smokey Robinson & the Miracles) is 64. Actress Carlin Glynn is 64. Singer Lou Christie is 61. Actor Michael Nader is 59. Rock musician Tony Iommi (Black Sabbath) is 56. Actor Jeff Daniels is 49. Rock singer-musician Dave Wakeling is 48.

Answer to previous puzzle

BAIT	TIBER	YOGA
URDU	OCALA	INNS
BAER	PERSIAN	CAT
BAKES	RASP	ETA
IDOL	SELF	
SESSION	DURING	
SHAH	LUIS	SENIOR
CURB	SIGMA	NUDE
ATLAS	SEER	CREW
NESTLE	SLATCHES	
ATE	TOLDSPOOF	
DUTCH	TREAT	ALLA
OBOE	IRANI	SEAN
SAINÉ	CYNIC	TOWN

Newsday Crossword

COMMON SENSE by Robert H. Wolfe

Edited by Stanley Newman

- ACROSS**
- 1 Violent speech
 - 7 Big commotion
 - 11 Not against
 - 14 Sanford of The Jeffersons
 - 15 Comic Johnson
 - 16 Commotion
 - 17 Suspect trouble
 - 19 Altar words
 - 20 Birds: Lat.
 - 21 Goes in
 - 23 Ring adjusters
 - 25 Nocturnal insect
 - 26 Jerry Stiller's wife
 - 27 Feminine suffix
 - 29 Business agents
 - 32 Smart talk
 - 33 San Fran. subway
 - 35 Little
 - 37 NYSE stock intro
 - 38 Communicating (with), as friends
 - 40 Stephen of Michael Collins
 - 41 Inconsistent in quality
 - 43 White as a sheet
 - 44 Wall climber
 - 45 Beginner
 - 46 Org. for Eagles
 - 47 Large antelopes
 - 48 Musical speed
 - 51 House adjunct
- DOWN**
- 1 "My country of thee..."
 - 2 Belief
 - 3 Dawn
 - 4 On fire
 - 5 Look (into)
 - 6 Church leader
 - 7 Motor adjunct
 - 8 Advocates
 - 9 Pool member
 - 10 Sealy rival
 - 11 Honest evaluation
 - 12 Vegas numbers
 - 13 Jumper down under
 - 18 Put forward
 - 22 Light brown
 - 23 Insolently curt
 - 24 Contrary to etiquette
 - 26 Elite group
 - 28 Greek porches
 - 30 Movie trailer
 - 31 Hangs around
 - 33 Chomped on
 - 34 One, some, or all
 - 35 Part of HS
 - 36 Old-style pronoun
 - 39 Accepted practices
 - 42 Open-shoes
 - 46 Pushes (around)
 - 47 Get together
 - 49 Coe or Ovet
 - 50 Give evidence
 - 52 Out of order
 - 53 Like some angles
 - 54 Neck part
 - 56 Group of seals
 - 58 Guinness suffix
 - 59 Collarless shirt
 - 60 Count start
 - 61 Butter component

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