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HERALD

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At the Crossroads of West Texas

50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 WEEKEND

WEDNESDAY

March 3, 2004

WEATHER

Tonight:



TONIGHT 50°-54°
TOMORROW 62°-63°

BRIEFLY

Democrat Club

The Howard County Democrat Club will meet at 7 p.m. Thursday at the Democratic Headquarters in Big Spring, 300 N. Gregg.

On Monday, the Democratic Club will hold a rally at the headquarters. Among those attending will be U.S. Congressman Charlie Stenholm, State Rep. "Pete" Laney and Senate District 31 candidate Elaine Miller.

Refreshments will be provided. Everyone is welcome to both activities.

After Hours

Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce will present another Business After Hours event on Thursday.

This event will be held from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Workforce Network, 310 Owens.

There will be door prizes and refreshments.

Business After Hours is designed to encourage networking and to showcase sponsors. There is no charge to attend.

The public is invited.

COMING

THIS WEEKEND



Brad Paisley discusses his lifelong love of fishing. He'll reveal his favorite fishing holes, fishing tips, and even a few fish tales!

INDEX

Classified 4-5B

Comics 6B

Features 6A

Obituaries 2A

Opinion 4A

Sports 1-3B

Vol. 100, No. 89

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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.

Reflect on the past, look to the future Mayor McEwen says

By **LYNDEL MOODY**
Staff Writer

Big Spring and Howard County saw a rough year of change in 2003 while area enti-

ties continued to make strides to improve the quality of life — but there is still much work to be done, said Big Spring Mayor Russ McEwen.

"I feel that it is important to reflect on the past and look to the future on an annual basis," McEwen said to a large crowd attending the Big Spring Area Chamber of

Commerce community luncheon in the East Room of Howard College's Dorothy Garrett Coliseum Tuesday.

As the county struggled to attract industrial business and improve a sluggish economy, the fate of two of the county's strongest employers came into question.

The future of the Big Spring VA Medical Center came under scrutiny when a draft plan by the Department of Veteran's

See **CITY**, Page 3A

"We must strive to become a place where people in West Texas desire to live."

Mayor Russ McEwen



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody
Big Spring Mayor Russ McEwen, left, shakes hands with local businessman Everett Bender Tuesday following McEwen's State of the City address during the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce community luncheon. More than 200 people attended the event.

Kerry claims Democratic nomination for president

WASHINGTON (AP) — John Kerry laid claim to the Democratic presidential nomination after a decisive round of primary and caucus victories cleared the field for a feisty head-to-head battle against President Bush — a struggle already in motion.

Kerry's New York-to-California victories in the 10-state Super Tuesday series knocked the fight out of his spirited rival, John Edwards. The North Carolina senator, who had been the only one left with the ghost of a chance against Kerry, let the word out that he was quitting even before polls closed in the West and just as Minnesotans gathered in caucuses.

Suddenly, the Democrat-to-Democrat sniping is over, replaced by calls for unity, and Kerry is left with his hard-fought reward — as well as the weight of Democrats' expectations that he can beat Bush in the fall.

"Tonight, the message can now be heard all across our country: Change is coming to America," said Kerry, 60, a four-term Massachusetts senator whose understated ways disguise a hotly competitive streak. "We will fight to give America back its future and its hope."

There were grace notes in the first blush of his victory: a polite exchange with Bush, who called to congratulate him. But there is to be no grace period in their campaign fight.

See **KERRY**, Page 5A



Associated Press photo
Former Amarillo Mayor Kel Seliger, R-Amarillo, right, is sworn in Tuesday by Texas Gov. Rick Perry as the new District 31 state senator at the Capitol in Austin. Seliger won the unexpired term of office after marginal wins over Odessa businessman Kirk Edwards, R-Odessa, in both the Jan. 20 special election and subsequent runoff. Seliger succeeds former Sen. Teel Bivins who left office after being nominated by President Bush as U.S. ambassador to Sweden.



Courtesy photo/Brittany Eck
Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison and Veterans' Affairs Secretary Anthony J. Principi discussing the Big Spring, Kerrville and Waco VA hospitals.

Texas contingent discusses VA facilities with Secretary Principi

By **LYNDEL MOODY**
Staff Writer

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Texas federal lawmakers met with Department of Veteran's Affairs Secretary Anthony Principi late Tuesday to plead the case of three Texas VA hospitals, including the facility in Big Spring.

"After today's meeting I am more confident the Secretary has a better appreciation for the geographic value of the Big Spring hospital as well as the quality of care it provides," Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison said.

The meeting, held in Hutchison's office, included Sen.

John Cornyn, R-San Antonio; Rep. Chet Edwards, D-Waco; Rep. Randy Neugebauer, R-Lubbock; Rep. Henry Bonilla, R-San Antonio; and Rep. Charlie Stenholm, D-Abilene; to discuss the Capital Asset Realignment for Enhanced Services (CARES) Commission final recommendation on a plan to realign the DVA's health care services.

The commission recommended major changes in service levels at facilities in Waco, Big Spring and Kerrville and included a study over closing the Big Spring

See **VA**, Page 5A

Kiwanis Club to serve up flapjacks Friday night

By **LYNDEL MOODY**
Staff Writer

It's a battered story but one that never tires of retelling.

Come Friday that same story will unfold as the Big Spring Kiwanis Club plans to hold its annual Pancake Supper fund-raiser from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Howard College cafeteria, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

"We really have a good turnout every year," said club president Rick Hearn. "It's a family oriented event and it gives everyone an opportunity to visit with people they might not get to see during the year. Everyone gets to enjoy the night out and they

What: Kiwanis Club Pancake Supper.

Where: Howard College cafeteria, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

When: 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Friday.

let us do the cooking. Plus, it's for a good cause."

The annual supper is the club's biggest fund-raiser of the year, serving an estimated 500 hungry stomachs with fresh, hot pancakes, bacon, sausage and drinks. Both sugar-free and old fashioned syrup will be available.

"We served a bunch of pancakes last year," Hearn said. "It's all you can eat. You can go through the serving line as many times as you'd like. We'll be going around to help clean things up and Big Spring High School Key Club members will be assisting us."

Money raised from the event comes back to the community, Hearn said, through various organizations and programs supported by the club.

Admission is \$5 per person and tickets can be purchased at the door.

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

Obituaries

Michael Scott "Scotty" Simpson



Michael Scott "Scotty" Simpson, 21, of Big Spring, died on Sunday, Feb. 29, 2004, from injuries received in an automobile accident. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday, March 4, 2004, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with Russell Mullins, minister of Coahoma Church of Christ, officiating. Interment will follow at Coahoma Cemetery.

Scott was born on April 8, 1982, in Big Spring and married Angela Miller on Feb. 5, 2002, in Big Spring.

Scott worked at Rip Griffin's and O'Brien Concrete Company. He liked the outdoors, bikes, singing and joking around.

Anyone who knew Scott will miss him dearly; he touched the hearts of everyone, and would take care of anyone who needed his help. We love you and will never forget.

Survivors include his wife, Angela Simpson of Big Spring; his daughter, Skydra Lynn Simpson of Big Spring; his two sons, Eridanus Simpson of Big Spring and Scotty Simpson of Asher, Ken.; his mother, Katrina Williams of Big Spring; his father, Ralph Simpson of Asher, Ken.; his brother, Jonathan Simpson of Shelby, N.C.; his maternal grandparents, Johnnie and Celia Williams of Big Spring; his mother-in-law and father-in-law, Robin and J. T. Waddell of Big Spring; and numerous aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

He was preceded in death by his maternal grandmother, Pauline Williams, and his paternal grandparents, Albert and Bertha Simpson.

Pallbearers will be: Carl Wells, Jeff Nichols, Shane Gilmore, Kevin Dunlap, Raymond Overton and Bill Sneed.

Honorary pallbearer will be Jonathan Miller. The family suggests memorials to the Children's Miracle Network, care of Medical Center Hospital, 500 W. 4th, Odessa 79761.

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

Antonia A. Sanchez

Antonia A. Sanchez, 89, of Big Spring, died on Monday, March 1, 2004, in a Lubbock hospital. Vigil services will be held at 7 p.m. today, Wednesday, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel. Funeral services will be held at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, March 4, 2004, at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church with the Rev. James Plagens, pastor, officiating. Interment will follow at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

She was born on July 13, 1914, in Winslow, Ariz., and married Enrique F. Sanchez on Jan. 6, 1930, in Big Spring. He preceded her in death on Feb. 1, 1986.

Mrs. Sanchez had lived in Big Spring since 1920. She loved her family and enjoyed quilting, crocheting, gardening and her flowers. She was a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church.

Survivors include two sons, Enrique Sanchez of Big Spring, and Humberto Sanchez of Odessa; four daughters, Diamantina Sosa of Odessa, Elida Chestnut of Lubbock, Olivia Salyer of San Antonio, and Edelmira S. "BiBi" Licon of Lubbock; 23 grandchildren; 38 great-grandchildren and 7 great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by one son, Reynaldo A. Sanchez; one brother, Manuel Garcia and one granddaughter.

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

Douglas Cauble

Douglas Cauble, a retired rancher, passed away Monday, March 1, 2004 in San Angelo. Graveside services are set for 2:30 p.m. Thursday, March 4, 2004 at Stiles Cemetery. Visitation is set for 10-11:30 a.m. Thursday at Johnson Funeral Home in San Angelo.

Douglas was born May 3, 1914, in Van Horn to Euclid and Mary Cauble. He grew up on a ranch in Reagan County and started ranching after graduation from high school in Stiles. He married Georgia Mae McKinley Nov. 22, 1941. Shortly after Dec. 7, 1941, he enlisted in the Army Air Corp and served three years in New Guinea. Returning to the ranch after the war, he remained there until moving to Rio Concho West, San Angelo, in 1989. His love of flying began as a youngster and his passion continued for better than 50 years.

He was preceded in death by his wife, his parents and his brother, E.G. Cauble.

Survivors include his son Douglas Glenn and wife Mary of Granbury; granddaughter Bonnie Cauble of Chicago, Ill.; grandson Christopher Cauble and fiancé Sarah Michelini of Dallas; sister and brother-in-law Ross and Mildred Callihan of Big Spring and numerous nieces and nephews.

Memorials may be made to the West Texas Boys Ranch, 10223 Boys Ranch Road, San Angelo, 76904.

paid obituary

Ada Lorene Petty



Ada Lorene Petty, 82, of Henderson, Nev., formerly of Big Spring, died on Monday, March 1, 2004, at her residence. Graveside funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, March 5, 2004, at Mt. Olive Memorial Park with Dr. Randy Cotton, pastor of Trinity Baptist Church, officiating.

She was born on June 26, 1921, in Holt, San Saba County, to Lela Elizabeth and Victor Hugo Woods. She married Allen Crockett "Doc" Petty on July 4, 1937, in Ballinger and he preceded her in death on Sept. 29, 1990.

Mrs. Petty was a beautician in Fort Worth and later moved with her husband to Big Spring and worked at the Big Spring State Hospital until retiring in 1985. They later moved to Las Vegas where she worked as a change person for a slot machine vendor.

Survivors include two sons, Billy Petty of Granbury and Charles Allen "C.A." Petty of Tacoma, Wash.; two daughters, Nella Bryant and Eva McNiell, both of Las Vegas, Nev.; two brothers, Joseph Clifton "J.C." Woods, of Canon City, Colo., and Victor Hugo Woods of Seguin; 12 grandchildren, nine great grandchildren; and numerous nephews, nieces and cousins.

She was also preceded in death by twin children and one grandson.

The family will receive friends from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Thursday 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

Ita Eleanor Nole



Ita Eleanor Nole, 91, of Kennewick, Wash., and formerly of Avoca, died Monday, March 1, 2004, at Tri-Cities Chaplaincy Hospice House in Kennewick, Wash.

Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Friday, March 5, 2004, at the Avoca Methodist Church with the Rev. Dennis Huffaker and the Rev. Stan Leaf officiating. Burial will follow in the Spring Creek Cemetery under the direction of Tankersley Funeral Home of Stamford.

Mrs. Nole was born Nov. 16, 1912, in Avoca to Glenn and Bernice Rennels. She attended Hardin Simmons University in Abilene.

In 1932 she married Truett Blackmon and they made their home in Lovington, N.M. She worked for 14 years as deputy county clerk in Lea County, N.M.

In 1958 she married Charles Nole. She worked as a medical secretary at Big Spring State Hospital in Big Spring. Following her husband's death in 1975, she returned to Avoca to care for her mother and served as post master. She moved to Kennewick, Wash., two years ago to be near her daughter.

She was a member of the Avoca Methodist Church. Survivors include her daughter, Barbara Skeen, and husband Wesley of Kennewick, Wash.; a son-in-law, Harlan Bristol of Sachse; seven grandchildren; 11 great grandchildren; two great great grandchildren; and five cousins. She was preceded in death by her husbands, a stepson, a stepdaughter and a daughter.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Tri-Cities Chaplaincy Hospice, 2108 W. Entiat, Kennewick, Wash., 99336, or the Spring Creek Cemetery Association, P. O. Box 103-Avoca 79503.

Mary "Alberta" Halfmann

Mary "Alberta" Halfmann, 77, of St. Lawrence, died Tuesday, March 2, 2004, in a San Angelo hospital. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory.

Weather

Tonight...Numerous thunderstorms with heavy rainfall possible after midnight. Some thunderstorms may be severe. Lows in the upper 50s. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph. Chance of precipitation 90 percent.

Thursday...Windy. Mostly cloudy. A 70 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the upper 60s. Southwest winds 20 to 30 mph.

Thursday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 40s. West winds 10 to 20 mph.

Friday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 60s. Northwest winds 10 to 15 mph.

Friday night...Mostly clear. Lows in the upper 30s.

Saturday...Mostly sunny. Highs in the mid 60s.

Saturday night...Mostly clear. Lows in the lower 40s.

Sunday...Mostly sunny. Highs in the upper 60s.

Bulletin board

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

TODAY

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

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

Line dancing meets at 1 p.m. at the Senior Citizens Center in Industrial Park. Call 267-6966 or 267-1628 for more information.

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

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

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

Lottery

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Tuesday night: Winning numbers drawn: 7-10-15-21-32. Number matching five of five: 2. Prize per winner: \$20,667. Winning tickets sold in: Dallas and Meridian. Next Cash 5 drawing: Wednesday night.

Results of the Texas Two Step drawing Tuesday night: Winning numbers drawn: 4-8-10-26. Bonus Ball: 34. Number matching four of four, plus Bonus Ball: 0. Estimated jackpot for Friday night drawing: \$600,000.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Tuesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 9-1-9

The winning Mega Millions numbers drawn Tuesday night: 25-30-35-40-50 Mega Ball = 4

Police blotter

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

- REBECCA ANN HERNDON, 27, of Westbrook, was arrested Tuesday on local traffic warrants.
- NINA MICHELLE RAINWATER, 39, of 2911 W. Highway 80, was arrested Tuesday on a Howard County warrant for theft.
- BOBBI JO NELSON, 28, of 914 Angela, was arrested Tuesday on a local traffic warrant.
- THEFT OF SERVICES was reported in the 1700 block of Third Street.
- THEFT was reported:
 - in the 1200 block of 11th Place.
 - in the 300 block of Gregg Street.
- AGGRAVATED ASSAULT WITH A DEADLY WEAPON was reported in the 500 block of Westover Road.
- ASSAULT/FAMILY VIOLENCE was reported:
 - in the 500 block of Westover.
 - in the 2600 block of Ent.
 - in the 400 block of Fourth Street.
- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 200 block of FM 700.
- POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA-2 OUNCES OR LESS IN A DRUG FREE ZONE was reported in the 700 block of 11th Place.

Sheriff's report

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

- NINA MICHELLE RAINWATER, 39, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a charge of issuance of a bad check.
- ANN ENOELIA SEGUNDO, 50, was arrested Tuesday by DPS on a charge of secure execution of a document by deception.
- WILLIAM EDMOND GOSSETT, 28, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a Howard County bench warrant.
- SHELITA JEAN DUPRE, 34, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on charges of forgery of a financial instrument and driving while licenses suspended/invalid-enhanced.

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

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

Continued from

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CITY

Continued from Page 1A

Affairs to realign medical services was released in August. At the same time, in response to recently passed state legislation, a private business began to eye taking over the Big Spring State Hospital.

"I know we are all concerned about the future of our VA Hospital," said McEwen, who along with fellow city, county, state and federal leaders led the fight to promote the hospital's viability.

Tuesday, McEwen said he felt optimistic the hospital will prove its mission is worthwhile if a feasibility study involving closing the facility is approved by the Department of Veterans Affairs Secretary Anthony Principi.

"I met with Bill Cox, the VAMC interim director, this morning," McEwen cautioned. "To be honest, we do have problems, but the one thing we can do is work with veterans to make sure that they are signed up as recipients of care at the hospital.

"So as you talk to veterans, it is incumbent of you to ask them to sign up and be a part of the VA Medical Center," he continued.

Residents must never take for granted the importance of the VA Hospital, McEwen said, as well as the impact the Big Spring State Hospital has on the community.

"We have recently

learned that our hospital will not be considered for privatization," McEwen said. "A statewide feasibility study will be undertaken in 2004 to look at the possibility of closing or consolidating facilities. It is our belief that Big Spring State Hospital is well placed and the feasibility study will show that this facility remains a viable part of the state structure."

Federal and state governmental entities were not the only ones having to tighten the belts as many county, city and school boards faced making tough budgetary cuts, McEwen said.

"It is vitally important for the city and the county to work closely in 2004 to find a way to consolidate services in order to become more efficient with the taxpayers' money," McEwen said. "Let us work together for a better tomorrow for all concerned."

Health care in the area was also impacted in 2003 when Covenant Health Systems pulled out of the Malone and Hogan Clinic. McEwen acknowledged the cooperative efforts by Moore Development for Big Spring, the city of Big Spring and Scenic Mountain Medical Center to ease the transition.

"After all the dust has settled, it is my firm believe that we are in a better position to provide health care in Big Spring," McEwen said. "I look forward to the future knowing we retain quality health care providers

and are poised to recruit needed specialists to our community."

In the fight to develop the economy of the area, McEwen said he was glad that one tool in this process was spared after a petition effort led by the Concerned Citizen's Council to recall the half-cent tax which funds Moore Development of Big Spring fell flat.

"It is imperative that we have this tool to attract businesses to our city and improve the quality of life for all of our citizens," he said.

2003 also met with success, including the completion of the Comanche Trail Amphitheater rest rooms and the irrigation of Mount Olive Cemetery by the city.

Once again, several charitable organizations met or exceeded their goals and the Big Spring Foundation took flight, giving the community a chance "to leave a legacy for those who follow us," McEwen said.

"I feel a community can be judged by its charitable giving," he said.

The Festival of Lights continues to attract people from all over the United States and McEwen asked to public to join in on the 75th anniversary of the Big Spring Refinery.

"It is woven into the fabric of our community," he said. "It has touched generations of our citizens. We all need to join in the celebration, which is to take place the weekend of May 21."

McEwen also gave kudos to the Big Spring Independent School District for earning the prestigious Governmental Finance Officers Association District Budget Award and to Howard College for becoming part of the Rural Community College Initiative.

There is still much to be done.

"Our influence in our congress office is due to the fact that the margin of votes for Rep. Randy Neugebauer, R-Lubbock, mirrored the margin of victory for him in Howard County," McEwen said. "Howard County has become a pivotal voting center for both our House of Representatives and our state Senate District. If we increase our numbers at the polls, our influences increases."

McEwen, who is meeting with West Texas mayors and economic development staff in an effort to help the development of West Texas, said West Texas as a whole suffers from a poor self-image.

"I've heard it said that we need to become a city where there is something for our children to come back to," he said. "We have much to be proud of in Howard County. We are living in a place that has the ability to bring out the best of who we are and attract ambitious individuals in our community."


"That being said, there is much to do in our Big Spring," he said and called on the public to start with providing an atmosphere that will allow young people to excel. "We must make it our goal to become a

leader in West Texas. We must strive to become a place where people in West Texas desire to live. We do that by improving the quality of life for people who live here. It will become a place that attracts the best to our community."

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

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Republican Primary is March 9, 2004. Early voting begins Monday, February 23rd and ends Friday, March 5th

VOTE FOR THE FUTURE:
 The greatest challenge facing members of the Commissioners Court is to maximize revenues and look for new sources of income

VOTE FOR PERFORMANCE:
 There is no margin for error in an office that must guarantee the solvency of the county - balancing a multi-million dollar budget.

VOTE FOR EXPERIENCE:
 As commissioner for a number of years, I have faced many problems in the past and have the experience to deal with them in the future.

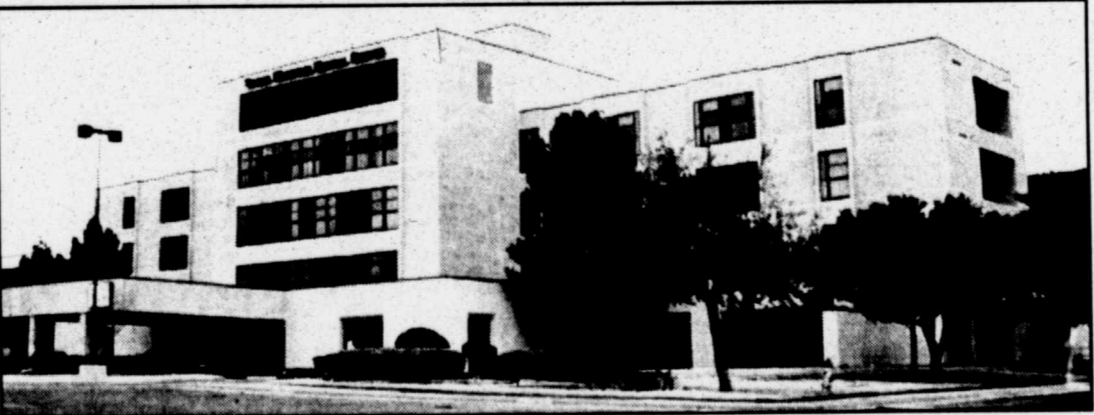
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Contest
 Beautiful Baby Contest
 Baby Crawl-A-Thon Contest
 Contact: **Donna Mills • 268-4550**
 Healthy Dessert Contest
 Contact: **Mary Capps • 268-4928**
 Kid's Coloring Contest
 Contact: **Beverly Grant • 268-4502**

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- Medical Arts Home Health
- Life Gift
- Odyssey Healthcare
- The Lady Bug
- Comanche Trail Nursing Center
- Curves
- Comfort Keepers
- Marcy House
- Express Medical (Pulse OX)
- Project Rescue Me
- ER/ICU American Heart Association
- Shannon Airmed Helicopter
- ACEO Care Helicopter
- Texas Veterans Home
- Gale's Sweet Shoppe
- YMCA
- Big Spring Fire Dept.
- Big Spring Police Dept.
 Project ID
 Code ADAM
 Amber Alert

Open House

- ★ Alfonso Preciado, M.D.
- ★ Erich Byerly, M.D.
- ★ Keith Ledford, M.D.
- ★ Manish Shroff, M.D.
- ★ Farhar Ijaz, M.D.
- ★ Robert Hayes, M.D.
- ★ Rudy Haddad, M.D.



Health Screening

- ★ Laboratory
- ★ Blood Pressure
- ★ Carotid
- ★ Bone Density
- ★ Pediatric Hearing Screening
- ★ Stroke
- ★ Pulse Oximetry
- ★ Paraffin Bath
- ★ Grip Strength

KBYG LIVE BROADCAST

Displays & Demo

- ★ Vehicle Rollover Simulator
- ★ Medical Helicopters
- ★ Ambulances
- ★ Fire Truck

FREE ADMISSION

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

Business After Hours' encourages locals to network

Members of the community have an opportunity to get together Thursday in an informal setting to share ideas and get to know a little more about a local business.

Business After Hours will be from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Workforce Network, 310 Owens. Everyone is invited. Refreshments will be served and door prizes awarded.

Business After Hours, a function of the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, encourages networking among local business leaders, as well as showcasing its sponsors.

The 1-1/2 hours of time allows for those attending to arrive and leave when they wish. There are no programs; it is simply a time to visit.

This Thursday, drop by Workforce Network between 5 and 6:30 p.m. It's a good opportunity get to know some new folks and learn more about another of Big Spring's unique businesses.

And the punch and treats are free.

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 editor@bigspringherald.com

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 A. Moseley at editor@bigspringherald.com or News Editor Bill McClellan at newsdesk@crcom.net.
- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

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We know them as the 'Hollywood Big Shots'

When my sons were growing up, our dining room table was the favorite hang-out

place for a group of young teen-age boys who played a game called Dungeons and Dragons. Their names were Charlie, Zane, Jantz and my son BZ. They all graduated from Big Spring High School in 1986. They were very serious about the game and it influenced them to read J.R.R. Tolkien and similar authors.

At college, BZ majored in classical guitar and sound production, Zane graduated with an engineering degree, Charlie got involved with nuclear physics and Jantz studied music. They took summer vacations together, sometimes traveling as far away as Europe.

After graduation, they moved en masse to Seattle, spent a few years there, then migrated to San Jose, California, then to Pacifica, just outside San Francisco and finally into San Francisco itself. By now

their careers were taking shape. Charlie became a rocket scientist working for GE. Jantz and Zane got involved with computer animation for movies and electronic games and BZ opened a recording studio.

Zane wrote a novel in high school and later wrote a movie script. The four guys decided to make Zane's script into a movie. They all left their jobs in California and came home to Big Spring where they could get free food and lodging while they filmed their movie. Charlie was behind the camera, Zane directed and Jantz and BZ did the music and sound.

The enthusiasm of the young film makers was appreciated by the movie community in Dallas. A couple of actors and a special effects man with good credentials donated their time to the project. A cast of characters was assembled and locations were chosen. My grandson Jackson called the film-makers the 'Hollywood Big Shots.'

It was shot on 16-millimeter film, then transferred to computer for editing and mixing. It took a few months to finish it, then it stayed on a shelf for a few years. Every

once in a while, the guys would think about doing something with it, get it out and work on it some more. But mostly, they were involved with their jobs.

The movie is called "Hell is Texas" and is now being sold in 7-Eleven stores on the east coast. The distributor plans to bring it west.

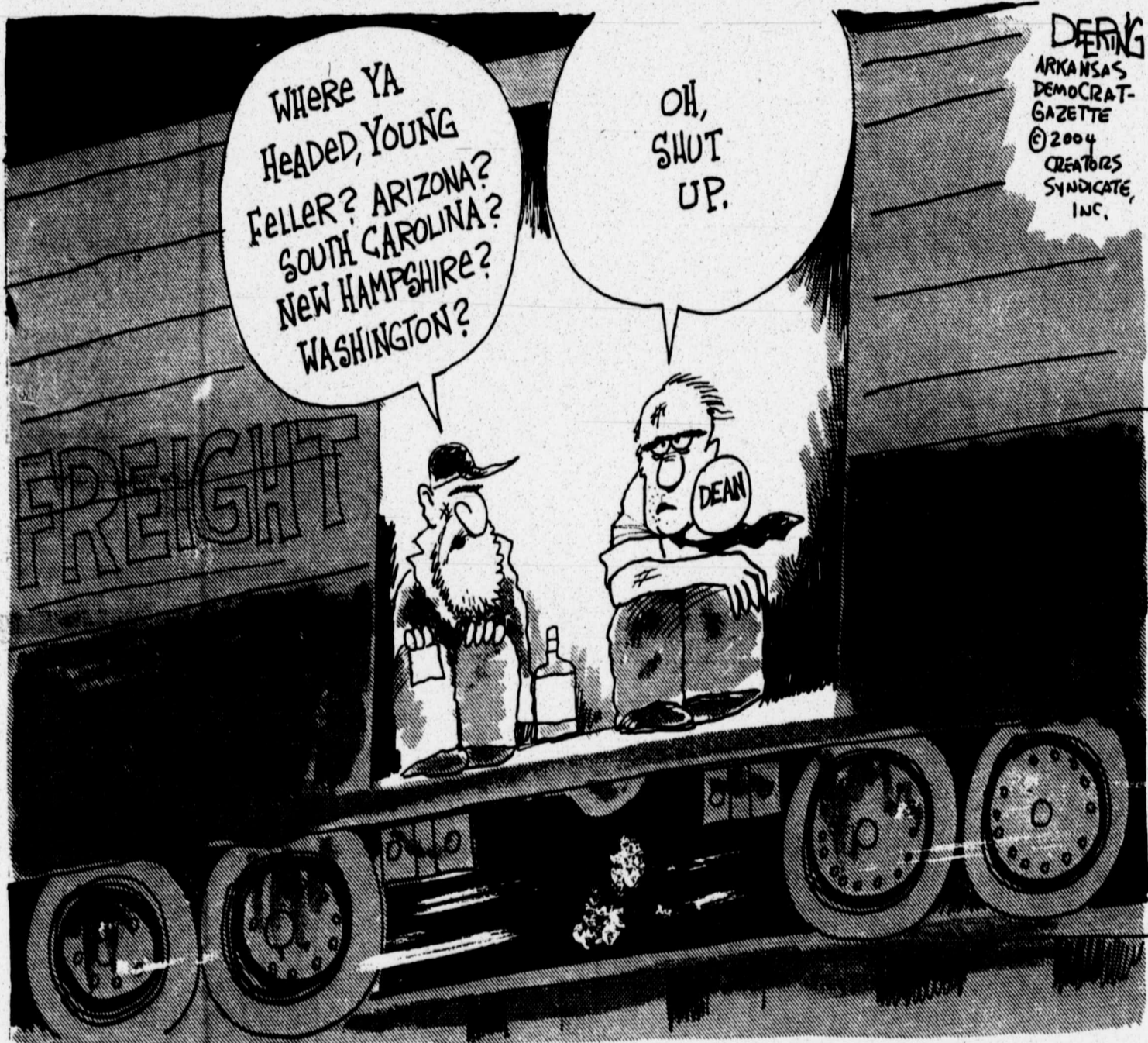
This is an amazing bunch of guys. A few years ago, Charlie decided to hitch-hike around the world. He took off a couple of years to do it. Once, Zane decided to take a year off to study some new computer programs.

Now that their careers are established, they're getting married. Zane married Ronda, who was in the movie and they have twin daughters. BZ married Margaret and they have my wonderful grandson Max. Charlie just got engaged and Jantz just works all the time and is not married.

I was out in San Francisco over the holidays and BZ, Charlie, Zane and I went to see the latest 'Lord of the Rings' movie. It was like being back in our dining room watching the guys play Dungeons and Dragons.



TUMBLEWEED SMITH



In California, the status quo makes sense

Proposition 56 supporters promise less "partisan gridlock" if voters lower the threshold needed to pass a budget in Sacramento from two-thirds of the state Assembly and Senate to 55 percent.

Opponents counter that there would be less gridlock because state lawmakers would happily raise taxes.

So the Proposition 56 folks came up with some gimmicks to entice voters fed up with politics as usual. One provision would revoke the pay of legislators for every day they miss the budget's ostensible June 15 deadline. Another would make legislators work until a budget is passed.

The problem is that it is bad budgets — not late budgets — that have been the bane of California. Despite the gimmicks, I found myself taking a fresh look at the measure.

On the yes side: One of the contributing factors to the gridlock in Sacramento is that checks and balances allow politicians to point at what the other guys are doing wrong instead of hammering out a deal.

Veteran political correspondent Martin Nolan wrote a terrific piece in the California Journal in which he warned that the two-thirds threshold could make it almost impossible for Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger to pass a budget if

a rump of Republicans decide to block any budget that raises taxes. Ditto some of the Democrats who might block needed budget cuts.

I suspect that if the threshold to raise taxes were lowered to 55 percent, Democrats would raise taxes so fast and furiously that voters would think twice before sending big-spending Democrats to Sacramento.

On the no side: The California economy could tank.

What to do? I decided to call some of the rare Sacramento politicians who try to work with members of the other party and ask them how they plan to vote.

Assemblyman Joe Canciamilla, D-Pittsburg, surprised me when he said, "I haven't broadcast my position. I'm not supportive of Proposition 56." On a philosophical level, the two-thirds requirement doesn't bother Canciamilla; it's what would happen if it were lifted that scares him.

Lawmakers would push for tax hikes. The pressure on the governor would be overwhelming. So, first, legislators would raise taxes on tobacco, alcohol and the affluent. But it wouldn't stop there, Canciamilla continued, because raising the "sin" taxes and increasing taxes on the rich don't "generate much income."

"It will get us into a death spiral," he said and likely would result in an end to the Democratic majority within four years — OK by me — as well as passage of a new initiative to limit taxes a la Proposition 13.

Canciamilla added that he tried

to think of what it would be like to be in the minority if the Republicans were in power. In that event, he is not sure that GOP lawmakers would listen to him, a Democrat, without the two-thirds requirement. Former GOP Rep. Tom Campbell made a similar point when he told the San Francisco Chronicle that he enjoyed working in the Legislature because "there my voice counted. They needed my vote. The two-thirds requirement is a moderating influence."

Canciamilla wouldn't say that he would never change his mind. "Perhaps my view will change in a couple of years if we have an open primary, if we have an independent redistricting," he mused. (Both of those changes should elect more moderate lawmakers from both parties, so that the Legislature would better reflect the political center of California, not the extremes.)

Until that day, the status quo makes more sense.

Think of how quickly state pols spent California into the red, despite a two-thirds threshold. As GOP consultant Sean Walsh observed, "You can get into trouble very quickly."

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

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DEBRA SAUNDERS

VA

Continued from Page 1A

facility. Waco is also on the chopping block.

"I thought the meeting went extremely well," Neugebauer said in a phone interview from Washington, D.C., following the meeting. "I want to thank Sen. Hutchinson for being responsive to my request to set that meeting up for us to sit down and have some meaningful dialogue. I felt like the secretary was very receptive to the issue that we brought up."

Members of the delegation offered Principi specific alternatives to the CARES recommendations, including ideas for local cost-sharing partnerships that promised high levels of veteran care while achieving costs savings.

"We indicated private-public partnership available with other health care facilities in Big Spring," Neugebauer said. "The facility has a long track record of providing quality service to our veterans and it would really be a displacement to them to move that facility to a place not cen-

trally located."

The small delegation also stressed the central location of the Big Spring facility in regards to its large service area.

"Health care is an issue of great regional importance in rural areas," Stenholm said. "Certainly, the VA needs to take a hard look at making some reforms, but it is essential for the Secretary to know how important the Big Spring hospital is to our veterans in rural West Texas."

The CARES commission made its recommendations in a report issued Feb. 13 and Principi has 30 days to accept or reject the suggestions.

"I have the feeling he doesn't feel pressure about doing this right away," Neugebauer said. "He's listening to the all the information being made available to him."

The Big Spring VA hospital serves the needs of 77,000 veterans in an area spanning 47 counties in West Texas and New Mexico and employs more than 500 individuals.

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



Cosmetologist Kathy Caudill gives 11-year-old Gerald Harris a taste of green eggs and ham during the 100th anniversary celebration of the late Dr. Seuss' birthday held at the Howard County Library. More than 200 people attended the event Tuesday.

THURSDAY THRU SUNDAY • MARCH 4-7 ONLY!

KERRY

Continued from Page 1A

The Republican president opens a multimillion-dollar TV ad blitz Thursday to try to win back favor in a time of slipping poll numbers, and has a war chest of more than \$100 million to draw from in the months ahead, more than Kerry can muster.

Vice President Dick Cheney criticized Kerry on the airwaves Tuesday as a frequent foe of defense and intelligence budgets, seeking to neutralize Kerry's draw as a decorated Vietnam veteran and his Senate experience in foreign policy.

And the courteous phone call aside, Kerry kept up the drumbeat of recent weeks against Bush, giving him no quarter on the war on terrorism or anything else. "We will renew our alliances and we will build new alliances because they are essential to the final victory and success of a war on terror," he told supporters.

"The Bush administration has run the most inept, reckless, arrogant and ideological foreign policy in the modern history of our country."

Kerry dominated the six-week Democratic competition from the Iowa caucuses on, once he shook off a torpid start and overcame the fading phenomenon of Howard Dean. He has won 27 of 30 contests, putting him well on his way to winning the nomination formally once he has collected 2,162 delegates.

The Super Tuesday states awarded a mother lode of 1,151 delegates, more than half those needed, and pushed Kerry's total over 1,100.

Kerry had 1,292 delegates to Edwards' 438. Dean had 182, Al Sharpton 24 and Ohio Rep. Dennis Kucinich 18.

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BEALLS HOURS
MONDAY THRU SATURDAY 10 AM - 9 PM SUNDAY 12 PM - 6 PM

Tomorrow's Horoscope

BY JOYCE JILLSON

Mercury passes the sun, and both have a distant interaction with Jupiter. To top it off, the moon is in Leo, the sign that loves a good story, whether or not it's true. Exaggeration to the max will be experienced in all areas of life — both for entertainment and for trickery and self-interest. But remember, honest folks can't be conned.



Joyce Jillson

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Your openness attracts psychic energy that can be put to very practical use. When you think your work is important, you'll receive mental signals about how to do it even better. A loved one is acting like a victim. Don't buy it.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Drama around health issues is seductive. You have more control over health than you think. Don't let down your guard and get sick. Take excellent care of yourself. Delays are heaven sent, and an afternoon nap is lucky.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). A fabulous union promotes prosperity, but a bad match will do the opposite. Generosity starts a ripple that spreads goodwill into the world. Parlay temporary advantages into something real and lasting.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). It's challenging to get a new approach or differ-

ent point of view out of that person who is so used to dealing with you in one way. You'll have to shake things up to get a reaction. Jump up and down, and be heard!

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). It's practically impossible not to spend money. Unfortunately, the fine and expensive things appeal to you the most. Hold on to your wallet — it's a costly ride. A cash-only policy could keep the damages to a minimum.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (March 3). You meet your destiny every day of your life, but this year, events take on a more profound tone than before. People are very generous with you this month and next — money is easier to come by, too. Put on your student hat in June, and you'll meet romance and win friends with what you know. Fantastic love matches are Cancer and Scorpio. Your lucky numbers are: 4, 25, 19, 53 and 15.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Successful people in your realm might be intimidating, but they are not inaccessible. Get your advice from the best source possible. It's the more accomplished people who are the most humble and helpful.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Differences arise between you and a close friend or sibling, but then again, it would be boring if you always thought the same things. Separate the action from the person. Your love is unconditional, and that's a comfort.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov.

21). There's plenty of enthusiasm available, and you'll feel you can do it all. The trick is doing it right the first time so you don't have to start over. Be mindful of other people's time, even if they don't afford you the same respect.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Your competitive nature is highlighted. Be determined not to repeat past mistakes. A surprise could throw a wrench in the action, but keep in mind that wonderful accomplishments may spring out of sheer accidents.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Work hard, play hard, and by tonight, you'll be ready to nestle in to a restful home life. Someone who is trying to win you over deserves another chance. If you've been wronged, open the door for people to make it up to you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Someone near and dear thinks that the way you did things before will work, but you know better. Help those around you get with the program. It's a whole new world for the exploring. You'll mix with attractive people tonight.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Thrill seeking isn't your thing, but you can jump-start your energy by taking a measured risk. A reasonable family member is your touchstone — no problem seems too difficult once you've gotten this person's opinion on how to solve it.

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New juvenile books ready for spring break reading

Spring break is the time for fun reading, so make sure you come to the library for the latest juvenile reads!

When Moose Flanagan's family moves to Alcatraz Island so his father can work as a guard and his sister can attend a special school, he has to leave all his friends and his winning baseball team behind. Is it worth it? If his sister can get help and they can be a normal family it is. But how normal is it to live on that particular island? In Gennifer Choldenko's book "Al Capone Does my Shirts" find out just how Moose copes with all the changes in his life and if that move really was worth it.

For Alex Rider fans there is a new adventure "Skeleton Key." This time Anthony Horowitz takes the teenage spy on a routine mission to the Wimbledon tennis championships. While he's there, Alex gets caught up in Chinese gangs, illegal nuclear weapons, and the suspect plans of his Russian host. This is a great read for more advanced readers.

Hallow Hill has a strange and mysterious history. For thousands of years young girls have been disappearing from the estate, never to be seen again. Now Kate and Emily have come to live there. They have no idea of the land's heritage until Marak, a powerful magician, explains it to them. He claims to be King here and he is not pleased with the two girls who have trespassed onto his property. Find out what happens to Kate and Emily in "The Hollow Kingdom" by Clare B. Dunkle.

A.M. Jenkins' book "Out of Control" is a down-to-earth look at a teenage boy whose life is going beyond his control. Colt's girlfriend has just walked away mad (and she'll stay that way until he begs for forgiveness) and he's stuck in classes he really hates. Now his

mother has informed him that the one thing that makes his life bearable is going to be taken away from him if he doesn't raise his GPA — NO BASEBALL. The one thing that he really can control is being taken away and for Colt this is unacceptable! Follow Colt as he solves all his problems in this hilarious and powerful story of teenage trauma.

Larry already has three stray dogs, so he can't possibly take care of one more, but when his brother Paul shows him the stray in the alley, Larry can't get the dog out of his mind. This dog doesn't want to leave the alley. What is he protecting? What is really going on in that dark alley? In David Lubar's book "Dog Days" we get a look at one very compassionate boy and his love for dogs. Go with Larry as he tries to save the dog in the alley and his own three best friends.

Boxcar Children lovers will be glad to know number 97 has arrived. "The Radio Mystery" finds Henry, Jessie, Violet and Benny "on the air" and on the trail of a mystery. The children are helping out a local station, where they are performing a play live, just like in the "olden days". The lights keep going out and there are strange sounds in the studio. Could it be haunted? Solve the mystery with Gertrude Chandler Warner's favorite children.

For the younger set two new VeggieTale books have arrived: "Larry Lights the Way" and "God is Bigger than the Boogie Man". These books are based on the characters found in the video series. Larry is the only cheerful Veggie in all the land. How can Prince Junior convince the rest of Veggie land to be more like Larry and less like old grumps? This is a great example about lighting the way and encouraging others. Cindy Kenney's "God is Bigger..." is a collection of bedtime stories that teach lessons on living a good life. Must read for all those "Veggie" lovers out there.



KAREN MCINTYRE

Howard County Library hours are: 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. Monday thru Friday and 8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Saturday. Video/computer room closes everyday from noon to 1 p.m. and 30 minutes before closing. Library fax number is (432) 264-2263. The phone number is (432) 264-2260. The library is located at 500 Main St. Please don't forget our Story Time program every Wednesday at 10 a.m. Children from 8 months to 5 years are welcome.

Karen McIntyre is the Children's librarian at the Howard County Library.

Annie's Mailbox : Advice for those in need

Dear Annie: Many years ago, my younger sister, "Liz," had an affair with a married man who later left his wife and married my sister. They were together for 20 years, and although they saw a great deal of my parents, they didn't spend much time with the rest of us. I barely knew my sister or her husband, "Steve."

Liz filed for divorce early last year, and Steve moved out in April. He started seeing me, as a friend, in June. When I realized we were attracted to each other, I contacted Liz and asked if she had any objection to my dating her ex-husband. She said she didn't care, but she added, "Be careful what you wish for."

Liz's divorce was final in December, and Steve and I began dating seriously. Now, however, both my sister and my mother are angry about my new relationship. They don't seem to be angry with Steve, however. Liz speaks to him but not to me.

Steve and I are very happy together, but my family will not accept that we are together. What's your advice for our future? — Confused in Oxnard, Calif.

Dear Oxnard: It is always risky to become involved with a sibling's ex-spouse, and it's understandable that Liz and the rest of the family would be uncomfortable with the situation. Be sure that Steve is interested in YOU and not using you as a means to be closer to Liz. Also, some women become competitive or resentful when their ex-husbands find someone new, and this could be fueling Liz's anger.



KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

If you are certain your relationship is rock-solid, tell your mother and sister that this is how it's going to be, and let the chips fall where they may. Good luck.

Dear Annie: You printed a letter from a woman who wanted to know how to donate her body to a medical school. Here is the downside: The body needs to get to the school as soon as possible, and there is no time for the family to say goodbye.

I live in Oregon, and my mother lived in Ohio. I

had promised that I'd visit often, but due to various problems, I didn't see her for three years. The day before I was to fly to Ohio, Mom passed away. Her body was picked up immediately and rushed to the Ohio State Medical School. I was told that after the body has been used, it is cremated and the ashes are buried somewhere without any notification.

I'm in tears as I write this and angry at myself for not fulfilling my promise to my mother. I know medical schools need body donations, but it can be hell on the loved ones. — Medford, Ore.

Dear Medford: Due to the physical distance, you may not have been aware of the details of your mother's bequest to the medical school. According to information from Ohio State University, relatives are notified in advance when the school is finished with the body, and the cremains can be returned to the family.

* The Colorado City *
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Sports

BIG SPRING HERALD

Do you have an interesting sports item or story idea? Call Tommy Wells at 263-7331, Ext. 237. Email results to: sports@bigspringherald.com

Page 1B
Wednesday, March 3, 2004

IN BRIEF

Lady Hawks to face WTC today

The Howard College Lady Hawks will try again to square off against Western Texas College today at noon. High winds, rain and standing water forced the HC women to postpone this weekend's planned games with Western Texas College.

Umpires are needed for BSGSA season

The Big Spring Girls' Softball Association is currently seeking individuals interested in umpiring games.

Interested parties please contact Francisco Ramirez at (432) 466-3670.

Wildcats to face Aspermont in L'land

The Grady Wildcats will try and move a step closer to the Class A state basketball tournament Friday when they face Aspermont in a Class A, Division II regional final bout.

Grady, 32-1 overall, is slated to begin play at 6:30 p.m. at South Plains College's Texan Dome.

Lady Steers to face Permian Friday

The Big Spring Lady Steers will face the Permian Lady Panthers at the BSHS Softball Complex.

Big Spring, 15-1 overall, will begin play at 4 p.m.

The Lady Steers will travel to Arlington for the Arlington Tournament next week.

Coahoma LL tryouts slated for Friday

Coahoma Little League tryouts will be held Friday at the Coahoma field from 6 p.m. Tryouts will also be held Saturday, starting at noon.

All players must attend one of the tryout dates unless they played on a Major division team last year.

For more information call, Jill Ringener at 263-2789.

BSGSA sign-ups begin Saturday

Registration for the 2004 Big Spring Girls Softball Association will begin Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the softball complex.

Women and girls of all ages are encouraged to sign up for the league. The fee is \$30 per player. Last fall, the league fielded a senior league squad.

Sign-ups will be held for the next three Saturdays with late registration set for March 27.

Stanton Relays set for this weekend

Some of the top track and field athletes in West Texas will participate in the Stanton Relays this Saturday.

The meet, which will showcase talent from several local schools, will begin at 9 a.m.

ON THE AIR

| Sports Broadcast Schedule | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------|--|
| March 3 | | |
| Event, Time | Station | |
| Spurs vs. Seattle, 7 p.m. | 1490 | |
| March 5 | | |
| Event, Time | Station | |
| Hawks vs. El Paso (baseball), 3 p.m. | 1490 | |
| Spurs vs. Dallas, 6:30 p.m. | 1490 | |
| March 6 | | |
| Event, Time | Station | |
| HC vs. Cleburne (softball), 3 p.m. | 1490 | |
| Spurs vs. Phoenix, 7:30 p.m. | 1490 | |

Grady moves into regional finals with OT win over Swifts

By TOMMY WELLS

Sports Editor

LUBBOCK — Nick Winford and Jason Pribyla sank two free throws apiece in the final 50 seconds of play Tuesday night and helped the Grady Wildcats rewrite history.

In their favor. One season removed from seeing their dreams of a state tournament berth ended by Nazareth, the Wildcats gained the last laugh by claiming a 44-40 overtime win over the perennial state power in front of a sellout crowd at the Monterey High School gymnasium.

"This is the best game I've ever

been a part of," said Grady head coach Carl Krug. "To knock off the defending state champs is really something."

Especially considering the recent history between the two schools. Nazareth defeated Grady in the regional semifinals last February by a 69-52 margin.

That's all history now, however. With the win, No. 3-ranked Grady advances to the Region I, Division II finals against Aspermont on Friday. The two teams will play at 6:30 p.m. at the Texan Dome in Levelland.

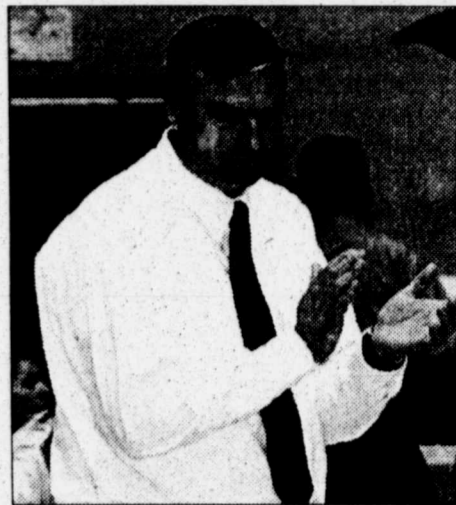
Brent Madison made sure the Swifts wouldn't have reason to celebrate in the closing seconds of the extra frame. He sank a

three-point shot with just over two minutes to play to give the Wildcats a 39-36 advantage.

Winford and Pribyla made the lead stand up from there. The two helped Grady knock down five of seven free throw attempts in the final four minutes to end Nazareth's three-year run of reaching the state tournament.

"Our kids never lost focus," said Krug, who has guided Grady to a 32-1 record and more than 60 wins in the last two years. "We knew we had to be patient and work for our shots."

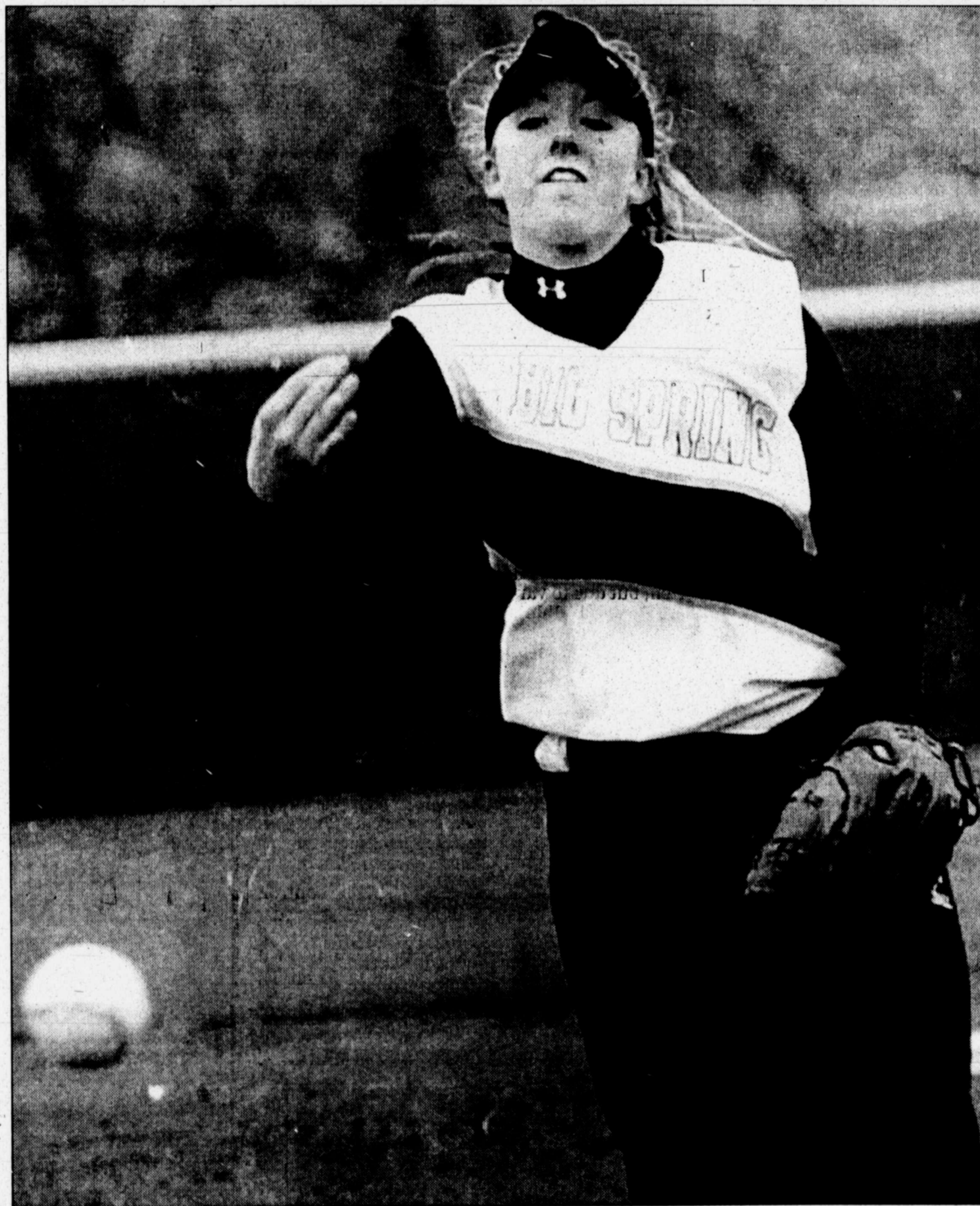
Nazareth, which was ranked No. 2 in the final Texas Association of Basketball



Grady head coach Carl Krug will lead Grady into the regional finals Friday in Levelland.

See GRADY, Page 3B

Lady Steers trample B'wood



Big Spring Junior Alex Watkins delivers a pitch to the plate during the fourth inning of the Lady Steers' 10-0 shutout of Brownwood Tuesday at the BSHS softball complex. Watkins allowed two hits and struck out 10 batters in the contest.

By TOMMY WELLS

Sports Editor

The rains came Tuesday afternoon. Just not enough and not soon enough to save the Brownwood Lady Lions.

Katy Abner drilled a two-run double to left in the fifth inning and lifted the Big Spring Lady Steers to a 10-0 run-rule victory over Brownwood in the team's 2004 home debut.

With the win, Big Spring improved to 15-1 heading into Friday's matchup with the Permian Lady Panthers.

Junior ace Alex Watkins dominated Brownwood from the circle. En route to improving to 4-0 for the year, she hurled a two-hitter at the Lady Lions and fanned 10 of the 22 batters she faced.

Watkins, making her first appearance as a hitter, also carried a big stick for the Lady Steers. She went 3-for-3 from the plate with a double and four runs batted in.

Watkins' battery mate got the Big Spring rout started. Senior Erica Stewart opened the bottom of the first inning with a double to left. Following a sacrifice off the bat of Whitney Hufford, Stewart raced home on a passed ball to stake Big Spring to a 1-0 cushion.

The Lady Steers added to their lead in the third by scoring four times.

Leina Braxton led off the inning with a walk. She then stole second and third and raced home on Stewart's sacrifice fly.

After Hufford had singled and scored, Heather Vassar and Laura Olague both reached base and then raced home on Stewart's sacrifice fly.

See SHUTOUT, Page 2B

Lady Steers' JV rips Brownwood, 10-2

By TOMMY WELLS

Sports Editor

Brenna Phernetton, Katie Policky and Krista Chesworth each drove in two runs Tuesday and powered the Big Spring Lady Steers' junior varsity to a 10-2 rout of the Brownwood Lady Lions.

With the victory, the Lady Steers capped a solid five-day span in which they bounced Brownwood and placed second in the final standings at the West Texas Classic in Midland.

After Mandy Walker had opened the inning with an out, Samantha

the JV division standings this past weekend, jumped on Brownwood quickly, scoring once in the bottom of the first.

Meisha Heinis handed the Lady Steers a 1-0 lead by pounding out a run-scoring single that scored Courtney Rodriguez from third.

Rodriguez opened the frame with a single.

The Lady Steers salted the win away in the second, scoring nine times before the game was called due to darkness.

After Mandy Walker had opened the inning with an out, Samantha

Pena and Jade Walker managed to reach base via an error and a walk. Policky upped the BSHS lead to 3-0 from there, following with a two-run triple.

The road didn't get any easier for the Lady Lions. After back-to-back walks had loaded the bases, Phernetton and Chesworth followed with two-run hits.

Chesworth collected the win, allowing one hit and fanning one batter.

The Lady Steers begin play in the Permian JV Tournament Thursday in Odessa.

Green, Roosevelt end Wolves' season, 74-53

Terrell Green scored 20 points and Jonathan Harris added 17 more Tuesday night and led the Lubbock Roosevelt Eagles to a 74-53 win over Colorado City in a Class 2A regional semifinal

playoff at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

With the win, Roosevelt improved to 25-9 and advances to the regional tournament in Abilene.

Green scored 14 points in the first half and led

the Eagles to a 38-24 lead at the break.

Colorado City, the District 3-2A champion, was paced offensively by Christopher Spears' 17 points. Cole Arthur added 10.



Coahoma's Liz Conley rounds second base during recent CHS softball action. Conley lifted the Bulldogettes to a 3-2 win over Greenwood Monday. Coahoma, with the win, evened its season record at 4-4.

Astros' Buchholz adjusting to new his surroundings

KISSIMMEE, Fla. (AP) — Taylor Buchholz couldn't have planned his baseball career any better. The young pitcher had been drafted by the same Phillies he had grown up rooting for in suburban Philadelphia and was a valued prospect, on track to wear a "P" on his cap in the not-too-distant future.

"That's been my dream my whole life, to play professional baseball," Buchholz said. "And that made it better to get drafted by my hometown team that I've been a fan of my whole life."

The right-hander excelled at Double-A Reading, Pa., last season, earning a tough-luck 9-11 record on the strength of a 3.55 ERA and a team-leading 114 strikeouts. He was headed for the Class AAA affiliate in Scranton, Pa., slightly more than two hours away from his home in Springfield, where he grew up.

Then Jose Mesa messed it all up. Mesa's inability to finish games for the Phillies last year caused them to launch an offseason search for a proven closer. That led them to Houston, where the Astros sought to unload cannon-armed lefty Billy Wagner's contract so they could make a play for Yankees free agent Andy Pettitte.

And that's when Buchholz, fresh off his 22nd birthday, ended up in an organization based 1,500 miles from home when he was packaged

Bears cut ties with Stewart

CHICAGO — The NFL's second-youngest team became younger Monday by making some old news official.

As expected, the Bears released defensive end Phillip Daniels and quarterback Kordell Stewart, both 31, in a move general manager Jerry Angelo called best for both sides.

Daniels, a stand-up guy who emerged as a team leader throughout the past two difficult seasons, was due a \$1 million ros-

with Brandon Duckworth and Ezequiel Astacio for Wagner on Nov. 3.

Buchholz was versed enough in the business of baseball that he always knew a trade was possible, despite his reputation as a top prospect with pinpoint control and a wicked breaking pitch.

Still, he wasn't prepared for the news.

"I was shocked at first," he said. "It took me about 15 minutes to realize it was going to be a good thing for me."

An example of that is just around the corner from Buchholz's locker in the Astros' spring clubhouse.

Jeff Bagwell also had the blind luck of getting drafted by the team he grew up backing, the Red Sox, only to get shipped to faraway Houston when Boston similarly needed bullpen help.

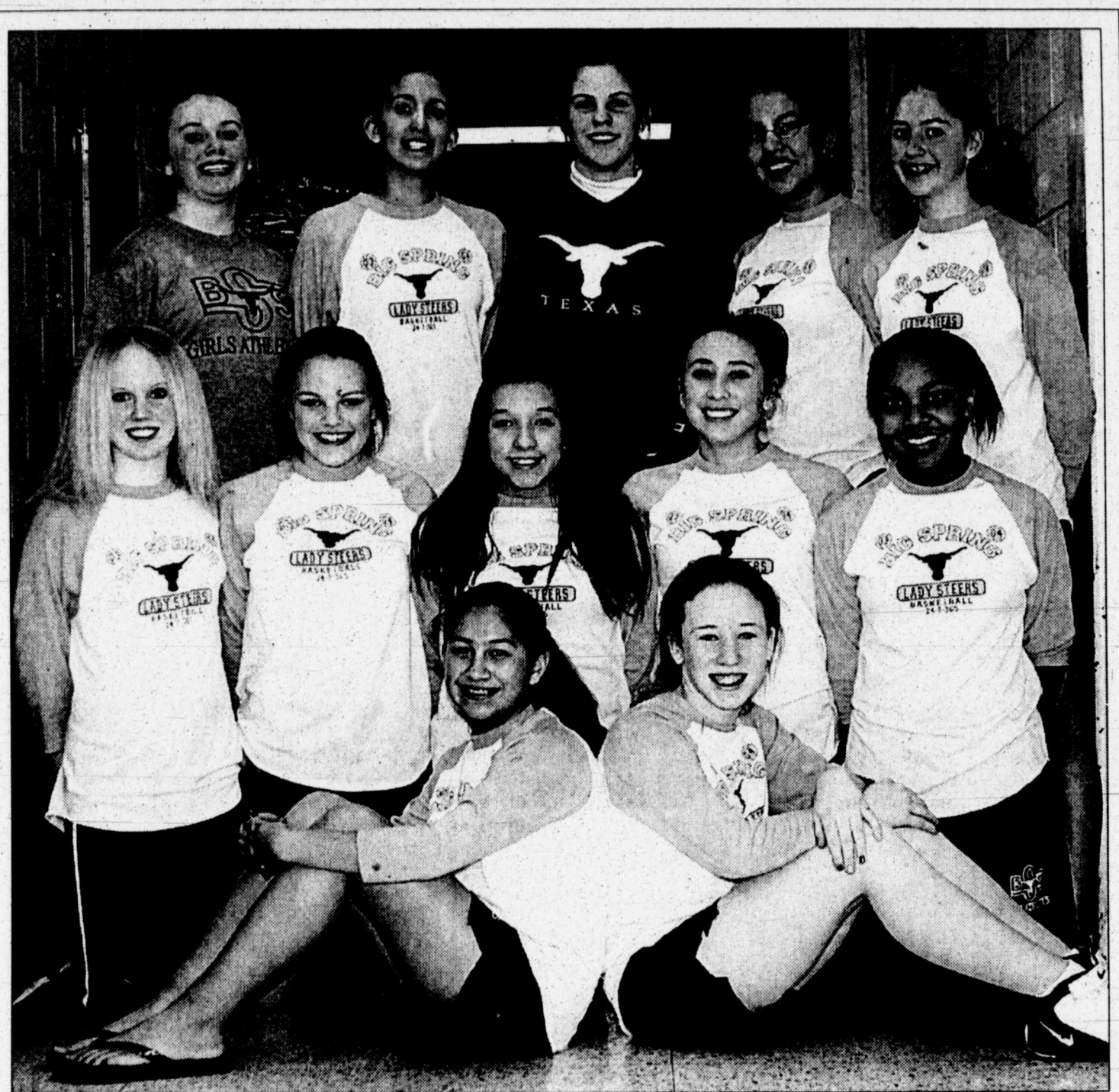
Needless to say, things worked out OK for Bagwell.

"I was devastated when I got traded from the Red Sox, but my father came to me two weeks later and said, 'This could be a good situation for you,'" said Bagwell, a Boston native who stuck behind Wade Boggs and Scott Cooper in the Red Sox' third base pecking order when he was traded in a deadline deal for Larry Andersen in 1990.

It turned out to be the best deal in Astros history — and perhaps the second-worst in Red Sox lore, behind the one that sent Babe Ruth to the Yankees.

ter bonus Wednesday in addition to a salary of \$3 million for 2004. He didn't figure in Lovie Smith's plans, but immediately becomes one of the top free-agent defensive ends.

As for Stewart, agent Leigh Steinberg approached Angelo soon after the regular season ended about getting out of the final year of a contract that was to pay the quarterback \$1.45 million. The Bears were happy to oblige.



Pride of the Lady Steers
The Big Spring Junior High School Lady Steers eighth grade B team closed out their 2003-2004 season recently against Merkel. Members of the squad (front row, left to right) are Mistie Aguilar, Kady Knox, (middle row) Randy Ramirez, Emily Slape, Clarissa Carrisalez, Nita Cotton, Desirae Cooper, (back row) Amber Simer, Hall Torres, Meredith Morgan, Alle Garcia and Samantha Boehringer. The team finished the year with a 12-4 record.

SHUTOUT

Continued from Page 1B

Watkins' two-run single to left.

Big Spring, coming off an impressive outing in last weekend's West Texas Classic in Midland, in which they outscored their opponents by a staggering 40-3 clip, stretched its lead to 6-0 in the fourth when Braxton drew a lead-off walk and later scored when Brownwood made an errant throw on a sacrifice attempt by Stewart.

Big Spring, which is scheduled to compete in the Arlington Invitational Softball Tournament next week, sealed the win with another offensive surge in the bottom of the fifth.

Vassar ignited the Lady Steers' final run by draw-

ing a lead-off walk. Olague followed with a single to right. Both Vassar and Olague scored moments later when Watkins slapped a two-run single to center.

Watkins did not bat in the Lady Steers' first 15 games of the season while recovery from a broken foot in the final week of the basketball season. She did, however, pitch three games at the West Texas Classic.

The Lady Lions shot themselves in the foot again after Watkins' third hit of the afternoon. The Brownwood catcher enabled Chelsea Abner to reach base via a dropped third strike, moving Ashley Hodge — who entered the game as a courtesy runner — to move to second.

Katy Abner, a speedy

freshman outfielder, made the mistake a costly one by delivering a two-run single to left that forced officials to call the game.

Offensively, the Lady Steers looked sharp against Brownwood. Big Spring hammered out six hits in the five inning contest. Olague, Vassar and Hodge both scored

twice in the contest.

The Lady Steers, a regional qualified last season, will close out a brief two-game homestand Friday afternoon when they face Permian at the BSHS softball complex. The game will begin at 4 p.m.

The Lady Steers' next home game will be March 19 against Monterey.

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By MICK M

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Michigan school stands firm on Webber issue

By MICK McCABE

Knights Ridder Newspapers
DETROIT (KRT) — The trophies are staying put.

Birmingham Detroit Country Day reaffirmed its position Monday that the school did nothing wrong when Chris Webber played basketball there, and the Yellowjackets aren't giving up the three state titles he helped them win.

Country Day won the championships in 1989-91.

The Michigan High School Athletic Association ruled Sunday that Webber was ineligible during his years at Country Day because he took money and gifts from former University of Michigan booster Ed Martin. The association's executive director, Jack Roberts, recommended that the school forfeit the championships and all games in Webber's final three seasons, but Country Day officials refused Monday to do that.

Headmaster Gerald Hansen and basketball coach Kurt Keener, who's also the athletic director, said the school will not voluntarily vacate the titles or forfeit any games.

"Country Day has repeatedly advised the executive director that it strongly disagrees," Hansen said as he read from a prepared statement. "The school contends that the assertion is based upon unproven innuendo, suspicion and speculation. Because

Country Day has been given no credible evidence that Mr. Webber violated his amateur status while a student here, the school felt obligated to fight to retain the championships and to protect the school's interests as well as those of all our students who worked so hard to earn these championships."

Before he died last year, Martin told federal investigators that he gave thousands of dollars in money and gifts to Webber while Webber was in high school and at Michigan. He kept a record of the transactions, many of which he considered loans.

Webber, who was charged with lying to a grand jury about his dealings with Martin, pleaded guilty to criminal contempt and admitted he repaid Martin \$38,200 in 1994.

Martin also gave money to other high school and U-M players. Detroit Murray-Wright voluntarily forfeited all games won during the senior season of Robert Traylor, one of four former Michigan players accused of taking \$616,000 from Martin.

After Roberts made his recommendations that Country Day forfeit games and championships, the school appealed to the state high school association's executive committee. The committee upheld Roberts' decision to strike Webber's name from the record book, but said it was Country Day's deci-

sion whether to forfeit the titles.

Hansen said Country Day conducted its own investigation after Roberts contacted the school last fall. He said Keener interviewed Webber's parents and his attorney and also talked to several students who attended Country Day while Webber was a student there.

"When Chris Webber was a student here, there were zero signs of affluence," Hansen said. "He drove an old family car. I can't find one thing that indicated wealth."

Further, Hansen said Country Day retained the services of law firm Dickinson Wright to review the evidence provided by the MHSAA. One of the attorneys was former Detroit mayor Dennis Archer.

"A lot of bright people looked at this for us," Hansen said. "They came to the conclusion that there was no credible evidence he violated his amateur status."

Roberts, who came to a different conclusion, was unavailable for comment Monday.

"In addition to leaving the MHSAA team records in place, the MHSAA's executive committee has also directed the executive director that 'no further requirements or investigations by staff are authorized at this time,'" Hansen said. "In similar spirit, the school believes this matter to be now closed."

GRADY

Continued from Page 1B

Coaches poll, held the momentum early in the contest. Jordy Rowland sank several key shots in the opening minutes and led the Swifts to a 12-8 lead after the first eight minutes.



KRUG



PRIBYLA

The Wildcats reel off a 10-5 run in the frame and take a slim 18-17 lead into the half.

Grady added to its lead in the third. The Wildcats outscored Nazareth by an 8-5 clip in the initial eight minutes of the second half and took a 26-22 advantage into the fourth quarter.

The Swifts, one of the most successful basketball programs in the history of the state, rallied back in the final frame. Nazareth reeled off a 12-8 spree in the closing minutes and tied the game at 34-34 at the end of regulation.

Madison put down the Swifts' uprising just over a minute into the overtime frame when he pulled up from behind the three-point arc and buried his second trey of the evening.

Madison finished as the

game's top scorer, pouring in 19 points.

Rowland, a key figure in Nazareth's win over Grady a year ago, brought the Swifts back. He pushed home a layup just seconds after Madison's three-point shot, pulling Nazareth to within 39-38.

Winford stepped up from there, building the GHS lead back to three with 50 seconds left by sinking both end of a two-shot free throw opportunity.

Pribyla, who posted a double-double by collecting 12 points and 10 rebounds, salted away the win seconds later with two more shots from the charity stripe.

Madison, one of four GHS starters to play the entire game, just missed a double-double, finishing with nine boards.

Nazareth, which has advanced to the state tournament nine times since 1983 — winning in 1983, 1985 and from 2001-2003, finished the year at 22-9.

GRADY 44, NAZARETH 40, OT

Grady 8 10 8 8 10 . . 44
Nazareth 12 5 5 12 6 . . 40

GRADY — Brent Madison 6-5-7 19; Jason Pribyla 3-6-8 12; Andrew Villa 3-1-2-7; Trent May 1-0-0-3; Nick Winford 0-3-4-3; Ben Hirth 0-0-0-0.
Totals: 13 15-21 44.

NAZARETH — Jordy Rowland 6-0-0 12; Dustin Schulte 4-0-1 11; Trey Robb 5-1-4 11; Tyson Schulte 2-0-1-4; Charlie Rundell 1-0-0-2; Andrew Brockman 0-0-0-0; Jake Hoelling 0-0-0-0. Totals: 18 1-6 40.

3-point goals — Grady 3 (Madison 2, May); Nazareth 3 (D. Schulte 3). Totals Fouls — Grady 14, Nazareth 14. Fouled Out — None. Rebounds — Grady 24, Nazareth 21. Turnovers — Grady 12, Nazareth 10.

In Sunday's Big Spring Herald



Fishing keeps Paisley on the ground

As much as country music's Brad Paisley loves landing a 10-pound bass, it's the time he gets to spend with friends and loved ones that makes fishing his favorite pastime. Plus, honey bars and family, food, and fitness.



Celebrating Hometown Life

Seliger wins State Senate special election with 56% of vote and wins 18 of 26 counties.

It is an honor to serve Big Spring & Howard Co.

“It's Time To Set Aside Our Regional Differences And Pull Together.”



The Panhandle and the Permian Basin have a common bond. It's time to redirect the "United We Stand and Divided We Fall" message used against me in the special election runoff to now bring all 26 counties of our State Senate district together.

As your newly elected State Senator, I want to encourage your support in helping me represent all of our district in the Texas Senate; after all, we have a lot in common.

We need to work together to defend and restore conservative values, to protect our local water, to bring in new jobs, and we must get some real school funding reforms which replace Robin Hood taxation with a fairer system and more complete system of funding our schools and paying our teachers.

This is the third time in the past three months I've asked to earn your vote. As our new State Senator-Elect, I am honored to ask BOTH those who have supported me in the past to support me again, and to ask those who would consider supporting me for the first time to let me earn your vote in this year's Republican Primary. Together, we'll get it done. Kel Seliger

Big Spring Backers Help Kel Win State Senate Runoff

Hon. Russ & Laura McEwen • Hqn. Bill & Joyce Crooker • Hon. Hardy & Stefanie Wilkerson • Ralph & Billye McLaughlin • John Currie • Mary Francis Malone • Bob & Susan Lewis • Homer & Stina Wilkerson • Tommy & Donna Tune • Jerry & Dr. Louise Worthy • Vess & Lynette Barnes • Greg Brooks • Mike & Sharon Conner • Rich & Barbara Anderson • Charles & Joan Beil • Dan & Kathy Lusk • Larry Bob & Linda Conway • Eddie & Vickie Cole • Reg & Jo Anne Hyer • Tony & Deanne Lester • Pete Thiry • Dr. Bruce & Sheryl Cox • Glenn & Casie Fillingim • Scott & Mary Kay McLaughlin • Bobby & Hon. Gloria McDonald

Permian Basin Republican Don Sparks Endorses Kel

“Today I am announcing my endorsement of Kel Seliger in the March 9 Primary. While my name will appear on the primary ballot, I urge everyone to make their vote count by choosing Kel Seliger. I hope this will help unify the district and I believe this to be in the best interest of our communities and businesses.

When I entered the race for District 31 State Senate, one of my goals was to help unite the Panhandle and the Permian Basin. Throughout the race I tried to maintain my goal of a united district by encouraging voters to look at the candidate's qualifications, not where he resided in the district.

I now believe it is in the best interest of the communities in the south part of the district to reach out to our newly elected senator and begin to work with him concerning the issues which may be unique to the southern portion of the district, along with the issues which are important to the entire district.” 2/26/04

Texas State GOP Party Chair Congratulates Kel

“Texans have continued to place their trust in the proven, conservative leadership that the Republican Party offers... Kel Seliger (is an) exceptional leader and ... will no doubt do a tremendous job representing (his district) and... the conservative values that a majority of Texans hold dear.” 2/18/04

Young Conservatives of Texas Endorse Kel

“We are pleased to endorse former Amarillo Mayor Kel Seliger for State Senate in District 31. A longtime leader in civic and charitable causes, Seliger supports reducing taxes, imposing the death penalty on violent criminals, & keeping the concealed handgun law. He opposes a state income tax and homosexual marriage. YCT has been a pro-life organization for over two decades and we are confident that Kel Seliger will fight to protect unborn children.” 2004 Special Election & GOP Primary Endorsement

Kel Wins The Old Fashioned Way

Despite being outspent by a 3:1 margin in the recent special election and runoff, Kel, Nancy and the volunteers personally knocked on doors and made over 50,000 calls to voters districtwide.



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Garage Sales

2410 BRENT, Thur.-Fri. 9-1. Refrigerator, air conditioner, girls clothes size 10-16, lawn mower, books, kids metal school desks, small bike, misc.

4 Family Sale: Fri.-Sat. Bedroom suite, table & chairs, free standing cabinets, entertainment center, lots of furniture, dishes, pans, glassware, camping equip., cement edging, antiques, collectibles. Too much to list. 5612 Midway Rd.

GARAGE SALE, 4607 Aspen Rd. 8:00-6:00 Thursday, Friday, Saturday. Wasson Rd, south to Cypress west to Aspen. New & used items, ladies large size clothing.

NICE ITEMS. TV's, VCR's, framed paintings, SW collectibles, household, small appliances, curtains, computer desk, misc. items. 721 Baylor, Thur.-Fri. & Sat. 8-5.

Garage Sales

THREE FAMILY Garage Sale, Saturday, 8:00-2:00. 2507 East 24th. Furniture, dishes, toys, linens, bicycle, nice clothes, XX long jeans, misc.

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NEED HUMAN resource person in safety and insurance. Fax resume to (432)354-2669

Help Wanted

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.

HOWARD COUNTY Appraisal District is accepting applications for secretary/clerk. Salary is contingent upon qualifications and experience. Good benefit package. Resumes accepted March 1st until March 12th. Send resume or fill out application at the Texas Workforce Network located at 310 Owens, Big Spring, Texas.

WANTED: RETIREES with own RV for summer employment at Fun Valley Family Resort, South Fork, Colorado for office, housekeeping, cooks, maintenance and RV parks. Write Personnel Director, 9010 Ravenswood, Granbury, TX 76049.

Help Wanted

GAP ROCK ENERGY has immediate opening for Groundman position in our Stanton Office. Position assists crews and linemen in the maintenance and construction of electric power lines and equipment. Assists crew at ground level in construction and maintenance duties; patrol lines as needed; may be assigned to work customer accounts or read meters. Good verbal and written communication skills needed. Prior experience in electrical distribution field preferred. CDL is required to operate heavy automotive equipment and employees must live within 10 miles of Stanton office. Position is required to work overtime in emergency situations. To apply contact Terry Smith at 756-3381.

Help Wanted

IMMEDIATE OPENING for Asst. Manager. Retail Experience Preferred. Must have good driving record, pass drug test and background check. Comp. Salary & Benefits. Apply in person. No Phone Calls Please.

501 East Third Big Spring, Tx 79720

KINDER HEARTS HOME HEALTH, PPC is seeking the following position:

LVN Private duty nursing in home health environment. Competitive pay. Must be able to work evenings and some weekends if needed. Will train. For more information call toll free 1-866-778-5778.

LEAD MAINTENANCE person needed with AC Cert. & Plumbing experience. Apply in person at 538 Westover.

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

LVN/RN'S NEEDED for pediatric cases in Big Spring. Competitive pay & benefits. Call Complete Home Health Care, (432)570-8899 or apply in person @ 2402 W. Wall, Midland, TX.

MACHINE OPERATOR Must have 1 yr. Exp. machine operating. Shifts Hrs. 2-10 PM. Full Benefits. Apply @ American Limestone, 2515 Apron Dr. No Phone Calls Please!

MINIMAL PHYSICAL LABOR! Truckdrivers needed. 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.

Help Wanted

NEED NANNY/ SITTER to stay with teen. Your house or mine up to two weeks. References. Call (432)264-7459

NEED STUDENTS for summer jobs at Fun Valley Resort in South Fork, Colorado. Jobs available are office, house-keeping, dining room, horse wrangler, kitchen and other. Salary, room, board & bonus. Write Personnel Director, 9010 Ravenswood, Granbury, TX 76049.

OVER THE ROAD truck driver needed. Experience preferred. Call after 5:00, 432-394-4037 or anytime, 503-780-2115.

Help Wanted

KEY ENERGY SERVICES, a large growing oilfield service company, is seeking dependable rig hands to join our team in the Trinidad, Colorado area. Trinidad is located on the western boundary of the beautiful Sangre de Cristo Mountains and is nestled along the banks of the Purgatoire River; this mountainous country offers several cold water lakes and an abundance of wildlife for watching, fishing and hunting. The town, at an elevation of 6025 ft. is a picturesque city of Victorian and adobe architecture. Average rental for homes and apartments is \$300 to \$800 per month. Openings are available for floor hands, derricks, operators, winch truck drivers and water truck drivers. Experience preferred, but will train the right applicant. Full-time positions offer competitive pay of \$11 to \$16 per hour. 401k w/company match, medical, prescription drug card, dental, vision, life and accident insurance, short-term disability, and paid vacations. Rig hands must be 18 years of age; all applicants must be able to pass a drug screen. Contact PMS at 719-846-2915 to apply. Key Energy Services is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Help Wanted

BUSINESSES & SERVICES

\$1.89 Per Day; 6-Month Contract \$1.58 Per Day
Call 263-7331 to place your ad today!!



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6:00 pm

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Cell: 466-3103

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PRODUCT Must have ployee su working kr chinery. F 2-10 PM. can Limes
PROVIDE Big Sprin check will Olivia at 800-551-6
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ROLLING Office in sition for pervisor/ tion in m Works m package Pay, 40 Interester sume to ply at TW
SPRING tractors Equipme Short Te Backhoe ment As 1-866-64
STORE I Big Spr Exp. Re ext. 6027
SURVEY for local plication (432)263

Help Wanted

PART-TIME LAUNDRY ATTENDANT Work 7 days-7days off. Duties include customer care, cleaning, Wash, dry, fold clothes. Must have own car. Apply 1208 Gregg Street.

PRODUCTION SUPERVISOR. Must have 1 yr. Exp. in employee supervision. Must have working knowledge of mfg. machinery. Full benefits pkg. Shift 2-10 PM. Apply direct-American Limestone- 2515 Apron Dr.

PROVIDER NEEDED in the Big Spring area. Background check will be performed. Call Olivia at 432-570-4475 or 800-551-6451.

RECEPTIONIST/CLERK NEEDED for busy office. Duties include answering telephone, classification of incoming business, filing, correspondence, etc. Heavy experience in Word, WordPerfect a plus. Excellent benefits and working environment. Equal Opportunity Employer.

RESTAURANT ASSISTANT MANAGER BIG SPRING, TX Immediate opening. Great pay & benefits. Resume to: barron@ripgriffin.com Fax: 806-785-4182

RIP GRIFFIN'S is now taking applications for Cashier's & Fuel Center Help. Experience preferred but will train. Excellent Benefits- 401k, vacation, major medical. Please apply in person.

ROLLING PLAINS Physicians Office in Sweetwater has a position for a full-time X-Ray Supervisor/ Technician, certification in mammography required. Works M-F, no call. Benefit package includes PTO, Holiday Pay, 401k, Health Insurance. Interested parties may fax resume to (325)235-5925 or apply at TWC.

SPRING IS Coming - Contractors Will be Hiring! Heavy Equipment Operator Intensive, Short Term Training. Bulldozer, Backhoe, Tractor Job Placement Assistance. Call Today!! 1-866-649-8467

STORE MGR. Burke's Outlet in Big Spring. 6 Months Retail Exp. Required. 800-683-8039 ext. 6027

SURVEYOR/ HELPER needed for local Company. Call for application and interview (432)263-1098.

Help Wanted

SCENIC MOUNTAIN Medical Center, a 150 bed JCAHO Accredited facility is seeking Full time and PRN MT/MLT generalist. Generalist rotations include chemistry, hematology, blood bank, hemostasis, and microbiology. Must have at least one year of Clinical Laboratory experience. Experience in Microbiology is preferred. Weekend and holiday rotation is required. Candidates must be ASCP registered or equivalent. The hospital offers competitive salary and benefits. Application is required and will be mailed upon request. Please send resume to:
Robbi Banks
Director of Human Resource
Scenic Mountain Medical Center
1601 West 11th Place
Big Spring TX, 79720

TRUCK DRIVER Texas Department of Criminal Justice - Manufacturing and Logistics Division has an immediate opening for a Correctional Transportation Officer - Truck Driver position, posting no. 024381DL, located at the Daniel Unit in Snyder, Texas. \$2036.00/Monthly. Successful completion of Texas Department of Criminal Justice's freight transportation road test must be completed before the closing date of the position. The following must be turned in with application: Class A Commercial Driver's License (CDL) with X endorsement, and a current CDL physical certification card issued within the last two years. To Apply: A complete Job Description, Qualifications and Applications are available at www.tdcj.state.tx.us or contact Manufacturing and Logistics Human Resources at 936-437-6531. Submit a State of Texas Application and Driver's Application for Employment to Missy Atchley, TDCJ, Manufacturing and Logistics, PO Box 4013, Huntsville, Texas 77342 (overnight thru UPS, Fed-EX, Airborne - 861 IH 45N, Rm. 112, Huntsville, Texas, 77320; overnight thru the postal service- PO Box 4013), by 3/8/04 AT 5:00PM.

DRIVER EDUCATION Sign up to get your license at the mall. Class starts March 22nd. Register 18th & 19th. Call (432)270-4610. Lic# C1200. Credit Cards Excepted.

FOUND TWO male puppies in Silver Heels. Call 432-263-0122.

Miscellaneous

SOLID WOOD formal dining table, 8 chairs & matching hutch. Must see to appreciate. Too large for retirement home. 263-3543 after 5:00 or weekend.

TWIN BEDS, mattresses & boxsprings, (1) Sealey & (1) Serta. \$75 each. Call 432-6904.

USED COMPUTERS, Pent. 200 mh, Internet ready. Complete, monitor, keyboard, mouse. \$75. and up. Call (432)263-0700

National Ads

******GOV'T POSTAL JOBS****** HIRING 2004!- Up to \$1,047.71 Weekly. FREE Call, Call Now for Interview & Registration Information. Select Areas. 1-800-892-5144 ext. 95, 7 days.

******HIRING 2004****POSTAL JOBS! UP TO \$1,047.71 WEEKLY. FREE CALL! FOR INTERVIEW AND REGISTRATION INFORMATION. SIGN ON BONUS 1ST 100 CALLERS. SELECT AREAS. 1-800-892-5549 EXT. 92, 7 days.**

******HIRING 2004**** U.S. POSTAL JOBS- Up to \$54,481.07+ year. FREE Call for INTERVIEW & Registration Information. Paid training + Benefits, Sign on bonus. Select Areas. 1-800-892-5144 ext. 93, 7 days.**

*****FEDERAL POSTAL Jobs***** To \$43,000/yr. Free Call. No Experience Necessary. Now Hiring. Full Benefits. 1-800-842-1622 Ext. 225

1,000 ENVELOPES = \$5,000.00 Receive \$5 for every envelope stuffed with our sales material. Guaranteed! Free information 24 hour recording. 1-800-423-2089

A \$4,000.00 PLUS per week income potential. Training Provided, No Selling, Call for free 2 minute message. 1-800-881-1540, ext. 1065. Not MLM.

AS SEEN ON TV, \$25,000 FREE Cash Grants! GUARANTEED! 2004! For Personal bills, school, business, etc. \$47 billion dollars unclaimed 2003. Live Operators. 1-800-420-8344 ext. 98

ATTENTION!! ONE Call and you're gone! Up to \$900/wk. C.R. ENGLAND Needs Drivers. Experienced and Inexperienced. Training Available. No Credit Required! Toll Free 1-866-619-6081

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GOVERNMENT JOBS! WILD-LIFE/ POSTAL \$13.51 to \$58.00 per hour. Full Benefits. Paid Training. Call for Application and Exam Information. No Experience Necessary. Toll Free 1-888-269-5550 ext. 100

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Barcelona Apartments "Call For Move-In Specials" All Bills Paid 538 Westover Rd. 263-1252

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

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SUNSET RIDGE APTS 2911 W. HWY 80 432-263-2292

1215 RIDGEROAD. Two bedroom, one bath. \$325. month, \$150.deposit. NO HUD. Call (432)263-1792 or 816-9984.

1504 RUNNELS, 2 Bedroom 2 bath. Fireplace, fenced, carport, laundry room. No pets. Call (432)263-3572

1510 NOLAN 2 Bedroom, 1 bath. Call (432)267-3841 or 270-7309.

1611 DONLEY. 1 Bedroom, 1 bath. Fenced yard. \$245/mo. \$150/dep. Call (432)263-1792 or 816-9984

2004 SCURRY, Newly rmdl, office, CH/A, refrigerator, fenced backyard. Perfect for single/couple. References. \$325/mo, \$275/dpst. Call (432)267-5629

2500 CARLETON, 3 Bedroom, 2 bath. CH/A, fireplace. \$595/mo. + plus deposit. Call (432)263-6997

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

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

906 EAST 12th: 1 Bedroom, shower, range & refrigerator furnished. \$275 month. **1607 Stadium:** 3 Bedroom. \$400 month. Call (432)267-7380

HIGHLAND: 3/2, CH/A. Extra Nice. \$850 + deposit. 3711 Connelly 3/2, CH/A. Very Nice. \$550 + deposit. Both with Fenced yards. Call (432)263-4528 or 296-1523.

NEW OWNERSHIP 1 & 2 Bedroom Apartment homes. Reasonably Priced. Management on site 24/7. **ADVANTUS PLACE APARTMENT.** 3304 W. HWY. 80 Call Sandra, (432)264-7641.

OFFICE/ SHOWROOM. 1800 sq. ft. 1307 B. Gregg St., \$400/month + deposit. Call Westex Auto Parts @ (432)263-5000.

Real Estate for Rent

SPACIOUS, DELIGHTFUL. Extra private 1 bedroom apartment. Utilities paid. \$395. Trees, picnic sit. 1 person. No pets. Non-smoker. Credit Qualify. Call (432)263-1234 agent

Real Estate for Sale

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

5 ACRES Available. Choice spot in South East Big Spring. On paved street. \$25,000 Call (325)949-1998.

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

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

AS IS house for sale. Three Bedroom, one bath, with detached garage. \$8,000. (432)264-1292.

COAHOMA 3 Bedroom, 2 bath Beautiful master bath with walk-in closet, appliances, Handicapped porch. Like new MF Home. Land & Home \$42,000. 803 Atlantic. Call (432)661-5552

FOR SALE BY OWNER, in Kentwood. 4/3, very open floor plan, large shop/garage in rear with carport. \$72,000. Call 816-9168 or 816-9207 for appointment.

FOR SALE: Commercial property High Traffic, Corner Lot, 901 East Third St., Zoned Industrial. \$69,995. Call 800-417-7419

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

NEW CONSTRUCTION Open House. Sat.-Sun. 1-6 pm. or any time by appt. 1306 Marijo. Call (432)520-9848.

Services Offered

CERTIFIED CHILDCARE in my home. Monday-Friday, 6am-6pm. Call for more information (432)264-1252.

HOUSECLEANING AVAILABLE + Shopping. Discounts for Seniors. Call (432)394-4423 or 213-4236.

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

Vehicles

Great Selection of 03's with up to **\$6500 Rebates** BOB BROCK FORD 500 W. 4TH 267-7424

1987 Crown Victoria. 5.0 liter engine, 57k original miles. **\$2500.00.** Call (432)263-6922.

1993 FORD Ranger pickup. Power brakes, steering, no A/C. 25,000 actual miles. \$3500. 1996 Pontiac Grand AM, loaded. \$3500. Call 432-264-0623.

2000 CHEVY Silverado 1/2 ton Pick-up. Reg. cab, short bed, V-6, auto, AM-FM-CD player. White with Charcoal int. 45,500 miles. Asking \$11,000. Call (432)263-1853 or see at 2304 Morrison.

FOR SALE: Low miles all. 1980 Honda CB650 Custom, 1985 Honda CB450 Night-hawk, 1982 Virago 920. \$1,000 each OBO. Call (432)264-0460.

Legals

ADVERTISEMENT FOR PROPOSALS

The Big Spring Independent School District shall receive sealed proposals for the following lines of insurance until 4:00 P.M., March 16, 2004, for the following area:
Property
General Liability
School Professional
Legal Liability

Specifications and proposal documents may be secured from the school district's Business Office, 708 East 11th Place, Big Spring, Texas 79720-4648, phone number (432)264-3620, fax number (432)264-3646. Proposals will be received in the Business Office of the Big Spring Independent School District until the above listed date and time. Proposals received after the above deadline will be returned unopened. Proposals 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 proposals.

#4132 February 25 & March 3, 2004

PUBLIC NOTICE OF TEST OF AUTOMATIC TABULATING EQUIPMENT

Notice is hereby given that the automatic tabulating equipment that will be used in the Special Election to be held March 9th, 2004 will be tested on March 5th, 2004 at 3:00 PM at Howard County Clerk's Office, 300 Main St., Big Spring, Texas, to ascertain that it will accurately count the votes cast for all offices and on all measures. Pat Anderson, Asst. Tabulating Supervisor

AVISO PUBLICO DE PROBAR EL EQUIPO PARA TABULAR AUTOMATICAMENTE

Por lo presente se da aviso que el equipo para tabular automaticamente que se usara en la Special Eleccion que se llevara a cabo el March 9th, 2004 se probara el March 5th, 2004 a las 3:00 PM en Howard County Clerk's Office, 300 Main St., Big Spring, Texas, para determinar si el equipo contara con exactitud los votos para todos los puestos oficiales y sobre todos los proyectos de ley. Pat Anderson, Asst. Tabulating Supervisor #4141 March 3, 2004

Vehicles

Vehicles

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You say you didn't notice until it was too late to do anything about it?
Probably, if you aren't checking the Public Notices columns of this newspaper regularly.
Public Notices are required by state law to protect your rights and to help you function more effectively as a citizen. Access to information about what government agencies are doing is what makes the American the most powerful citizen in the world.
The Public Notices give you access to information you need...about plans for major land use changes...about where roads will go...whose land will be condemned...how your tax dollars will be spent...about court actions that could be important to you, or just plain interesting.
Whether you know them as Public Notices or as "the legals", it pays you to check the Public Notice columns in this newspaper each issue. What you don't know might cost you!

WEDNESDAY

| | WFAA (2) Dallas | KMID (3) Midland | UNI (4) Spanish | KPEJ (5) Odessa | KOSA (7) Odessa | KTLE (8) Telemundo | KWES (9) Midland | WTBS (11) Atlanta | KMLM (12) Odessa | KOCV (13) Odessa | DISC (20) Discovery | AMC (21) Classics | TNT (23) Atlanta | BET (26) Black Ent. | DISN (27) Disney | ESPN2 (28) | ESPN (29) Sports | USA (30) New York | TMC (250) |
|----------|--------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|--|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|---|------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 6:30 PM | News (CC) | News (CC) | Amar Otra Vez | King of the Hill | News | Pasion de Gaviolanes | News Serfied (CC) | Serfied (CC) | Sam Peak | News-Lehrer | The FBI Files (CC) | Saabees (CC) | Law & Order (CC) (DVS) | Live BET com | Sister Sister | Interruption | College Basketball | JAG (CC) | Talk (CC) |
| 7:30 PM | My Wife and Kids (CC) | My Wife and Kids (CC) | Vejo de Nova | 70s Show | 60 Minutes II (CC) | Amor Descarado | The Apprentice (CC) | Serfied (CC) | Update/Israel | Secrets of the Dead (CC) | Monster House (CC) | Movie: The Day the Earth Stood Still | Law & Order (CC) (DVS) | The Parkers | Movie: Brink! | Basketball: Missouat | Georgia Tech at Duke (CC) | Law & Order: Special Victims | Movie: Shiner (CC) |
| 8:30 PM | Stephen King's Kingdom | Stephen King's Kingdom | Bayo la Misma Piel | The O.C. (CC) | King Raymond | El Alma Herida | The West Wing (CC) | Ripley's Believe It or Not! | Light of the Southwest | Great Performances | Death of the USS Arizona | Movie: The War of the Worlds | Law & Order (CC) (DVS) | Misc Special How I'm Living | | Texas Tech NHL Hockey | NBA Basketball | Law & Order: Special Victims | 45 Movie: |
| 9:30 PM | Hospital (CC) | Hospital (CC) | Don Francisco Presenta | 70s Show | CSI Crime Scene Investigator | Mujeres Apononadas | Law & Order (CC) | Movie: On Deadly Ground | The Hour of Healing | Concert for George | Transatlantic Tunnel (CC) | 45 Movie: The War of the Worlds | Movie: The Gift | Comicview | Sister Sister Boy World | Wild at Mighty Ducks or | Lakers at Rockets | Monk (CC) | Changing Lanes (CC) |
| 10:30 PM | News (CC) | News (CC) | Primer Impacto Noticias Univ | 70s Show | News Late Show | Noticias Laura | News The Tonight (CC) | Movie: K-9 | N. McBride | Charlie Rose (CC) | Monster House (CC) | 45 Movie: The Day the Earth Stood Still | Law & Order (CC) (DVS) | Midnight Love | Nightly News How I'm Living | Kim Possible Proud Family | Canucks at Avalanche (CC) | SportsCenter Outside-Lines | Law & Order: Special Victims |
| 11:30 PM | Ent Tonight Jimmy Kimmel | Ent Tonight Jimmy Kimmel | En las Mejores Familias | Becker (CC) | The Late Late Show (CC) | Al Rojo Vivo-Maria Celeste Corte-Familia | News The Tonight (CC) | Update/Israel Joe McGee | Update/Israel Joe McGee | Sigh Off | Death of the USS Arizona | The Day the Earth Stood Still | Law & Order (CC) (DVS) | Comicview | Even Stevens Sister, Sister | NHL 2Night NBA Fastbreak | SportsCenter | The Dead Zone (CC) | Response |
| 12:30 AM | Live (CC) | Live (CC) | Blind Date | Blind Date | Blind Date | Blind Date | Blind Date | Blind Date | Blind Date | Blind Date | Blind Date | Blind Date | Blind Date | Blind Date | Boy World Recess (CC) | Gamenight Wisconsin | SportsCenter (CC) | Nash Bridges (CC) | Movie: Voyeur Beach (CC) |

DENNIS THE MENACE



"I THINK THE TOILET HAS A SORE THROAT... IT WON'T STOP GARGLING."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"Mommy, did you know Grandma gets a check every month for bein' old?"

HAGAR



BLONDIE



BC



WIZARD OF ID



AGNES



HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, March 3, the 63rd day of 2004. There are 303 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On March 3, 1931, "The Star-Spangled Banner" officially became the national anthem of the United States.

On this date:

In 1845, Florida became the 27th state.

In 1849, the U.S. Department of the Interior was established.

In 1849, Congress created the Minnesota Territory.

In 1877, Rutherford B. Hayes took the oath of office as the 19th president of the United States in a private ceremony (a public swearing-in took place two days later).

In 1879, Belva Ann Bennett Lockwood became

the first woman to be admitted to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court.

In 1969, Apollo 9 blasted off from Cape Kennedy on a mission to test the lunar module.

In 1974, nearly 350 people died when a Turkish Airlines DC-10 crashed shortly after takeoff from Orly Airport in Paris.

In 1987, comedian Danny Kaye died in Los Angeles at age 74.

In 1991, in a case that sparked a national outcry, motorist Rodney King was severely beaten by Los Angeles police officers in a scene captured on amateur video.

In 1991, 25 people were killed when a United Airlines Boeing 737-200 crashed while approaching the Colorado Springs airport.

Ten years ago: Amid continuing trade tensions with Japan.

Five years ago: The Supreme Court ruled that public schools had to finance one-on-one nursing care for some disabled stu-

dents throughout the school day.

Today's Birthdays: Actor James Doohan is 84. Lee Radziwill is 71. Actress Hattie Winston is 59. Singer Jennifer Warnes is 57. Actor-director Tim Kazurinsky is 54. Singer-musician Robyn Hitchcock is 51. Actress Miranda Richardson is 46. Actress Mary Page Keller is 43. Olympic track and field gold medalist Jackie Joyner-Kersey is 42. Football player Herschel Walker is 42. Rapper-actor Tone-Loc is 38. Rock musician John Bigham is 35. Actress Julie Bowen is 34.

Answer to previous puzzle

| | | |
|-----------|--------|--------|
| FERN | CHEEK | SIRS |
| IDEA | HURON | IRIS |
| FEATHER | IRONES | NEST |
| END | ANTS | ETUDES |
| AVES APES | | |
| MISLAY | WRAP | FLA |
| ONION | LAI | DEES |
| SPREAD | ONES | SWINGS |
| HUES | ORES | HEDGE |
| ETS | AWED | PATSY |
| GUNN GALS | | |
| ABBOTT | MARE | LAS |
| COME | HOMET | ROOST |
| HOOT | WADED | ARIA |
| ETCH | NOISY | REAR |

Newsday Crossword FARMER'S MARKET by Daniel R. Stark Edited by Stanley Newman

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>ACROSS</p> <p>1 Urban vehicles</p> <p>5 Not working</p> <p>9 Fraudulent schemes</p> <p>14 Jai</p> <p>15 Develop</p> <p>16 Sneak in uninvited</p> <p>17 Aspirin unit</p> <p>18 Garage job</p> <p>19 Composer Carmichael</p> <p>20 Informal farewell</p> <p>23 Aurora's equivalent</p> <p>24 Most senior</p> <p>28 Haunt</p> <p>32 New Age singer</p> <p>34 Fr. holy woman</p> <p>35 Marsh grasses</p> <p>36 Could happen</p> <p>38 Parade feature</p> <p>39 City in a Cole Porter tune</p> <p>40 Monopoly rollers</p> <p>41 Accused's outraged cry</p> <p>43 She may cry "Uncle"</p> <p>44 Dad's hermano</p> <p>45 Sugarcane products</p> <p>46 Urban dwellings</p> <p>47 Main drag</p> <p>49 Olympus dweller</p> <p>50 Rainmaking technique</p> <p>57 Where Pago Pago is</p> <p>60 Excursion</p> | <p>61 Julia in the movies</p> <p>62 Raise in status</p> <p>63 Guitarist Clapton</p> <p>64 Give the eye</p> <p>65 Small laugh</p> <p>66 Fill completely</p> <p>67 Ply a gondola</p> <p>DOWN</p> <p>1 Naval rank: Abbr.</p> <p>2 Et</p> <p>3 Fancy dance</p> <p>4 Window piece</p> <p>5 Ice houses</p> <p>6 Oil barrels</p> <p>7 Timber wolf</p> <p>8 Washstand item</p> <p>9 Erudite one</p> <p>10 Throng</p> <p>11 Road-map org.</p> <p>12 Flavor enhancer letters</p> <p>13 Less than forward</p> <p>21 Dick Tracy's love</p> <p>22 Rolls' auto partner</p> <p>25 Caught sight of</p> <p>26 House's exterior finish</p> <p>27 Portable dwellings</p> <p>28 Planets' courses</p> <p>29 "Get lost!"</p> <p>30 Detection device</p> <p>31 Icelandic saga</p> <p>32 Holds down a job</p> <p>33 Boris' refusal</p> <p>36 Polite address</p> <p>37 Valhalla host</p> <p>39 Mickey Mouse's dog</p> <p>42 Church dignitary</p> <p>43 Central point</p> <p>46 Compel</p> <p>48 Mademoiselle's school</p> <p>49 NASA outfit</p> <p>51 All-purpose trucks</p> <p>52 Copperfield's bride</p> <p>53 Plummet</p> <p>54 Desdemona's enemy</p> <p>55 Empty, in math</p> <p>56 High spirits</p> <p>57 Series of tennis games</p> <p>58 Wood chopper</p> <p>59 ___jongg</p> |
|--|---|