



**BIG
SPRING**

HERALD

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At the Crossroads of West Texas

50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 WEEKEND

**WEEKEND
EDITION**

March 6-7, 2004

WEATHER

Sunday:



SUNDAY 66°-69° **SUNDAY NIGHT** 33°-34°

INSIDE

Life cover



Local dignitaries take a trip to Israel, courtesy of ALON USA.

Page 1B



BRIEFLY

Symphony Chorus

The Big Spring Symphony Chorus will have its first practice Monday at the First United Methodist Church choral room, 400 Scurry St.

Selections to be rehearsed are Aaron Copland's "The Tender Land," "Stop Your Foot" and "The Promise of Living," and George Gershwin's "Porgy and Bess."

Rehearsal will be held from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. every Monday through April 24. For more information about the chorus, call Keith Graumann, artistic director and conductor, at 263-5943, 267-1626 or 213-0645.

INDEX

Business 4-5B

Classified 6-10B

Life 1-3B

Obituaries 2A

Opinion 4A

Sports 10-12A

Vol. 100, No. 92

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



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody
Big Spring Police Sgt. Roger Sweatt, far right, receives an update on an investigation by Child Protective Services about the welfare of at least six children in this home at 1009 Nolan. The Big Spring police were called in to assist CPS after the agency received a call concerning the welfare of the children. At least three children were taken to Scenic Mountain Medical Center Friday for medical care.

Agencies investigating possible neglect of six children at residence

By **LYNDEL MOODY**
Staff Writer

Six children were removed from a Big Spring residence Friday afternoon, several of whom were taken to Scenic Mountain Medical Center to be treated for possible dehydration and malnutrition.

"It doesn't appear like anything is life threatening, but it appears that some of the children needed medical attention," Big Spring Sgt. Roger Sweatt, public information officer, said at the scene. Police were brought in at the request of Children's Protective Services, which had received a call concerning the welfare of children



SWEATT

at 1009 Nolan.

The children appeared to be dehydrated and malnourished and may have bruises, Sweatt said.

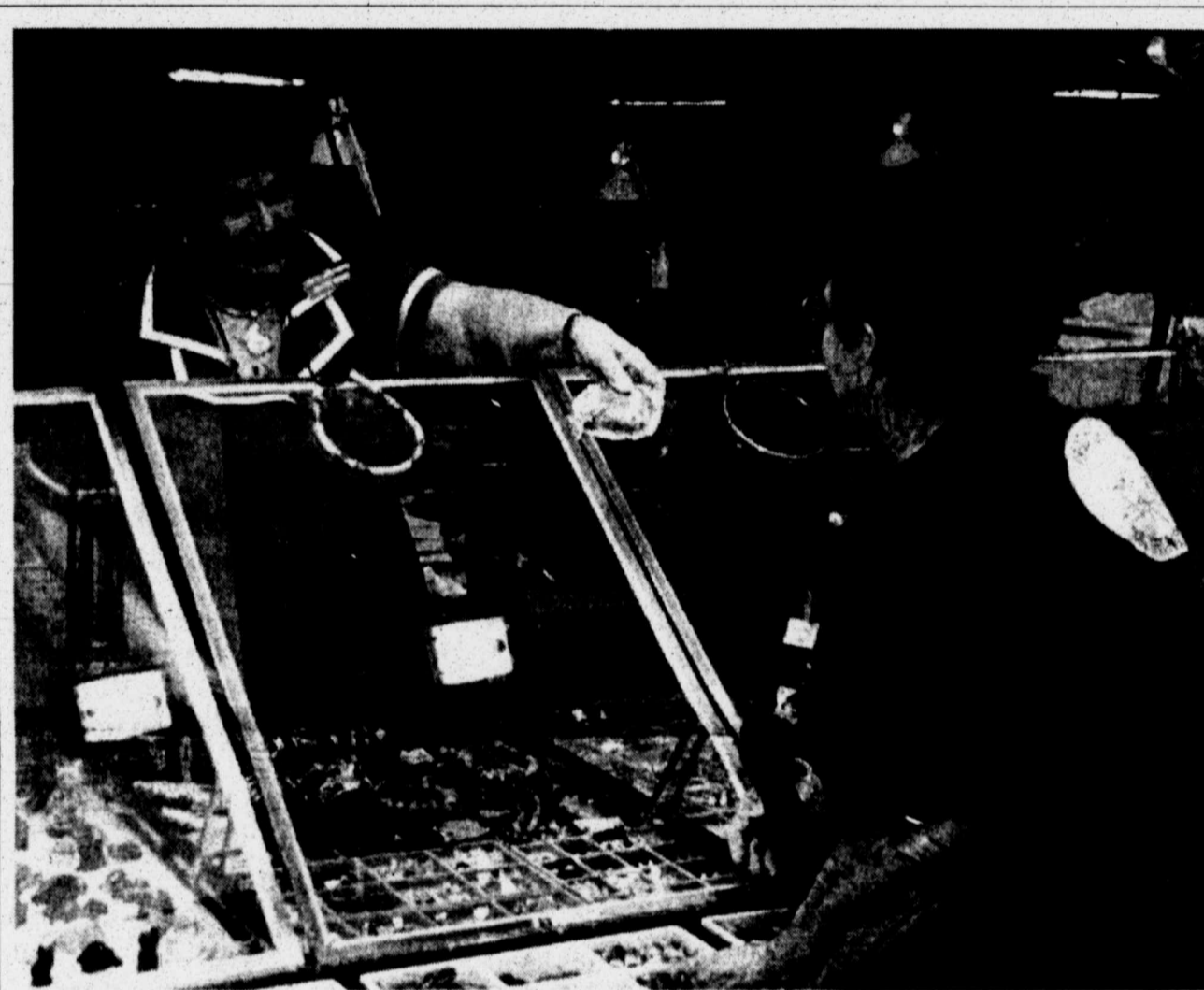
Police Chief Lonnie Smith said the children were taken into custody by CPS, and are being placed in foster care until the situation can be resolved.

"They will remain in CPS custody pending a hearing," said Smith. "The parents of the children were at the home when they were removed. I believe it was three sets of adults." Smith said no arrests have been made at this time.

"We're investigating it as a possible case of neglect," said Smith.

"We're trying to find the owner of the house and find out who all is

See **NEGLECT**, Page 8A



HERALD photo/Thomas Jenkins
Joyce Speed, left, shows off some of her wares to Big Spring Prospector Club member Lola Lamb at the 35th Annual Gem and Mineral Show. Speed, who traveled to Big Spring from Dallas for the show, has been a self-proclaimed "rockhound" for more than 30 years and spends much of her time on the road doing demonstrations and selling an array of stones and supplies. The Gem and Mineral Show will continue Sunday from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. at the Howard County Fair Barns.

Rockin' at the fair barns

Prospector's Gem and Mineral Show going on now

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

More than 30 years after she joined the ranks of her fellow rockhounds, Joyce Speed knows a thing or two about rocks.

Speed is just one of the many vendors at the 35th Annual Gem and Mineral Show, being held at the Howard County Fair Barns. Like so many other rockhounds, found the love of rocks and gems was in her blood from the beginning.

"My parents were rockhounds," said Speed. "I remember when my dad cut open a rock in front of me. That was my first experience as a rockhound. The outside of

the rock looked terrible, but when I saw what was on the inside I was amazed. It was magnificent.

**Show continues from
10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday
at the Howard County
Fair Barns.
Admission is free.**

"The same thing goes for some of the geodes and other rocks that have the beautiful crystals on the inside. If you don't cut them open, you'd never know what kind of beau-

ty was on the inside. That's just one of the joys of being a rockhound."

Speed said she and her husband have been hitting the roads on the weekends, traveling to shows like the Big Spring Gem and Mineral Show, for more than 10 years now, and although the miles can certainly wear thin, she still enjoys it immensely.

"We've been doing shows like this for nearly 10 years now," said Speed. "We've been involved in the hobby for 30 years, and some people just sort of decided we should try selling some things. We were bead makers at the time. We

See **SHOW**, Page 3A

VOTE!

Early ballot numbers nearly even between GOP and Democrats

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

Despite a slow turnout from Republican Primary voters in the first week, the two parties managed to muster a very close turnout as the early voting polls closed Friday in preparation for Tuesday's primary election.

Howard County Clerk Donna Wright said the number of Democratic ballots cast topped the Republican totals

See **VOTE**, Page 3A



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody
Kiwani member A.J. Dean collects a knife and fork after getting a plate of pancakes, sausage and bacon at the organization's annual Pancake Supper Friday night. Members of the community poured into the Howard College cafeteria for the annual event keeping Kiwanis members and members of the organization's high school program, the Key Club, busy throughout the four-hour fund-raiser.

Proclamation on agenda for county commissioners

HERALD staff report

Howard County commissioners are expected to approve a proclamation Monday concerning National Agriculture Week.

The proclamation and routine businesses are all that are on the agenda for the meeting, set for 10 a.m. on the second floor of the

Howard County Courthouse.

County Judge Ben Lockhart is expected to present a proclamation designating March 14 through 20 as National Agriculture Week.

Also on the agenda, County Auditor Jackie Olson will cover invoices and purchase requests for the county.

County Treasurer Teresa Thomas will be present to discuss personnel considerations, the payroll report and a recap of the county employee sick-leave pool.

Sheriff Dale Walker is expected to present the commissioners with a budget amendment to cover medications for his depart-

ment, which includes the jail. County Road Administrator Eddy Jameson will also make a proposal to the court concerning the hiring of a dump truck driver.

County construction administrator Phil Furqueron is expected to go over renovations at the courthouse and county library.



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Obituaries

Geoffrey Zay LeFevre



In loving memory of Geoffrey Zay LeFevre, age 61, who was called to walk with the Lord on March 3, 2004.

Zay was a graduate of Big Spring High School and of George Pepperdine University in Malibu, Calif. Zay earned all state honors in basketball at Big Spring High School and is a member of the Big Spring Hall of Fame.

He has taught and coached all sports at the high school level for 39 years.

He had just been inducted into the Coastal Bend Coaches Hall of Fame and has been nominated for the Texas High School Coaches Hall of Fame for the successful years as a head coach in the area. In 1976, Zay led the Ben Bolt Palito-Blanco Badgers to the state finals in football. He also had four district titles while at Ben Bolt from 1976 through 1979 and two district titles during his second stint from 2001-2003. Zay also coached at other schools in Texas including: Eagle Pass, Crystal City, Premont, Vidor, Balmorhea, New Home, La Pryor, Johnson City, Robert E. Lee in Houston, Bruni, Aransas Pass, and Natalia. Zay will be celebrated as a loving family man and treated student/athletes as part of his own family.

He is survived by his wife, Olga of 35 years; two sons and daughters-in-law, Richard and Kari LeFevre and Jeff and Paula LeFevre all of Harlingen; his daughter and son-in-law, Jennifer and Jimmy Calderon of El Paso, his mother and step-father, Zirah and Edwin Bednar of Big Spring; one who was like a son, George and Judy Gonzalez of Bruni; grandchildren, Loryn Renee Calderon, Chylee Shae and Richard Zay LeFevre; niece, Diana LeFevre of Godfrey, Ill., Michelle Dixon of Searcy, Ariz. and Laura LeFevre of Big Spring; nephew, Hilario Garcia Jr. and wife, Marnie, and Carter David, and several other cousins, nephews and nieces; aunt and uncle, Bonnie and Donnie Tubb of Big Spring; father-in-law and mother-in-law, Henio and Santos Quintanilla of Tilden; brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, Hilario and Minerva Garcia, Robert and Norma Ortiz, and John and Gloria Coward both of Jourdan; sister-in-law, Kay LeFevre of Abilene and Nelda Boyd of Benbrook.

Zay was preceded in death by his father, Richard Creighton LeFevre and two brothers, Wesley Leroy LeFevre and Richard Jay LeFevre. Zay will be buried by his father and two brothers at Mt. Olive Memorial Park in Big Spring.

Funeral services will be held at his childhood congregation at 14th and Main Church of Christ in Big Spring on Saturday, March 6, 2004, at 4 p.m. with Rick Cunningham, minister, officiating with interment following.

The family will receive friends from 6 to 8 p.m. on Friday, at the funeral home.

Pallbearers will be Hilario Garcia, Hilario Garcia Jr., Pete Hornsby, Higinio Garcia, Noe Cadena and George Gonzales.

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

Joyce Estep



Joyce Estep, 86, of Big Spring, died at 10 a.m. Friday, March 5, 2004, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center following a long illness. Funeral services will be at 3 p.m. Sunday, March 7, 2004, at Myers & Smith Chapel with Rev. Walter McCall, Chaplain of Odyssey Hospice, officiating.

She was born Sept. 24, 1917, at Cisco. She was the daughter of Cobb Slaton Van Cleave and Dora Hoover Van Cleave. She had been a resident of Big Spring for

twenty years, coming from Ingram. Mrs. Estep was a Baptist and a homemaker.

She is survived by two daughters, Jean Little of Big Spring and Pat White of Ft. Collins, Colo.; one brother, Lester Van Cleave of Lubbock; seven grandchildren and twelve great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Elon Stewart Estep, Sr.; and one son, Elon Stewart, Jr.

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

Take note

CHRIST'S COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP is requesting donations of any household items, furniture, appliances, linens, cookware and dishes to be distributed to the needy in Big Spring. Items will be picked up. Please call 263-5683 and leave a message.

LIFETIME BIG SPRING resident Mary Lancaster has been diagnosed with cancer, and is in need of several scans that are not covered by her health insurance. Lancaster's family is asking for donations to cover the cost of the scans, which range in the thousands of dollars. Donations can be made at Wood Forest National Bank, located in Wal-Mart, in the name of Mary Lancaster.

Guess Who's 18?
Happy Birthday
Dustin King!!!
Love, Mom & Ronnie

Police blotter

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

• DONALD PAUL MITCHELL, 65, of 1201 E. Third Street, was arrested Friday on city warrants and a Taylor County warrant.

• JACKIE DOYLE RICHEY, 41, of 902 Hunter, was arrested Friday on local traffic warrants.

• PETE ANTHONY ANCHONDO, 63, of 1202 Austin, was arrested Friday on a charge of possession of marijuana in a drug free zone.

• RICHARD FLORES, 50, of 1200 Wood, was arrested Friday on local traffic warrants.

• STEVEN ALLEN SAVELL, 18, of 810 E. 15th Street, was arrested Friday on local traffic warrants and charges of public intoxication and disorderly conduct-fighting.

• STEPHEN KYLE GAY, 19, of Coahoma, was arrested Friday on charges of public intoxication, possession of drug paraphernalia, disorderly conduct-fighting and minor in consumption.

• TONY RAY BINGHAM, 22, of 111 Tubb Loop, was arrested Saturday on a charge of urinating in public.

• JUSTEN TEI VOGEL, 30, of San Marquez, was arrested Saturday on local traffic warrants.

• ASSAULT/FAMILY VIOLENCE was reported in the 500 block of Westover Road.

• THEFT was reported:

- in the 1800 block of Gregg Street.

- in the 300 block of Owens.

- in the 2300 block of Wasson.

- in the 1100 block of Lamesa.

- in the 900 block of Willia.

• POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA-2 OUNCES OR LESS IN A DRUG FREE ZONE was reported in the 700 block of 11th Place.

• CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 1600 block of FM 700.

Sheriff's report

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

• INTOXICATED PERSON near the intersection of South Highway 87 and Driver Road. Arrest was made.

• DRAG RACING was reported in the area of Ramsey Street.

Support groups

SUNDAY

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

MONDAY

□ Surviving Pregnancy Loss meets the second Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Howard County Library Committee Room. Call 631-4430 for more information.

TUESDAY

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

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

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

THURSDAY

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

Weather

Sunday...Windy. Mostly sunny. Highs in the lower 60s. Northwest winds 10 to 15 mph becoming northeast 20 to 30 mph in the late morning and afternoon. Sunday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 30s. Northeast winds 10 to 15 mph until early morning becoming light.

Monday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 60s. Light winds becoming south around 10 mph in the late morning and afternoon.

Monday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 40s.

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

Tuesday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 40s.

Wednesday...Partly cloudy. Highs around 70.

Wednesday night...Partly cloudy. A 20 percent chance of showers. Lows in the mid 40s.

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

Thursday night...Mostly cloudy. A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the mid 40s.

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

Bulletin board

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

MONDAY

• Big Spring Commandery No. 31 meets at 7:30 p.m. at the Masonic Temple at 221 1/2 Main St. Dinner begins at 6:30 p.m.

• Big Spring Assembly No. 221 Social Order of Beauceant meets at 7:30 p.m. in the Masonic Temple at 221 1/2 Main St. Dinner begins at 6:30 p.m.

• Big Spring Band Boosters meet at 5:30 p.m. in the Big Spring High School band hall.

• Archeology Society for Howard and Borden counties meets at 7 p.m. in the Howard County Library Community Room in the basement. Call 270-2615 for more information.

• Coahoma Lions Club meets at 6 p.m. in the Coahoma Community Center at 306 North Ave.

• Senior Circle meets at 4 p.m. at Scenic Mountain Medical Center for Sit and Be Fit Chair Aerobics. Those 50 years and older are invited to attend.

• Evening Lions Club meets at 6:30 p.m. in the La Posada Restaurant.

• Hangar 25 Air Museum is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., on Saturday from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. and on Sunday from 1:30-4 p.m.

TUESDAY

• Intermediate Line dance classes begin at 9 a.m. in the Senior Citizens Center. 267-1628.

• Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

• A Stitchin' Time Club meets at 3:30 p.m. at Primitive Baptist Church, 201 E. 24th St. Everyone is invited to learn and share sewing skills, and portable sewing machines are welcome. Call Kay Sikes at 394-4835 for more information.

WEDNESDAY

• Eagles Lodge Ladies Auxiliary meets at 7 p.m. in the Eagles Lodge at 703 W. Third.

• Line dancing begins at 1 p.m. in the Senior Citizen Center at the Industrial Park.

• Duplicate Bridge Club meets at 1 p.m. in the Big Spring Country Club.

• Optimist Club meets at 7 a.m. in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

• Downtown Lions Club meets at noon at the Howard College cactus room.

• Senior Circle meets at 10 a.m. at Scenic Mountain Medical Center classroom for Stretch and Tone.

THURSDAY

• "Life After Loss," a grief support group for those who have experienced the death of a loved one, meets from 6-8 p.m. for the next six weeks at Home Hospice, 600 S. Gregg St. Registration is required, and the group will close registration after March 11. For more information contact Sherry Hodnett at 264-7599.

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

• Friends of the Library meets at noon in the Howard County Library, 500 S. Main. The group does not meet in June, July or August.

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

• Big Spring Main Street meets at noon in the Railroad Museum located at Second and Main streets.

• Neighbors and Newcomers Club meets. New members are welcome. Call 263-2005 for more information.

• Masonic Lodge 598 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 219 Main St.

Lottery

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Friday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 3-4-6-19-20.

Number matching five of five: 1.

Prize per winner: \$46,306.

Winning tickets sold in: Dallas.

Next Cash 5 drawing: Saturday night.

Results of the Texas Two Step drawing Friday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 14-15-21-28. Bonus Ball: 25.

Number matching four of four, plus Bonus Ball: 0.

Prize: 600,000.

Estimated jackpot for Tuesday night drawing: \$725,000.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Friday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 5-9-0

The winning Mega Millions numbers drawn Friday night: 30-40-47-49-52 Mega Ball = 3

BIG SPRING HERALD

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

Published afternoons Monday through Friday and Sunday mornings, except Christmas Day. All materials copyrighted. Postmaster: Send address changes to Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, Texas 79721. Periodicals postage paid at Big Spring, Texas.

USPS 1431-46 USPS 0055-940 ISSN 0746-6811
BY THE MONTH HOME DELIVERY: Evenings and Sunday, \$8.65 monthly; \$93.42 yearly (includes 10% discount for yearly).

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

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HENRY BACKES

SHOW

Continued from Page 1A

got our start at a gem show in Jackson, Miss., mainly doing demonstrations of bead making. It's just evolved from there into what we have today.

"It's a lot of fun because most people have never seen this type of thing done. We make the enamel glass on copper beads and we make some jewelry.

"Our business has grown and we're

doing 25 shows a year just on the weekends, so that doesn't leave us a lot of time to make our own things. So most of these come from Tucson, Ariz., or some of the other big markets and dealers."

For Speed, being involved in the world of rocks and gems is part of a family tradition she cherishes.

"My parents were in it back starting in 1956," she said. "They were in the Arlington Gem and Mineral Club, and that's my home club. I've been the president of the South-Central Federation, which the Big Spring Prospector's Club

is a part of. I'm also currently part of the American Federation of Mineral Societies.

"We've just enjoyed the people that we've met, which includes rockhounds in fields similar to ours. They're just wonderful people and we've made friends from all over the United States through this."

Speed said what makes rockhounds so special isn't just their love of the hobby, but the willingness to share it with the public.

"They're down to earth, and that's a

serious pun," she laughed. "They're honest people and they love the land. They protect the land and just enjoy being able to show the people that don't have any knowledge what's going on in this part of the world-the minerals and beauty that's in the earth to enjoy.

"It delights us to hear people come by our booth and other places and tell us they never knew this type of thing existed. That's a big part of the fun for us."

The Gem and Mineral Show will continue Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is free.

VOTE

Continued from Page 1A

every day of early voting until the last three days of balloting.

"The Democratic voters turned in higher numbers everyday except the last three," said Wright. "The Republican party had quite a last-minute run this primary."

Wright said 1,612 ballots were cast in the primaries, only 154 votes short of early voting totals posted during the 2000 party primaries. Although the total number of ballots cast is fairly

close, the number voting in each party's race is not.

"In the 2000 election we had 1,494 ballots cast in the Republican Primary, and 272 cast in the Democratic race," she explained. "This year we have 812 votes in the Republican race, and 800 ballots cast on the Democratic ticket. That's a pretty big shift from one election to the next."

While the Republican party suffered a 682 vote deficit compared to 2000, the Democratic party saw a 528 upswing in early voting. Wright said there

have been several theories tossed around as to the reason for the sudden shift from the Republican Primary to the Democratic, but no solid answer is readily available.

"I've heard some people say it's because of the sheriff's race," said Wright. "They think that race is why we're seeing the shift, especially since the sheriff's race was on the Republican ballot in 2000.

"In the end, I don't think anyone can really

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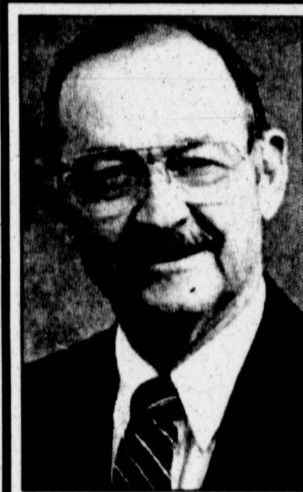
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*Pass Restricted

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*Hidalgo (PG-13)
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*Twisted (R)
Daily: 4:20 & 10:00
Miracle (PG)
Daily: 1:30 & 7:10
*Starsky & Hutch (PG-13)
Daily: 1:40, 4:30, 7:20 & 9:40
50 First Dates (PG-13)
Daily: 1:50, 4:40, 7:30 & 9:30
ADULTS: \$6.00
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DRAMA QUEEN (PG)
Fri., Sat., Sun.: 2:15 7:15
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MOOSEPORT (PG-13)
Fri., Sat., Sun.: 4:20 9:15
We Will Be Open All
During Spring Break!!
TUESDAYS: DOLLAR DAY
THURSDAYS: 2 FOR 1



RE-ELECT
W. B. (BILL) CROOKER

COUNTY
COMMISSIONER
PRECINCT 3



Republican Primary is March 9, 2004.

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.

Approved and paid for by W. B. (Bill) Crooker, Treasurer

SCENIC MOUNTAIN
MEDICAL CENTER

Presents

HEALTH FEST 2004

SATURDAY MARCH 20, 9 AM - 2 PM

Ground Floor of Scenic Mountain Medical Center & Malone Hogan Clinic



A Day Of Fun, Food & Entertainment

Open House For Alfonso Preciado, M.D.

Board Certified In General Surgery

SCREENING TESTS

COUPON

GOOD FOR MARCH 20, 2004

Table listing screening tests and their costs: Comprehensive Metabolic Panel (\$14.99), Complete Blood Count (CBC) (\$10.99), Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA) (\$25.99), Total Thyroxine (TU) (\$9.99), Thyroid Stimulating Hormone (TSH) (\$23.99), Lipid Profile (\$18.99), Hemoglobin A1C (\$13.99)

Cash, Check or Credit Card
INSURANCE NOT ACCEPTED

BOOTHS

- General Surgery, Pediatrics, Laboratory, Family Medical Center, Urology, Rehabilitation, Senior Circle, Labor & Delivery, Radiology, Emergency Care, Cardiology, Nutrition, Pediatric Dental Surgery

VENDORS

- Tri Care Medical, Mountain View Nursing Home, Relay For Life, 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 Aired 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.

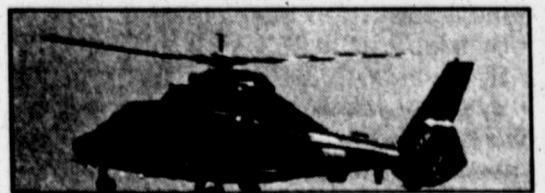
Health Screening

- 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



Contest

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

HEALTH INFORMATION

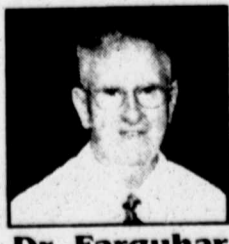
- Kid's Rides, Games, Food, Entertainment, Drawings, Free Prizes, Petting Zoo



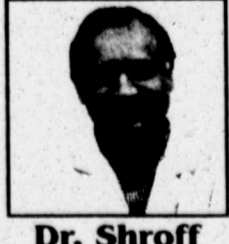
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Dr. Haddad



Dr. Farquhar



Dr. Shroff

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

CARES study
not the end of
VA Hospital

Just what Big Spring and its VA Medical Center can now expect from Department of Veterans Affairs Secretary Anthony Principi and his take on the Capital Asset Realignment for Enhanced Services (CARES) Commission final recommendation on a plan to realign VA health care services is anyone's guess.

When it was learned that the CARES Commission's final recommendation to Principi called for a study of the Big Spring facility, with an eye toward the possible closure of the VA Medical Center here, many, it seemed, expressed defeatist dismay.

In the days since, however, it has become clear the Big Spring VA Hospital's fate is anything but sealed.

Last week, Principi faced a formidable contingent of Texas lawmakers from both sides of the aisle — U.S. Sens. Kay Bailey Hutchison and John Cornyn, Republican Congressmen Randy Neugebauer and Henry Bonilla and Democratic Congressmen Chet Edwards and Charles Stenholm — suggesting that much of the CARES Commission report contained flawed reasoning.

All of those lawmakers emerged from the meeting confident Principi had developed a better understanding of the Big Spring VA Hospital's geographic value and of the quality of care it provides West Texas veterans.

That does not, however, mean that we as citizens of Big Spring can afford to rest on our laurels and be confident that the VA Hospital and its 500-plus jobs is safe from closure.

Mayor Russ McEwen made that clear in his "State of the City" address last Tuesday.

McEwen said he was optimistic the hospital will prove its mission is worthwhile if a feasibility study is approved, but he made it clear that after meeting with Bill Cox, the VAMC interim director, that we do have problems which have to be overcome.

However, McEwen also noted that there is one thing we can all do on that front by working with veterans to make sure that they are signed up as recipients of care at the hospital.

Therefore, if you are a veteran and not registered as being served by the VA Medical Center, please remedy that immediately.

Obviously, none of us must never take for granted the importance of the VA Hospital, least of all our area's veterans.

LETTER POLICIES

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

A SMALL PRAYER

By K. Rae Anderson

Whatever we plan to do today, Lord, may it include
you. Amen

Radio garbage degrading our culture

The culture war came home in a very personal way this week when I innocently gave my granddaughter her first radio. It never occurred to me that I was doing anything subversive, until I saw the look on her father's face when she came running up the porch brandishing her new gift. "Look, Daddy," she said, holding the tiny, red transistor in her hands, "it even has earphones."

The radio was one of those logo-bearing giveaways I'd picked up at a talk-show convention where I'd been broadcasting my own daily radio show earlier in the week. Rather than tossing it in a drawer, I'd passed it on to my 7-year-old granddaughter, thinking she'd enjoy listening to her own music when the family went on outings.

I remember getting my own radio for my 9th birthday, a pink plastic job powered by four "D" batteries that weighed at least five pounds, despite being billed as "portable." I discovered classical music on my own thanks to that radio, tuning in to Denver's one classical station each night before I went to sleep. But that was the 1950s, when the cultural terrain was far different than today.

I should have known better than to try to give my granddaughter the same experience.

So much of what comes over the public airwaves these days is unsuitable for children that it is simply dangerous to give a child his or her own radio or television.



LINDA CHAVEZ

Tune in to Howard Stern by accident and you'll hear every manner of sexual perversion discussed. Tune in to a rap station and you'll hear not only sex but also glorified violence and misogyny. In fact, it's almost impossible not to hear something objectionable if you move up or down the AM and FM dials, even during the early morning hours or after school.

Those who'd like to keep the filth on the air claim that cleaning up the airwaves infringes on the First Amendment rights of all Americans. Howard Stern, Opie and Anthony (who broadcast descriptions of an actual couple having sex in New York's St. Patrick's cathedral as part of an on-air contest), Bubba the Love Sponge, and all the other shock-jocks out there aren't forcing you to listen, after all.

That's like saying that the company that dumps raw sewage into the reservoir isn't forcing you to drink polluted water. These programs are toxic; they have degraded our culture and threaten the well being of an entire generation of young people. And so pervasive is their influence that there is almost no way to shelter the young entirely.

Even when parents try to protect their children, they can't do so 24 hours a day. What happens when the kids are at school or playing at friends' houses? What happens when they're in the back seat of the family station wagon stopped at a red light and the guy in the next car is blaring Fifty Cent or the Greaseman?

Children are bombarded on a daily basis by disturbing and overtly sexualized images in omnipresent advertising. You

can't watch the evening news without advertisements for erectile dysfunction, or walk into a mall without lewd images from Victoria's Secret or Abercrombie and Fitch leaping out at you from every turn.

Last week, Clear Channel, the nation's largest radio network, suspended Howard Stern's show just in time for its CEO to testify before Congress about the company's new zero tolerance policy on indecency. Perhaps these companies are finally getting the message.

Sure there's an audience for trash — and if adults want to buy this smut, the Supreme Court has ruled they have that right. But why not force those who want to buy obscene and indecent products to be the ones inconvenienced rather than the rest of us? With all the various methods of delivering images and sounds, why use the public airwaves to present the likes of Howard Stern? You've always been able to buy pornography, only it used to be sold under the counter and in brown wrapping paper, it didn't come into your home uninvited.

Maybe if we put the onus on those who want this garbage by insisting it be available only through direct purchase and not on the public airwaves, it would be safe again to give a child a simple radio.

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

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YOUR VIEWS

TO THE EDITOR:

My husband and I depend on the West Texas VA Healthcare System for his medical care like many couples in this area. But more than our own needs, we both care about the economic stability and the future of Big Spring. We both feel that loss of the VA Hospital would be devastating.

I want to request that all of the veterans in this area go to the VA and enroll if you have not already done so. You can do this on-line, or request an application by mail, or go out there in person. This is the most powerful way you can help, because the VA is funded according to its number of individual patients.

You do not have to have served during a war or have been in combat. Your income may be too much per year for you to have coverage, according to the current eligibility rules, but your show of support can still be counted.

It is not common knowledge, but the employees at the VA cannot advertise or market for patients. So please, if you are a veteran, take action yourself and call 263-7361 and ask for extension 4811 (the eligibility clerk). The staff will assist you and explain how you can help VA and help yourself.

COL. SAM H. AND DOROTHY BARROW
BIG SPRING

TO THE EDITOR:

With another season of the Big Spring Youth Basketball League in the locker I would like to take this time to thank everyone involved for another successful season. We have played 344 games over the last eight weeks and to all the players, all 700 of you, both boys and girls alike, from all around our area, thank you for the level of competition showed in all the games. Although competition is a part of any athletic endeavor, I would, more importantly, like to thank you for having fun.

To the parents of all these children, thanks for getting them to the games and practices and thank you for showing the concern in your child's interest that is oh so lacking in the world today. The coaches of these kids deserve special thanks for volunteering their time, knowledge and patience throughout the season. Without you we could not have these teams. You took time away from your families to help these children learn about and from the game of basketball.

The age group coordinators this

year really made my job easier by planning the game schedules, taking care of the team drafts and handling a lot of the day to day issues of the league. Special thanks go to Paige Prater, Cheryl Tannehill, Wes Galloway, Jeff Brorman, Luke Yarbar, Stan Parker and Robert Smith for filling these positions so successfully.

In any game, you have to have someone to enforce the rules of the game and the group of 30 individuals that composed our referee pool this year did a fantastic job. They ranged in age from 16 to adult but all handled themselves with professionalism and kept control of the games despite all the "help" they got from the people in the stands sometimes. Space keeps me from listing all your names here but you know who you are and know you have my thanks for your help this year.

Thanks to Big Spring I.S.D., Trinity Baptist Church, First Church of the Nazarene and the Y.M.C.A. for the use of your facilities to hold our games. The ladies who run the office at the Y.M.C.A. deserve a special pat on the back this year for fielding all the questions, answering the phones and maintaining patience will all the people who came in the Y.M.C.A. with them. Thanks Maggie, Jeannie and Tami.

Last but not least, I would like to thank the BSYBL Board. These men started the season before everyone else doing the planning that has led to a successful season for all involved. Rick Watkins, Tim Green, Mike Richey, Pete Thiry and Michael Willard all have regular day jobs but chose to contribute the time to make this basketball league a success and I thank them for their work and support during the season.

As you can see it is not one individual that made the BSYBL successful. Just like the court it was a team effort of many individuals. Thank you all one more time for another successful season.

BARRY C. BARNETT
LEAGUE ADMINISTRATOR
BIG SPRING YOUTH BASKETBALL LEAGUE

TO THE EDITOR:

United Blood Services would like to extend our sincerest thanks to Kathy Lusk and the Big Spring Mall for hosting such a successful blood drive on Feb. 21.

Lusk did a wonderful job of advertising the need for blood and the residents of Big Spring rolled up their sleeves to help. This blood

came at a very crucial time since the usage in our area increased due to the multi-car accident that occurred as a result of the bad weather a few days earlier.

You never know when you or a loved one may need blood, so it needs to be available at all times. We can count on an adequate blood supply thanks to the wonderful people of Big Spring and the Big Spring Mall who care enough to support our efforts.

On behalf of the patients who will benefit from your generosity, we thank Kathy Lusk, the Big Spring Mall and all of the blood donors, for being a part of our community lifeline.

LEE HARTMANN
ASSOCIATE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
UNITED BLOOD SERVICES

TO THE EDITOR:

As I'm sure everyone in Big Spring knows, March 2, was Dr. Seuss' 100th birthday. The Howard County Library presented a puppet show with guest readers and it was a huge success.

At this time I need to thank some truly wonderful people. A great big thank you to The Friends of the Library that provided the funds for the refreshments, and especially to Ruth Ann McKay who helped serve. Also thanks to Gloria Hopkins for the bookmarks and posters.

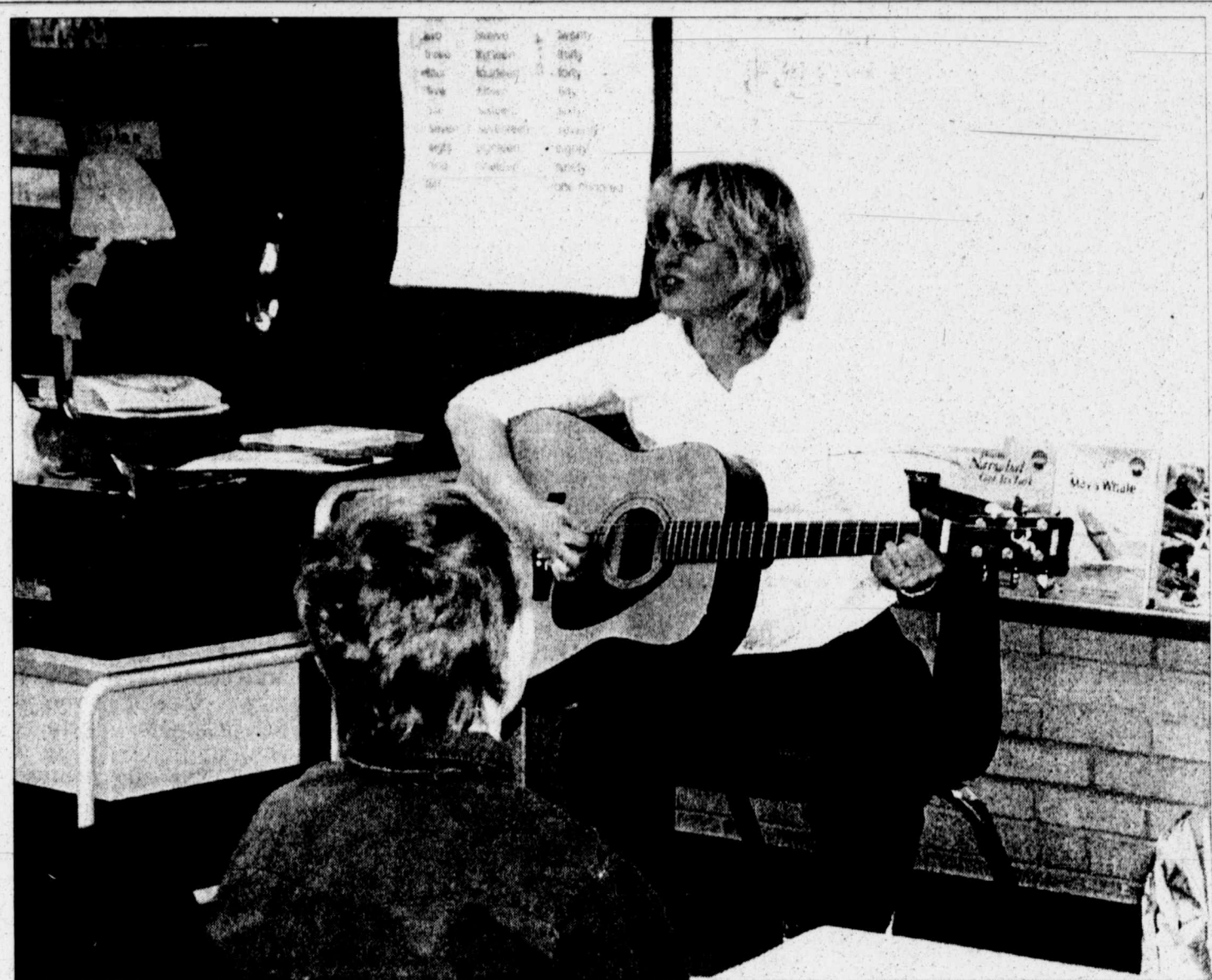
Thanking the readers could take all day! As always, they were terrific! We had three new readers this year: Mayor Russ McEwen, Rob Haney and Kathy Caudill. From Green Eggs and Ham being served to Mr. Brown's noises they were a big hit. To the two returning readers, Lisa Brooks and Sheriff Dale Walker, thank you all for your time and commitment to the children of Big Spring.

Thanks to fellow co-worker Tammy Ochoa and her son, Eric. And last, but not least, a thank you to Theodore the puppet and the man behind him, my patient and long-suffering husband, John. He has made Theo a favorite of all the library patrons.

Parents give yourselves a pat on the back: you took the time to bring your children and you showed them how important you think reading is.

A very special thanks to Lyndel Moody and the Big Spring Herald for always getting the word out and giving us super coverage on the day of the event.

KAREN MCINTYRE
CHILDREN'S LIBRARIAN



Kentwood Elementary School third grade teacher Brenda Dunlap croons for the crowd of students and parents during the school's cook-out on Friday afternoon. More than 400 students, parents and community members attended the 90-minute event which was held during Texas Public Schools Week.

HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

Council, students, sponsor receive accolades

HERALD Staff Report

Brandon Hughes, Stephanie Franco and Big Spring High School Student Council sponsor Sharion Richardson topped a large list of accolades presented by the Texas Association of Student Councils District 8.

Hughes, BSHS Student Council president, was named the Outstanding Student Council Boy for District 8 at the spring conference, held Tuesday in Odessa.

Long-time sponsor Richardson was named the District 8 Advisor of the Year and Franco, student council recording secretary, received a \$500 scholarship.

These awards were just the tip of honors the BSHS Student Council raked in at the conference.

The organization was named Outstanding Student Council; Outstanding Drugs, Alcohol, Safety and Health School; Outstanding Energy

School and Outstanding Pride and Patriotism School.

The BSHS Student Council will receive recognition for its achievements at the state conference in April.

Members of the council attending the conference were Alex Watkins, vice president; Coley Hollandsworth, parliamentarian; Gaby Sifuentes, historian; Hughes; and Franco.

Also attending were Kelsey Battle, Jackie Bowen, Denielle Burns, Deanna Carlisle, Becky Cheyne, Caylie Dunnam, Ashton Evans, Scott Fankhauser, Anthony Fuentes, Jana Giles, Brandon Herrera, Mallory Kennedy and Porsche Knowlton.

Also, Becky Murphree, Jessi New, Jacob Nichols, Brenna Phernetton, Ashley Phinney, Kyle Piercefield, Courtney Rodriguez, Nick Ross, Brittany Salazar, Matthew Soto, Alex Urias and Whitney Weir attended the event.

Fourteen Big Spring

Junior High School representatives, along with their sponsor Glenda Wallace Fuentes, accompanied the high school group to the conference.

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Locals to perform with Lubbock Symphony Orchestra on Sunday

HERALD Staff Report

Big Spring musicians Mark Lozono, Melody McDaniel, Kyle McDaniel and the members of the Lubbock Youth Symphony Orchestra (LYSO) program will wrap up their season Sunday with a spring concert.

The concert begins at 3 p.m. in the Lubbock Memorial Civic Center Theater. Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$6 for students and senior citizens and can be purchased at the door.

Dr. Eric Fried will direct the performance of the Symphony Orchestra which will play a rendition of "Danzas Fantasticas" by Joaquin Turina and "Symphony No. 4 Finale" by Tchaikovsky.

The Concert Orchestra, under the direction of Dr. Bruce Wood, will perform "Hungarian Air and Dance," arranged by Elliot Borgo; "Hopak," by Merle Isaac; "Spirit of the Pioneer," by Susan Christiansen; and "Centennial Overture," by William Hofeldt.

Margaret Brown Johnson will lead the String Orchestra in performances of "Dona Nobis Pacem," traditionally arranged by Elliot Del Borgo; "Irish Tune From

County Derry," traditionally arranged by Anthony Maiello; and "Arabic Dance," arrangement by Kenneth Sarch.

The evening also includes a solo performance by violinist Brandon Wells, a Lubbock High School senior.

Auditions for the LYSO more advanced orchestras are held in April and May. For more information about the program, contact Program Director Gala Green at 806-762-0460 or by e-mail at gggreen@lubbocksymphony.org

LYSO is a project of the Lubbock Symphony Orchestra and is supported by the Lubbock Symphony Guild.

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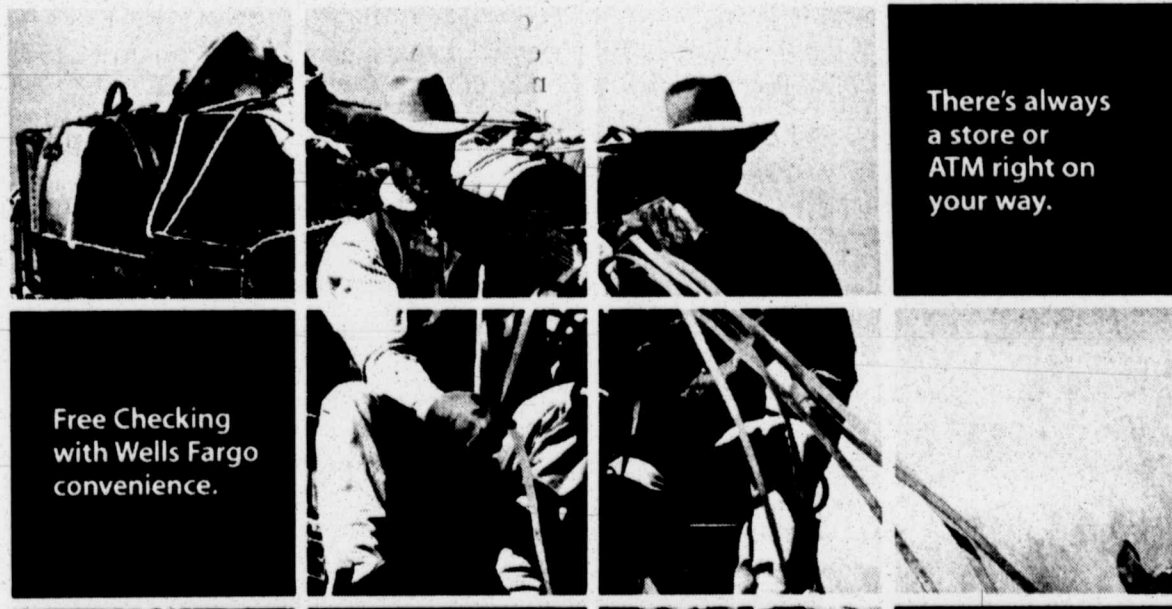
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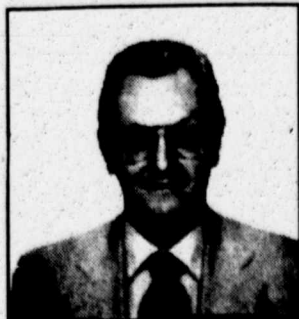
GOSPEL MEETING

MARCH 14-17

Sand Springs Church of Christ
105 Spring Creek Road

Theme:
"Marching for the Master"

Speaker:
Jerry Yarbrough, Minister



Sermon Topics will be as follows:

Sunday, 10:45 a.m.
"The LEADER: Who is Leading The Army In This War?"

Sunday, 7 p.m.
"The WAR: What Kind Of War Are We Fighting?"

Monday, 7 p.m.
"The ENEMY: Who Are We Fighting?"

Tuesday, 7 p.m.
"The ARMY: Who is To Do The Fighting?"

Wednesday, 7 p.m.
"The VICTORY: How is This War Going To End?"

Congregational singing will be held from 6:30 to 7 p.m. each evening.

A covered dish fellowship meal will be served at noon March 14, after the Sunday morning service.

'World of Warcraft'

Developer enters a new world of multiplayer games



KRT photo/Michael Goulding/Orange County Register
Rob Pardo is senior vice president of game design at Blizzard Entertainment of Irvine, Calif. He is also the lead designer for the new "World of Warcraft" game.

By TAMARA CHUANG
The Orange County Register

IRVINE, Calif. — In the secret world of Azeroth, Hiorc the Orc roams the land trying to make a decent living as a warrior. The ghostly, green female orc is not above killing a few mottled boars for pelts and other goodies.

She's part of a fantasy game land, "World of Warcraft," set in a period akin to the Middle Earth of J.R.R. Tolkien. The game sprang out of the creative minds at Irvine-based Blizzard Entertainment, one of the most successful computer game developers in the world.

"World of Warcraft" is Blizzard's first attempt at a massively multi-player online game, or MMOG, an online gaming genre ruled by titles such as "EverQuest" and "Lineage."

Fans are already eagerly awaiting its summer launch, and some 400,000 people volunteered last month to test the new game before its public debut.

Blizzard plans to offer gamers a world where characters have occupations, buy and trade goods, eat and sleep. It's a world where hundreds, even thousands of gamers can play one other at the same time.

"We have a whole trade program, which feeds the (Azeroth) economy," explained Jeff Kaplan, associate designer as he demonstrated "World of Warcraft." "There's a ton of other stuff you can do

in the game if you don't want to just kill."

To make sure this imaginary land looks like a thriving medieval metropolis and to find any remaining technological kinks, Blizzard needed thousands of beta testers, people who will try out the new game before it goes on sale. Based on comments from users, programmers can

fix character flaws, add new quests and ensure that every acre in Azeroth is in good working order.

"We need to test how well the hardware is holding up and how well the world zones hold up," Kaplan said.

The meaning of Massive MMOGs are more than just an online game that pits one player against another or against a computer. Players pay a monthly fee to immerse themselves in a strange Internet land filled with hundreds, even thousands of other players. Such games have become a lifestyle for some, including followers of "The Sims Online," where gamers live life, make friends, buy clothes and go to work. For others, MMOGs are a way to surround themselves in a genre they love, from the Middle Ages of "Dark Side of Camelot" to the sci-fi theatrics of "Star Wars Galaxies."

"World of Warcraft" has been in development for four years, with 60 full-time Blizzard designers and engineers working on the game. Including folks who added their cinematic prowess, sound expertise and other administrative duties, some 500 people have lent a hand in the game's development.

Blizzard must whittle its pool of 400,000 applicants down to 10,000 beta testers. The company will look for players with a variety of computer systems, processors, graphics cards and online access, as well as

players from different regions.

"Most games don't even sell 100,000," said Rob Pardo, senior vice president of game design.

Beta testers get the thrill of playing the game before everyone else, and their suggestions help the development of the game, said Kaplan, who had the enviable job of inventing missions for players, designing dungeons and adding elements such as the slithering snakes in the caves.

Blizzard plans to support thousands of players, with multiple computer servers handling all the online traffic. Each server can support 2,000 to 3,000 players.

"One of the key elements (of an MMOG) is

we need massive amounts of people to play because they contribute to the local economy," Kaplan said. "Our world is massive."

No kidding. The world has 60 zones, which are like cities. To get from one zone to another takes time. For example, when Hiorc the Orc travels to the land of Orgrimmar, she licks out and finds a winged lion offering a taxi service. It takes her a few minutes by air. By foot, it would have taken her a half hour, Kaplan said.

"At the same time, we didn't want to make it too big so that it seemed sparse," Kaplan said. "The social experience is what keeps people coming back."

Game companies are embracing this type of massively multi-player world for a good reason — money. "EverQuest" from Sony Online, which charges around \$13 a month for access, is one of the most popular MMOG sites, with 430,000 subscribers. Blizzard has-

n't determined how much it will charge.

Worldwide revenues for online gaming are expected to jump to \$1.3 billion this year, up from \$960 million last year, according to The Themis Group, a market researcher in Connecticut. By 2008, revenues are projected to reach \$4.1 billion.

Despite such growth, some are worried. Gamers can spend hours at a time playing MMOGs. And with more games in development — at least five are set to launch this year, including "EverQuest II" — competition for players is fierce.

"If you talk to people in the industry and at the game developer's conference, there's a concern that there are too many games here and they are cannibalizing the market," said Dave "Fargo" Kosak, executive editor of Irvine-based GameSpy.com, a Web portal for the gaming community.

Some MMOGs have already felt the pain. "Motor City Online," an

MMOG from Electronic Arts that let players build and race cars, shut down in August.

Cyan Worlds unplugged its "Myst"-inspired "URU Live" game Wednesday because it didn't attract enough subscribers to pay for administering the site.

That said, the industry feels Blizzard's new game has a better chance at success because the "Warcraft" series has a massive following as a regular computer game and many of its players might not be regular MMOGers, said Richard Ow, an industry analyst with The NPD Group market-research firm.

"Warcraft" as a brand is very popular and strategy games are one of the strongest genres of games," Ow said. "Warcraft" (compared to other MMOGs) is different dollars."

Added Kosak, "World of Warcraft" is probably one of the most eagerly anticipated MMOGs among gamers. The ("Warcraft") franchise is really strong. The developer has a great reputation."

Worldwide revenues for online gaming are expected to jump to \$1.3 billion this year, up from \$960 million last year.

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Mr. Barraza values the on-the-job training employees receive at the refinery because it's an opportunity to hone their skills and become seasoned professionals in their chosen craft. The refinery has been applauded for its efforts to train and retrain employees, making it one of the top employers in the Permian Basin, as named by the Texas Workforce Commission in 2003.

Employees, like Barraza, agree that the refinery is much more than a workplace. The plant is part of the very fabric of the Big Spring community because it's been intricately woven into our rich West Texas history for the past 75 years. Today, more than ever, it's evident in our ongoing dedication to our customers, to our Big Spring community — and to you.

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New nickels commemorate the 1803 Louisiana Purchase

By JEANNINE AVERSA

The Associated Press
WASHINGTON — New nickels honoring the 1803 Louisiana Purchase will soon be clinking in cash registers and jangling in pockets.

It's the first makeover for the five-cent piece in 66 years.

The back of the new coins look different, while the front looks the same, retaining the image of Thomas Jefferson, third president of the United States.

Millions of the new nickels have been shipped to the Federal Reserve, supplier of the nation's cash. They should start showing up in change in several weeks, say officials of the U.S. Mint.

On the back of the new nickels, Jefferson's home, Monticello, is replaced with a scene that commemorates the Louisiana Purchase.

The back of the new nickels now headed into circulation bear the words "United States of America," "Louisiana Purchase" and "1803." There is an image of hands clasped in friendship — one with a military cuff to symbolize the U.S. government, and the other with an ornate bracelet to represent American Indians.

Above the clasped hands is a tomahawk crossed by a peace pipe. The images are similar to those on Jefferson Peace



The new nickels should be making their way into the scene in the next few weeks.

Medals, which were presented ceremonially to Indian chiefs and other important leaders. Below the clasped hands are the Latin words "E Pluribus Unum" (meaning "Out of many, one"), and hugging the bottom of the coin is the denomination: "Five Cents."

Approximately 900 million of these new nickels have been made.

Another nickel honoring the 1804-1806 Lewis and Clark expedition will be released in the late

summer or early fall, Mint officials say.

The new nickels are part of the Mint's new Westward Journey Nickel Series. The design of the old nickels with Jefferson on the front and Monticello on the back was introduced in 1938.

Vending machines will be able to accept the new nickels because their composition — 75 percent copper and 25 percent nickel — and their size remains the same, Mint officials say.

Cell phones can be music to the ear for some individuals

By BEATRICE E. GARCIA

Knight Ridder Newspapers
MIAMI — When Margaret Miller's cell phone blares the DMX tune "X Is Gonna Give It To Ya," she knows it's her kids or her mom calling. A clip from "Crazy in Love" by Beyonce chimes out when her niece calls "because she's a crazy girl."

"I'm a music person," said Miller, who lives in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. "Everything in my life is about music."

She is among the millions who have personalized their cell phones with ring tones, snippets of music programmed into the phones to play when certain callers ring them up. Cell phone ringers can range from the highbrow, such as Beethoven's Fifth Symphony, to the lowbrow, such as the theme to SpongeBob SquarePants, or dog barks and frog croaks.

Ring tones come in just about every genre of music, from alternative and country to hip-hop, jazz and rock. University fight songs are a wildly popular category.

And while some see ring tones as being frivolous and unnecessary — and sometimes downright annoying — these tiny recordings are huge moneymakers for the wireless carriers and the music industry.

Last year, sales of

mobile-phone ringers jumped 40 percent to \$3.5 billion worldwide.

Ring-tone sales accounted for more than 10 percent of the \$32.2 billion in music sales around the globe last year, according to The Arc Group, a London-based telecommunications consulting firm.

Says Richard Jesty, an analyst at the Arc Group: "Over time, the novelty will wear off, but not yet." He expects that sales will remain strong through 2008, eventually hitting \$5.2 billion worldwide.

Mobile-phone users can buy ring tones from their carrier's Web site or go to various Web sites that offer a variety of downloads for cell phones, including ring tones, games, screen savers and wallpaper.

Wireless phones with Internet access can download ring tones directly and put them to use in about a minute. These phones usually can play polyphonic ring tones — which sound more than one note simultaneously — rather than the beep,

beep of monophonic ring tones.

Some older model phones not plugged into the Internet can still use ring tones. Usually, the ringer is sent to the phone as a text message.

When Mike Zayas' best buddy puts in a call, the ringer plays music from the Lord of the Rings trilogy because that is his friend's favorite movie.

When Mike Lanman's boss calls, the ringer on his cell phone plays the theme from the Clint Eastwood classic "The Good, The Bad and The Ugly." It's Outkast's "Hey Ya" when his 13-year-old daughter calls.

Lanman, who is Verizon Wireless' Florida president, admits to "ring tone sickness," with about 25 ringers on his phone. And although he works for the carrier, he says he has paid for most of them.

Ring tones are a bright spot for the music industry, which continues to see CD sales decline and file-sharing remain popular despite a mountain of lawsuits by the recording industry.

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.

Big Spring Backers Help Kel Win State Senate Runoff

Hon. Russ & Laura McEwen • Hon. 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 9th 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.”

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.”

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.”

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.



Re-elect

GOP PRIMARY: TUESDAY, MARCH 9TH

Kel Seliger



STATE SENATOR

Republican

Campaign Hotline:

(806) 373-5500 www.seliger4senate.com

Political ad paid for by State Senator Kel Seliger Campaign; Ken Kelley, Treasurer.

The Big Spring Prospector's Club

35th Annual

Gem and Mineral Show

March 6 and 7, 2004

Saturday 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Sunday 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM

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TEXAS BRIEFS

Combest under fire for campaign funds

LUBBOCK (AP) — Former U.S. Rep. Larry Combest has converted \$650,000 of leftover campaign contributions into a private foundation that he, his wife and a sister control.

"I don't have any interest in talking about it," Combest told the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal on Friday. "It's totally a private matter."

Federal election law allows candidates to give leftover political campaign money to nonprofit charitable organizations. According to corporate filings with the Texas Secretary of State's Office, Combest created How Firm Our Foundation on April 25, 2003.

The articles of incorporation list Combest, wife Sharon and sister Renee Brain of Borger as directors. The corporate address is listed as Combest's home in Lubbock.

The corporation was organized "exclusively for charitable, religious, educational and scientific purposes, including for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations."

The articles prohibit disbursing the foundation's funds for the benefit of directors except "to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered."

Support falls for Gov. Perry, poll finds

AUSTIN (AP) — Half of Texans surveyed in a new poll say that they don't like the job Gov. Rick Perry is doing.

In the winter 2004 Texas Poll released Friday, 50 percent of respondents said that they governor was doing poorly, while 40 percent said they believed Perry was doing well — a 27-point drop in his approval since November 2001.

Ten percent either had no opinion or gave no answer.

Meanwhile, Perry is denying long-swirling rumors about his personal life and marriage, blaming leading Democrats for spreading lies and "unsubstantiated filth."

Perry told the Austin American-Statesman in a copyright story Friday that a smear campaign was behind rumors that he and his wife, Anita, plan to divorce over his alleged infidelity and that he will resign.

Political observers, including those in his own party, said they believe the governor's poor poll numbers are based on a year of bitter, rancorous fights over redistricting and balancing a \$9.9 billion deficit by cutting social services and teachers' benefits, raising fees and allowing large hikes in college tuition.

Angleton extradition effort delayed

HOUSTON (AP) — Misfiled paperwork will delay the effort to extradite a Texas millionaire who fled to the Netherlands to escape a murder-for-hire investigation.

Officials with the U.S. Justice Department's Office of International Affairs misfiled a passport fraud charge they wanted to add to the murder-for-hire and tax-evasion charges pending before a Dutch court considering the extradition request, Dutch officials said.

So the Haarlem District Court was unable to rule on whether Robert Angleton could be extradited for trial on the passport fraud charge when it issued a decision last month on the other two charges.

Angleton was arrested in the Netherlands in June. In February, a Haarlem court ruled that he could not be returned for federal trial on the murder-for-hire charge because he had already been acquitted by a Texas jury in 1998 on a nearly identical charge.

But the court allowed his extradition on charges that he evaded paying \$1 million in income tax.

55 Goliad Intermediate students honored for overall character

HERALD Staff Report

Fifty-five Goliad Intermediate School fifth and sixth graders and their parents were honored last week at a breakfast for their overall outstanding character.

Each year, teachers nominate a boy and a girl from their classroom to represent the school as a Goliad Maverick.

Students are evaluated on dependability, courteousness, friendliness, cooperative abilities, responsibility, honesty, good attendance and grades.

Sixth graders chosen as Golden Mavericks were: Marissa Zavala, Jennifer Walker, Jonathan Ray, Sloan Davis, Jose Hernandez, Karley Weaver, Chance Urias, Mickael Gonzales,

Sabrina Bedell, Ryan Deel, Callie Shafer, Matt Ramirez and Ty Coker.

Also, Monica Cervantes, Paul Plakhotney, Steffie Senter, Brandon Good, Ariel Rockwell, Matthew Ritchey, Tyler Tannehill, Hannah Weber, Jara Hester, Yvette Torres, Andrew Lewis, Tiffany Garcia, Eddilisa Saldivar and Steven Islas. Chosen from the fifth

grade were: Blake Brorman, Savina Ramires, Bresha Randle, Ethan McCleskey, Kaitlyn O'Brien, David Rios, Joshua Kelly, Dylan Wright, Krystal Soto, Tyler McKinley, Kenzie Black, Jackson Watkins, Micaela Martinez and Patrick Flores. Also, Alyssa Byrd, Joshua Lujan, Iris Martinez,

Andrew Stephenson, Cameron Fillingim, Brittnie Carroll and Brandi Cervantez, Austin Sharp, Alesha Yanez, Chad Bowles, Daniel Moreno, Austin Sanchez, Tanekia

The event was held during Texas Public Schools Week.

Howard County students perform well at media fair

HERALD Staff Report

Three Howard County students reaped the rewards of their labors at the 2003-2004 Region 18 Education Service Center Media Fair.

Coahoma Elementary students Megan Parrish and K'Leigh Fowler placed second and third, respectively, in the Powerpoint Division, grades fourth through sixth.

Leslie Leal, a Big Spring Junior High School student, placed third in the poster and art division, grades seventh through ninth.

The focus of the media fair was on violence and substance abuse preven-

tion. The purpose of the contest was to encourage research and production of media for the prevention of violence and discourage the use of illegal drugs, alcohol and tobacco by youth.

Parrish, Fowler and Leal joined students from all across the Region 18 service area in participating in the fair.

The contest was open to all students enrolled in kindergarten to 12th grade in public, private, charter or parochial schools in the Region 18.

Participants were asked to enter an amateur product in any one of four categories: Powerpoint presentation, small print, posters and art and other media/web page.



Courtesy photo
Coahoma Elementary students Megan Parrish and K'Leigh Fowler placed second and third, respectively, in the Powerpoint Division at the 2003-2004 Region 18 Education Service Center Media Fair

NEGLECT

Continued from Page 1A

supposed to be here," said Sweatt.

The Immigration and Naturalization Service was also called in because an adult, who may have been taking care of the children, was believed to be illegally in the country, Sweatt said.

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

YMCA sets life-saving classes

HERALD Staff Report

The Big Spring YMCA will begin conducting American Red Cross lifeguard certification and lifeguard rectification courses this month.

Lifeguard certification class will begin March 15 and run through March 21 at the Big Spring YMCA.

Classes will be held from 6 p.m. until 9 p.m. March 16-19, 8 a.m. until 8 p.m. on March 20 and 9

a.m. until 9 p.m. on March 21.

You must be at least 16 years old and be able to swim 500 yards. The cost of the course is \$150 and classes are limited to 10 people.

Lifeguard rectification for CPR, AED, first aid and O2 will be held March 27, starting at 8 a.m.

The class will be held at the Big Spring YMCA.

The instructor for the course will be Harlan Smith.

You must be a currently certified American Red Cross lifeguard.

You will need to supply a CPR mask and the American Red Cross lifeguard manual for this class.

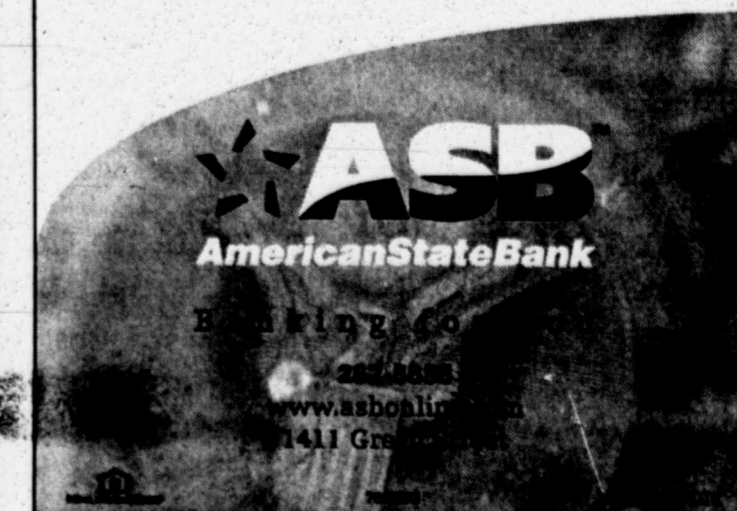
The cost of the class is \$60 and size is limited to 10 people.

For more information, contact the Big Spring YMCA, located at 801 Owens Street, at 432-267-8234.



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NEWS AT A GLANCE

Iraqi constitution signing bogs down

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — It was supposed to provide a ray of hope to a wounded nation, but instead it caused it more pain.

On Friday, Iraqi leaders were to sign an interim constitution they have said was so liberal it had no equal in the Arab world and maybe beyond. It redressed the ills of decades of dictatorship, restored the rights of every component in Iraq's tribal, ethnic and religious mosaic and laid down principles of democracy and human rights.

But the 25 members of the Governing Council, Iraq's U.S.-appointed interim leadership, never showed up for the elaborate signing ceremony. Instead, they were bogged down in intensive talks after last-minute disagreements surfaced.

Spokesmen for the council and the U.S.-led coalition tried to play down the significance of the delay, insisting it was due to technical issues. For hours they held out hope the document would still be signed Friday.

But by midnight, eight hours after the ceremony was to have begun, it became clear that Iraq's "historical day" was not to be. Reporters and a handful of coalition officials — no more than 100 from an original audience of at least 600 — were the last to leave the marble-and-glass Convention Center. The complex was at the heavily guarded "green zone" that houses the coalition headquarters on the west bank of the Tigris river.

Haiti peace-keeping efforts continue

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP) — International peace-keeping efforts forged ahead in Haiti, but a political solution seemed elusive as rebels pressed to re-establish the army — something Washington opposes — and former President Jean-Bertrand Aristide's supporters demanded his return.

Even as U.S. special forces ran missions in northern and western Haiti to support the country's National Police in disarming rebels, the shadow of Aristide threatened to push the shaky situation back to the open conflict of last week.

About 3,000 protesters marched in front of the American and French embassies Friday, shouting insults at U.S. Marines in the first massive protest since Aristide fled to Africa on Sunday.

"Up with Aristide! Down with Bush!" the protesters shouted as U.S. troops watched impassively.

Some promised to mimic the violence that has plagued the U.S.-led coalition in Iraq.

Bush, Fox meet at ranch in Crawford

CRAWFORD (AP) — He was a year and a half late, but Mexican President Vicente Fox finally showed up for dinner at President Bush's ranch, where the two leaders sought to rebuild ties strained by immigration,

the Iraq war and capital punishment.

The last time Bush invited Fox here, in August 2002, the Mexican leader pulled the plug 10 days before he was supposed to arrive. The snub was a protest of the Texas execution of a convicted police killer Fox said was a Mexican citizen. Texas officials disputed that.

Bush invited Fox again in January, eager to move relations forward — and to court Hispanic voters, the nation's fastest-growing bloc. On Friday, Fox arrived at the central Texas ranch, gliding in on a Marine Corps helicopter. He and his wife got big smiles and hearty greetings from Bush and the first lady.

"El presidente!" Bush exclaimed, pumping Fox's hand and clasping both cheeks of his wife, Marta Sahagun, to deliver a pair of kisses. "Hola!" Fox replied.

They dined on "Prairie Chapel Ranch bass" that Bush said he had reeled in himself from the stocked pond next to his house — "enough so that the president will be full," Bush declared.

Mayor can't perform same-sex marriage

NEW PALTZ, N.Y. (AP) — When the mayor of New Paltz began marrying gay couples in this small blue-collar village, he made the town part of a heated national debate. Some locals wonder if it's worth the fuss.

While some hail Mayor Jason West as a hero and mob him like a rock star, others are uncomfortable with New Paltz becoming a sort of San Francisco of the East. They wonder if the village, population 6,000, is the right forum for the issue.

"Are you grandstanding or what?" David Caccamo asked West at a village board meeting. "You haven't thought about how much this is costing taxpayers."

West started the furor Feb. 27 by marrying 25 gay and lesbian couples before a cheering crowd outside village hall. The Green Party mayor was charged with misdemeanor counts of marrying couples without a license, and has pleaded not guilty.

A state judge on Friday barred West from performing more same-sex marriages for a month. The mayor said he'd abide by the judge's decision while considering legal options.

Court: Abortion records should not be public

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Ruling that abortion records contain information that "women would not want to share," a federal judge said that the Planned Parenthood Federation of America does not have to force affiliates to turn over patient files to the government.

The case stems from a battle over the Partial-Birth Abortion Act, which was passed by Congress last year. The Justice Department requested the files after abortion providers persuaded federal judges in San Francisco, New York and Nebraska to temporarily block the law.

The judge's ruling on Friday did not prevent the Justice Department from seeking the records by suing each affiliate.

The act, signed by President Bush last year, bars a procedure referred to by critics as partial-birth abortion and by medical organizations as "intact dilation and extraction." During the procedure, a fetus' legs and torso are pulled from the uterus and its skull is punctured.

Prospective jurors are questioned

McALESTER, Okla. (AP) — Prospective jurors in bombing conspirator Terry Nichols' Oklahoma murder trial face another round of questioning — this time from Nichols' defense attorneys.

A 42-member panel of prospective jurors is expected to be quizzed about their willingness to consider evidence and testimony in Nichols' defense as well as each of the legal sentencing options if Nichols is convicted.

Prosecutors are seeking the death penalty on 161 counts of first-degree murder against Nichols for the Oklahoma City bombing, which killed 168 people. Other possible penalties are life in prison without parole and life with the possibility of parole.

Prosecutors wrapped up their examination of the panel on Friday. The process resumes on Monday.

Jury selection in the case began March 1. Legal observers have said the 12-member jury and six alternates could be seated by Wednesday.

Rovers find past evidence of water on Mars

PASADENA, Calif. (AP) — Both of NASA's Mars rovers have now found evidence of past water activity on the dusty, frigid Red Planet.

The Spirit rover's instruments found signs that water may have altered a volcanic rock in a region called Gusev crater, halfway around the planet from where the Opportunity rover earlier uncovered evidence that its landing site was once drenched.

The discovery announced Friday at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory followed a study of a rock called "Humphrey" that Spirit encountered while driving from its landing site toward a big crater named "Bonneville."

"That's my favorite rock so far," said Ray Arvidson, the mission's deputy principal investigator, of Washington University in St. Louis.

Ashcroft recovering in intensive care

WASHINGTON (AP) — The first 48 hours are key to determining how treatment will proceed for Attorney General John Ashcroft, who was in a hospital intensive care unit suffering from a severe case of gallstone pancreatitis.

The serious and painful abdominal illness often clears up after a week or so of treatment but sometimes requires surgery and, in extreme cases, can kill.

Doctors at George Washington University Hospital said Friday they needed more time to evaluate Ashcroft and determine a prognosis for their 61-year-old patient, who was admitted to the hospital Thursday night.

RED TAG SALE Continues!!! "Save Thousands"

*** PREOWNED VEHICLES UNDER \$6000 ***

- 2000 Kia Sportage EX - Blue, extra clean w/87,000 miles. Was \$6,995. NOW \$4,995
- 1999 Mercury Sable GS - Tan, all power. Was \$9,995. NOW \$5,995
- 1999 Chevrolet Prism 4-DR. - White, one owner w/61,000 miles. Was \$6,995. NOW \$5,995
- 1999 Ford Crown Victoria - White, all power. Was \$8,995. NOW \$5,995
- 1995 Ford Explorer XLT 4-DR. - Red, locally owned, all power. Was \$6,995. NOW \$5,995
- 1997 Ford Mustang - Green, 6 cyl., automatic. Was \$6,995. NOW \$5,995
- 1997 Mercury Tracer - Green. Was \$6,995. NOW \$5,995
- 1996 Mercury Cougar - Green w/tan top, 69,000 miles. Was \$6,995. NOW \$5,995
- 1996 Oldsmobile 88 4-DR. - Pewter, leather, one owner. Was \$7,995. NOW \$5,995
- 1996 Ford Windstar GL - Green, one owner, dual air. Was \$6,995. NOW \$5,995
- 1995 Ford Taurus GL - Tan, all power, local one owner w/72,000 miles. Was \$5,995. NOW \$4,995
- 1995 Cadillac DeVille Concours - Silver, 84,000 miles. Was \$8,995. NOW \$5,995
- 1994 Ford F150 XL - Green/tan, 6 cyl., 5 speed. Was \$5,995. NOW \$4,995
- 1994 Ford Ranger - Blue, 4 cyl., 5 speed, 84,000 miles. Was \$6,995. NOW \$5,995
- 1992 Mercury Grand Marquis L.S. - White, locally owned w/58,000 miles. Was \$6,995. NOW \$5,995

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- *** Lincolns ***
- 2003 Lincoln Town Car Signature Series - White Pearl Tri Coat W/Lightstone Leather. 14,800 Miles. MSRP \$43,875. NOW \$29,995
- 2003 Lincoln Town Car Signature Series - Vibrant White C/C. W/Parchment Leather. 11,400 Miles. Was \$43,500. NOW \$29,995
- *** Mercurys ***
- 2003 Mercury Sable GS - Arizona beige, all poer, 19,000 miles. MSRP \$14,995. NOW \$11,995
- *** Fords ***
- 2003 Ford Focus SE 4-DR. - Silver, all power, 15,000 miles. Was \$13,995. NOW \$11,995
- 2003 Ford Focus SE 4-DR. - Tan, all power, 20,000 miles. Was \$13,995. NOW \$11,995
- *** Small Pickups ***
- 2000 Nissan Frontier King Cab XE - Red, automatic, 68,000 miles. Was \$21,995. NOW \$8,995
- 1998 Nissan Frontier XE - Red, air, 5 speed, one owner w/50,000 miles. Was \$9,995. NOW \$7,995
- 1997 Chevrolet S-10 Ext. Cab L.S. - Red, automatic, new transmission, 77,000 miles. Was \$8,995. NOW \$7,995

*** 1/2 Ton Pickups ***

- 2002 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT - White, all power, one owner w/38,000 miles. Was \$22,995. NOW \$18,995
- 2002 Ford F150 S/C XLT Quad Cab - Tan, V-8, all power, 15,500 miles. Was \$20,995. NOW \$18,995
- 2002 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT - Arizona beige, all power, one owner w/43,000 miles. Was \$22,995. NOW \$21,995
- 2002 Dodge Ram 150 Quad Cab SLT - Tan, all power, V-8, local one owner w/20,000 miles. Was \$21,995. NOW \$20,995
- 2002 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT 4X4 4-DR. - Red/silver, all power, 5.4 V-8, one owner w/27,000 miles. Was \$24,995. NOW \$23,995
- 2002 Chevrolet C1500 Silverado Ext. Cab LZ-71 - Blue, OnStar, leather, one owner, loaded. Was \$20,995. NOW \$19,995
- 2002 Chevrolet C1500 Silverado Ext. Cab LT Z-71 - Pewter, OnStar, leather, one owner, loaded. Was \$20,995. NOW \$18,995
- 2001 Dodge Ram 1500 Quad Cab SLE - White, V-8, all power, locally owned w/48,000 miles. Was \$21,995. NOW \$15,995
- 1998 Ford F150 Supercab XLT 4-DR. - Black, tan leather, captain chairs, 5.4 V-8, local one owner w/43,000 miles. Was \$14,995. NOW \$13,995

*** 1/2 Ton Pickups ***

- 1998 Ford F150 - White, 6 cyl., 5 speed, air, local one owner w/68,000 miles. Was \$9,995. NOW \$8,995
- 1997 Chevrolet C1500 Ext. Cab Silverado - Black w/tan bottom, all power, clean w/80,000 miles. Was \$10,995. NOW \$9,995
- 1997 Chevrolet C1500 Ext. Cab Silverado - Tan, V-8, all power. Was \$9,995. NOW \$8,995
- *** 3/4 Tons & 1 Ton Pickups ***
- 2001 GMC Sierra 2500 Crew Cab H.D. SLE 4-DR. - Pewter, all power, 6.0 V-8, local one owner w/30,000 miles. Was \$22,995. NOW \$21,995
- 2001 Ford F250 Lariat Crew Cab Powerstroke Diesel 4X4 - Red, black bottom, leather, locally owned w/72,000 miles. Was \$26,995. NOW \$25,995
- 2001 GMC Sierra 2500 Ext. Cab 4X4 L.S. - Pewter, cloth, all power, local one owner w/56,000 miles. Was \$21,995. NOW \$22,995
- 2001 Ford F250 Supercab Powerstroke Diesel 4X4 - White, all power, long wheelbase, local one owner. Was \$22,995. NOW \$21,995
- 2000 Chevrolet C3500 Crew Cab LS 4X4 - Green, all power, 90,000 miles, local one owner. Was \$18,995. NOW \$18,995
- 2000 Ford F350 Crew Cab XLT Powerstroke Diesel 4X4 - Arizona beige, loaded, local one owner. Was \$20,995. NOW \$19,995

*** SUV's ***

- 2002 Ford Explorer XLT 4-DR. - Green w/cloth, all power, one owner w/17,000 miles. Was \$19,995. NOW \$18,995
- 2002 Ford Escape XLT - Silver, cloth, all power, local one owner w/23,000 miles. Was \$17,995. NOW \$16,995
- 1997 Chevrolet Suburban LT - Brown, conversion pkg., very nice SUV. Was \$10,995. NOW \$9,995
- 2002 Ford Expedition XLT - Silver, cloth, all power, one owner w/31,000 miles. Was \$22,995. NOW \$21,995
- 2001 Chevrolet Tahoe LS 4 DR. - Pewter, cloth, all power, one owner w/31,000 miles. Was \$24,995. NOW \$23,995
- 2001 Ford Explorer Sport 2-DR. 4X4 - Blue, cloth, clean, four wheel drive, 51,000 miles. Was \$12,995. NOW \$12,995
- 2001 Ford Explorer Sport 4-DR. XLT - White w/cloth, all power, one owner w/59,000 miles. Was \$15,995. NOW \$14,995
- 2001 Chevrolet Tahoe L.S. 4-DR. - Red w/cloth, all power, one owner w/50,000 miles. Was \$24,995. NOW \$23,995
- 2000 Ford Expedition Eddie Bauer Edition - Red/tan, leather, one owner w/40,000 miles. Was \$22,995. NOW \$19,995
- 1999 GMC Suburban L.S. - Tan, dual air, all power. Was \$17,995. NOW \$14,995
- 1998 Honda Passport EX 4X4 - Silver, loaded, 73,000 miles. Was \$12,995. NOW \$10,995
- 1998 Ford Explorer Sport 2-DR. 4X4 - Red, all power, one owner. Was \$9,995. NOW \$8,995
- 1997 Chevrolet Suburban LT - Brown, leather, extra clean SUV. Was \$15,995. NOW \$13,995

*** Motorcycles ***

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

*** VANS ***

- 2002 Ford E350 XLT 15 Passenger Powerstroke Diesel Van - White w/cloth, dual air/hear, all power, one owner w/26,000 miles. Was \$21,995. NOW \$20,995
- 2001 Toyota Sienna XLE - Tan, all power, one owner w/56,000 miles. Was \$19,995. NOW \$18,995

*** VANS ***

- 1998 Mazda MPV - Red, all power, 56,000 miles. Was \$10,995. NOW \$8,995
- 1997 Dodge Grand Caravan SE - White, clean van. Was \$8,995. NOW \$7,995

*** CARS ***

- 2003 Ford Mustang Convertible - Yellow/black top, extra clean, one owner w/only 6,000 miles. Was \$17,995. NOW \$16,995
- 2003 Mercury Sable GS - Silver, cloth, all power, only 17,000 miles. Was \$14,995. NOW \$13,995
- 2002 Ford Mustang - Gray, 5 speed, air, CD, all power, one owner w/28,000 miles. Was \$15,995. NOW \$14,995
- 2002 Honda Accord LX 4-DR. - Silver, all power, one owner w/31,000 miles. Was \$16,995. NOW \$15,995
- 2002 Saturn I100 4-DR. - Silver, all power, one owner w/32,000 miles. Was \$10,995. NOW \$9,995
- 2002 Mitsubishi Eclipse Spyder Convertible V-6 - Pearl white w/tan top, tan leather, all power, 5 speed, one owner w/24,000 miles. Was \$18,995. NOW \$17,995
- 2002 Ford Mustang GT - Red, leather, V-8, manual transmission, all power, local one owner w/5,700 miles. Was \$19,995. NOW \$18,995
- 2001 Ford Crown Victoria LX - Tan w/cloth, all power, one owner w/59,000 miles. Was \$14,995. NOW \$12,995
- 2001 Mercury Sable L.S. Premium - White, leather, all power, one owner w/26,000 miles. Was \$11,995. NOW \$10,995
- 2001 Lincoln L.S. - Blue, leather, V-8, one owner w/57,000 miles. Was \$22,995. NOW \$20,995
- 2001 Ford Crown Victoria L.S. - Silver, leather, one owner w/39,000 miles. Was \$14,995. NOW \$12,995
- 2000 Cadillac DeVille - Pearl white, leather, locally owned w/56,000 miles. Was \$19,995. NOW \$18,995
- 2000 Pontiac Bonneville SE 4-DR. - Silver, cloth, all power, one owner w/42,000 miles. Was \$12,995. NOW \$11,995
- 2000 Mercury Grand Marquis L.S. - Red, cloth, local one owner w/62,000 miles. Was \$12,995. NOW \$11,995
- 2000 Volvo S40 Turbo - All power, leather, 35,000 miles. Was \$16,995. NOW \$12,995
- 2000 Volkswagen Jetta GLS Turbo Diesel - White, great mileage. Was \$10,995. NOW \$9,995
- 2000 Ford Taurus SE - Red, cloth, all power, 60,000 miles. Was \$9,995. NOW \$7,995
- 2000 Ford Taurus SE - White, all power, 67,000 miles. Was \$9,995. NOW \$7,995
- 2000 Ford Focus Wagon SE - Silver, all power. Was \$7,995. NOW \$6,995
- 2000 Volkswagen Jetta GLS - Blue, all power, clean, one owner w/58,000 miles. Was \$12,995. NOW \$10,995
- 1999 Pontiac Firebird - White, T-Tops, 56,000 miles. Was \$13,995. NOW \$11,995
- 1999 Nissan Maxima GLE - Green, all power, locally owned, 63,000 miles. Was \$13,995. NOW \$12,995
- 1998 Nissan Maxima GLE - Gray w/leather, moonroof, 53,000 miles. Was \$15,995. NOW \$11,995
- 1998 Ford Escort ZX2 - White, local one owner w/41,000 miles. Was \$7,995. NOW \$6,995
- 1997 Ford Thunderbird - Tan, all power, nice car, 73,000 miles. Was \$8,995. NOW \$5,995
- 1997 Mercury Grand Marquis GS - White, all power, local one owner w/43,000 miles. Was \$9,995. NOW \$7,995

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Sports

BIG SPRING HERALD

Page 10A
Weekend, March 6-7, 2004

Lady Steers' tennis ace continues area's pipeline to Southern Nazarene University

By TOMMY WELLS
Sports Editor

When it comes to tennis, Big Spring High School might be better known as Tennis U. Oddly enough, Southern Nazarene University might be better known as Howard County South. And for good reason, the Oklahoma college has turned to the West Texas communities of Big

Spring and Forsan on more than one occasion to bolster its athletic programs. SNU added another branch to its Crossroads connection Monday evening when Big Spring tennis captain Heather Parnell signed a deal to play collegiately next fall with the nationally-ranked Crimson Storm. "I'm excited about going

there," said Parnell, a four-year varsity standout. "I'm looking forward to seeing how well I can do at that level. It'll probably be like my freshman year here all over again but I'm looking forward to trying." Parnell, despite a "long year" as a freshman, has blossomed into one of the top players at Big Spring, adding her name along-

side Big Spring's past stars such as Monica Villarreal, Christina Vera, Kim Dominguez and Maria Villarreal. In her tenure, she has helped the Lady Steers become one of the region's top tennis squads. "I think this is exciting," said Big Spring head coach Sarah Corse. "She's

See PARNELL, Page 11A



HERALD PHOTO/Tommy Wells
Big Spring High School tennis captain Heather Parnell signed a college deal with Southern Nazarene University Monday. Looking on were Community of Hope Church of the Nazarene pastor Rodger Huff and BSHS tennis coach Sarah Corse.

Smiley rallies BS past Permian

By TOMMY WELLS
Sports Editor

Kate Smiley delivered a three-run double in the bottom of the fourth inning Friday and lifted the Big Spring Lady Steers to a 4-1 softball victory over the Permian Lady Panthers at the BSHS Softball Complex.

"She came up with the big hit when we needed it most," said Big Spring head coach Lea Daggett, who has guided the Lady Steers to a 16-1 record in his first season. "She really came through for us."

Permian drew first blood in the non-district matchup. The Panthers managed to take advantage of a slow start from BSHS starter Alex Watkins and scratched out a run in the top of the first.

That lead stood up until the fourth when Big Spring hit stride. After Laura Olague, Alex Watkins and Chelsea Abner had all reached base, Smiley cleared the bases by slapping a double to the fence in center.

Big Spring, which collected 12 hits in the game, stretched its lead to three in the bottom of the fifth on a run-scoring single to left by Abner.

Despite getting off to a slow start, Watkins dominated the Permian offense. She allowed just two hits and struck out eight en route to improving to 5-0 for the year.

"It took Alex a couple of innings to get comfortable then she started hitting her pitches and it was over," said Daggett. Olague and Watkins both starred offensively, collecting three hits in the game. Whitney Hufford added two.

The Lady Steers will return to play Monday in San Angelo against Central. The game will start at 3 p.m.

Steers split two at Monahans Invitational

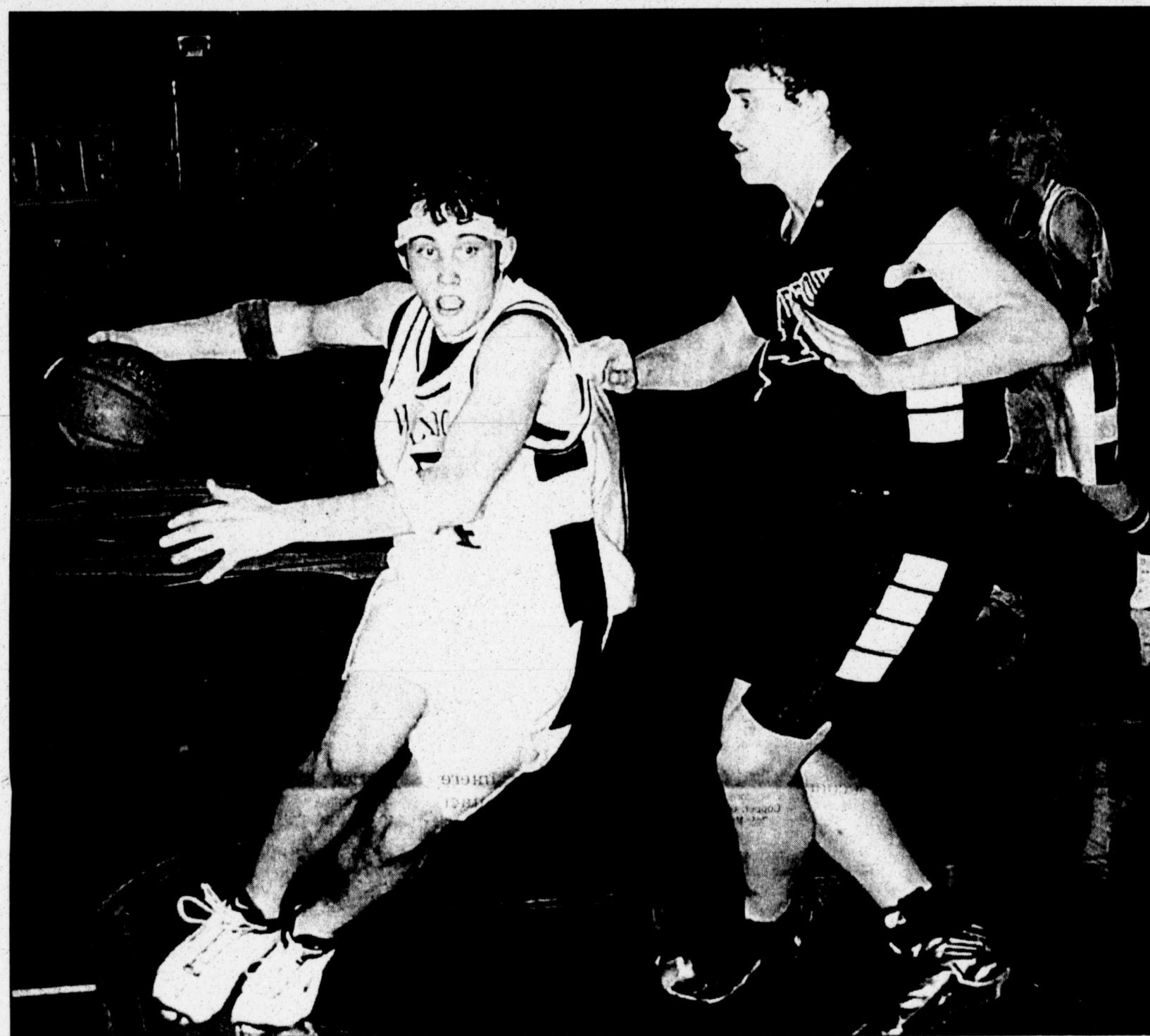
By TOMMY WELLS
Sports Editor

The Big Spring Steers split their first two games of the Monahans Invitational Baseball Tournament, which began Thursday afternoon.

Big Spring, despite a solid outing from starter Lee Gillihan, dropped a tough 5-3 decision to Monahans on Thursday. Gillihan allowed just three hits in the game and struck out nine MHS batters.

The Steers found the win column on Friday, claiming a 7-5 win over Greenwood in the consolation bracket. Wes Smith highlighted a 12-hit attack by belting a two-run home run. Gillihan had three hits.

Andy Lasater picked up the win. Smith closed out the game for a save.



HERALD PHOTO/Tommy Wells
Grady's Jason Pribyla drives toward the goal during the fourth quarter of the Wildcats' 61-58 win over Aspermont Friday in the Class A, Division II regional finals playoff at the Texan Dome in Levelland. Grady, 33-1, can advance to state with a win over Rising Star tonight.

Hoop, Hoop Hurray Wildcats advance to Division II state semifinals with romp over Aspermont

By TOMMY WELLS
Sports Editor

LEVELLAND — The Grady Wildcats moved to within one step of reaching high school basketball's 'Promised Land' Friday night by claiming a wild 61-58 victory over the Aspermont Hornets in the Class A, Division II regional finals at the Texan Dome in Levelland.

Grady senior Nick Winford sank four free throws in the final 54 seconds and helped the Wildcats hold off a late rally and earn the team's first-ever berth in the Division II state semifinals.

"This is pretty exciting," said senior forward Jason Pribyla. "We're definitely taking home a lot of memories this year."

The Wildcats' win — their second

**Class A, Division II
State Semifinals
Grady Wildcats vs.
Rising Star Wildcats**

7 p.m., Texan Dome, Levelland
Radio: KBST 1490, 6:45 p.m.

over Aspermont this year — also gave them the right to face Rising Star in the Division II state semifinals Saturday at 7 p.m.

"The young men did a great job," said Grady head coach Carl Krug. "We were cold for a while but we rode it out. We did what it took to win. I always tell them 'I don't care how we play, it's did we win that's the bottom line.' The bottom line is we won."

For Wildcat fans, few memories will

be as sweet as Pribyla's performance against Aspermont. The 6-foot-3 forward dominated the Hornets in the low post all evening. He helped the Wildcats get off to a solid start by pushing in 10 points in the first eight minutes. He finished with a team-high 25 points and 13 rebounds.

"Most of the credit goes to my teammates," he said. "I figured they would double down on me and then when they did, we just hit the outside shots."

None of those shots were as important as the four free throws Winford hit down the stretch, however. After Aspermont had pulled to within one, Winford sank two free throws with three seconds left to up the Grady lead to three and force the Hornets into a

See GRADY, Page 12A

Lady Steers JV advances to title round at Permian

By TOMMY WELLS
Sports Editor

The Big Spring Lady Steers junior varsity softball team continued to turn heads this past weekend by advancing to the championship round of the Permian Junior Varsity Softball Tournament in Odessa.

Big Spring opened the three-day tournament with an 11-2 rout of Midland Christian on Thursday. Following a 2-1 loss to the Permian Black team, the Lady Steers nailed down second in their pool with a win over the Odessa High School Lady Bronchos White squad.

File photo
Lady Steers' Amisha Vanderbilt helped the BSHS girls finish fourth at the Big Country Relays Friday by finishing third in the shot put competition. Big Spring was the highest-finishing non-Class 5A team.



Steers, Lady Steers shine at '04 Big Country Relays

By TOMMY WELLS
Sports Editor

ABILENE — The Big Spring boys' and girls track teams turned in solid outings at the John McCabe Big Country Relays Friday at Abilene Christian University's Elmer Gray Stadium. The

Big Spring boys, sparked by a win in the 1,600-meter run by Daniel Garza, placed sixth overall, while the BSHS girls netted fourth.

Garza owned the 1,600-meter event, winning the race by more than nine seconds. He completed the

See TRACK, Page 11A

Williams leads Duncanville back to 5A state finals

AUSTIN (AP) — Morgan Williams scored 28 points on 13-of-15 shooting and Duncanville dominated San Antonio Taft near the basket in a 63-50 win Friday night as the defending Class 5A champions earned a return trip to the title game.

Williams and Mariana Mergerson towered over Taft as Duncanville (35-2) rebounded the Lady Raiders 35-21, shot 58 percent from the floor and scored 36 in the paint.

Mergerson, one of the most highly touted juniors in the state, had 13 points and 15 rebounds. Duncanville will play Spring Westfield (34-4) Saturday for the 5A title.

Duncanville has won six state championships.

Natalie Gamez scored 21 to lead Taft (32-7), which was making its second appearance in the state tournament. The Lady Raiders lost in the 2002 final.

With three starters at 6-foot or taller, the Pantherettes exploited early size matchups in the first quarter to lead 15-10. Williams had six points in the quarter and Mergerson had four as the pair towered over Taft in the post.

But the taller lineup also presented its problems against the scrappy Taft defenders who forced 10 turnovers by disrupting Duncanville guards with pressure.

Duncanville shot 50 percent in the half and

led 19-12 in the second quarter, but Taft used the turnovers to score 11 points and cut it 21-19. Mergerson hit a 3-pointer and Tammy Bartosh hit a long jumper for a 26-21 Pantherettes lead at half-time.

Gamez scored 10 in the first half and hit a 3-pointer 13 seconds into the third quarter that cut the lead to two. She scored eight of Taft's 12 points in the period but Duncanville continued to rely on the duo of Williams and Mergerson to keep the pressure on.

Bartosh hit a 3-pointer, Williams hit consecutive layups — one on a sharp pass from Mergerson — and Mergerson stepped out for short jumper that got the lead to 46-31.

Spring Westfield 58, Pasadena Dobie 46

Tyeisha Jackson and Tasia Starks each scored 13 points to send Spring Westfield to a 58-46 win over Pasadena Dobie in the Class 5A semifinals.

The win sends Westfield into its second state final in four seasons. The Mustangs (34-4) lost the 2001 championship game to Mansfield.

Karima Christmas scored 14 points and grabbed 10 rebounds to lead Dobie (32-5) in its first tournament appearance.

The game featured lineups full of college-bound talent and produced one of the most athletic contests in recent years at the state tournament.

PARNELL

Continued from Page 10A

worked hard for this.

Corse, unlike Parnell, doesn't feel Parnell will be overmatched in her college debut.

"I think she will do very well there and be a big asset to the team," said Corse. "I don't think her coach will have to have a 'it's going to be a long season' speech with her again."

By inking Parnell to a college pact, SNU has landed three Crossroads standouts in the past 13 months. Last year, the Crimson Storm basketball program signed former Forsan standout Brent Huff, while Big Spring High School star Sterling Burchette landed a volleyball deal.

For Parnell, she first had to overcome being a newcomer to the high school scene.

"I can still remember the talk I had with her and her parents (Jerry and Vicki Parnell)," laughed Corse. "When she started, I told them it was going to be a long, hard year."

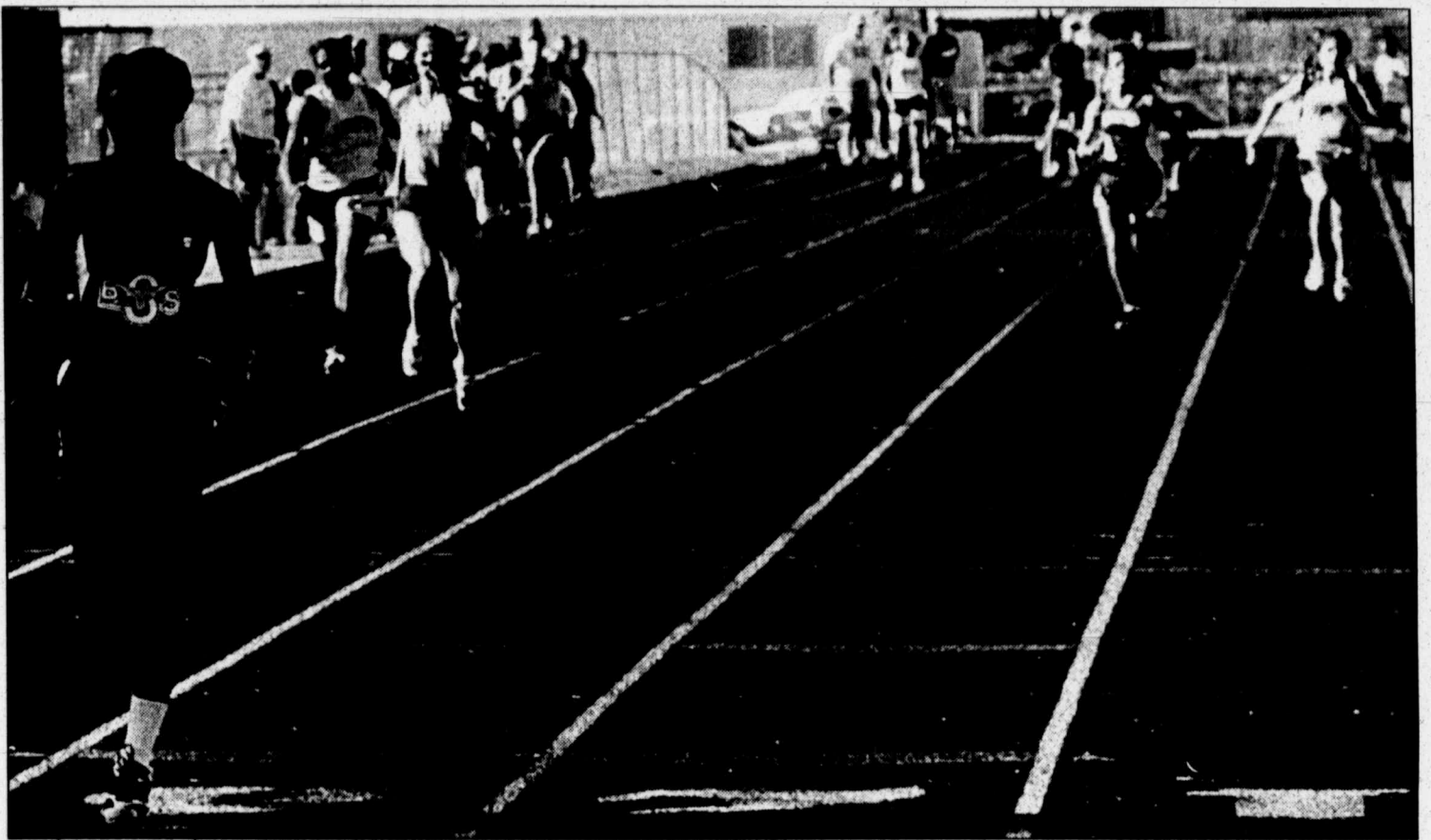
Parnell rode out the hard times, however.

After enduring a tough start as a freshman, she hit stride, earning all-district accolades as a sophomore, junior and senior in both singles and doubles play.

Par-nell also played a key role in the Big Spring team tennis squad's ability to advance to the regional tournament in each of the past three years.

With Parnell's signing, the number of Big Spring area prep standouts to sign deals with colleges climbs to seven. Earlier this

year, Big Spring softball standouts Whitney Hufford and Leina Braxton inked with Texarkana Junior College, while volleyball stars LaKenya Wrightsil and Ka'Rissa Magers landed deals with Texas Southern and Arizona Western, respectively. Coahoma's Kelby Kemper and Sam Tindol agreed to football deals with Midwestern State and East Central Oklahoma, respectively.



Big Spring's Airianne Brown, shown above winning the 100 at last year's AMBUCS Relays, sprinted to the 100-meter title Friday at the Big Country Relays in Abilene.

TRACK

Continued from Page 10A

race in a time of 4:35.59.

The Steers picked up a pair of third-place finishes from Jacob Marquez and Michael Rodriguez. Marquez earned a bronze medal in the 800-meter run with a time of 2:03.13. Rodriguez was third in the 3,200-meter run by turning in a run of 10:08.45.

As a team, the Steers rolled up 42 points.

The Big Spring girls garnered a pair of wins from Cierra Butler and a 100-meter title from Airianne Brown and finished fourth in a field dominated by Class 5A teams.

Butler, a state qualified last season, won the shot put competition by more than two feet by recording a throw of 37 feet, 7.34 inches. Permian's Deshonna Hill was second at 35-9 3/4.

Big Spring's Amisha

Vanderbilt was third in the shot finals with a mark of 35-9 1/2.

Butler collected her second gold by winning the discus with a throw of 124 feet, 3 inches. Teammate Monica Fierro was third at 109.

JOHN MCCABE Big Country Relays Friday at ACU's Elmer Gray Stadium (top three varsity finishes only)

BOYS

Team Standings — 1. Copperas Cove, 122; 2. Permian, 119; 3. Cooper, 95; 4. Abilene, 84; 5. Mansfield Summit, 73; 6. Big Spring, 42; 7. Lyndon Banes Johnson, 18.

100 — 1. Anton Livingston, Cooper, 11:14; 2. Chris Holliman, Copperas, 11:40; 3. Koby Lewis, Abilene, 11:44.

200 Meter Dash — 1. Anton Livingston, Cooper, 22:27; 2. Chris Holliman, Copperas, 22:55; 3. Lawrence Coley, Copperas, 22:59.

400 — 1. Ladravis Boyd, Mansfield, 51:23; 2. Adam Podzemny, Permian, 51:27; 3. Cordale Miller, Abilene, 52:25.

800 — 1. Ric Bonilla, Cooper, 2:02.20; 2. Ladravis Boyd, Mansfield, 2:02.83; 3. Jacob Marquez, Big Spring, 2:03.13.

1600 — 1. Daniel Garza, Big Spring, 4:35.59; 2. Miles McFarland, Abilene, 4:44.69; 3. Darren Smith, Cooper, 4:50.99.

3200 — 1. Miles McFarland, Abilene, 10:02.01; 2. Ozie Hood, Mansfield, 10:08.45; 3. Michael Rodriguez, Big Spring, 10:08.45.

110 Hurdles — 1. John Woods, Copperas, 14:79; 2. Todd Loggans, Copperas, 15:01; 3. Ryan Gildon, Permian, 15:40.

300 Hurdles — 1. Ryan Gildon, Permian, 41:11; 2. Damon Russell, Cooper, 41:46; 3. Jammal Johnson, Permian, 41:84.

4X100 Relay — 1. Copperas Cove, 42:43; 2. Permian 43:18; 3. Abilene, 43:28.

4X200 Relay — 1. Copperas Cove, 1:28.98; 2. Permian 1:32.49; 3. Big Spring, 1:35.98.

High Jump — 1. Jeremy Williams, Cooper, 6-06.00; 2. Oscar Corral, Permian, 6-04.00; 3. Lyle Leong, Abilene, 6-04.00; 4. Damon Russell, Cooper, 6-04.00.

Pole Vault — 1. Todd Loggans, Copperas, 13-07.00; 2. Cody Haile, Cooper, 13-00.00; 3.

Chris Rosales, Abilene, 12-06.00.

Long Jump — 1. Lyle Leong, Abilene, 21-10.50; 2. Anton Livingston, Cooper, 21-04.75; 3. Kevin Odehus, Mansfield, 20-09.25.

Triple Jump — 1. Adam Podzemny, Permian, 44-02.25; 2. Lawrence Coley, Copperas, 43-03.00; 3. Kyle Bryson, Abilene, 43-00.50.

Shot Put — 1. Zach McGill, Permian, 135-07; 2. Nick Oliver, Permian, 132-08; 3. Justin Hargrove, Lyndon, 132-05.

Team Standings — 1. Copperas Cove, 292; 2. Mansfield Summit, 122; 3. Permian, 76; 4. Big Spring, 59; 5. Cooper, 37; 6. Abilene, 22; 7. Fort Worth Christian, 9.

BOYS

Team Standings — 1. San Angelo Central, 164.5; 2. Mansfield Summit, 147.5; 3. Permian, 97; 4. Big Spring, 66; 5. Leander, 62; 6. Abilene, 55; 7. Cooper, 26; 8. Fort Worth Christian, 2.

100 — 1. Annette Brown, Big Spring, 12.62; 2. Lachela Jacobs, Mansfield, 12.68; 3. Sandra Olisa, Leander, 12.88.

200 — 1. Keiesha Ross, Mansfield, 26.33; 2. Lachela Jacobs, Mansfield, 26.55; 3. Krystal McKnight, Mansfield, 26.72.

400 — 1. Christa Howard, Central, 59.35; 2. Letisha Hackett, Mansfield, 59.36; 3. Kim Pruitt, Leander, 60.35.

800 — 1. Julie Ramirez, Central, 2:30.82; 2. Courtney Wilson, Permian, 2:32.87; 3. India Moss, Abilene, 2:33.58.

1600 — 1. Esmerelda Caranzo, Permian, 5:54.5; 2. Stephanie Barrera, Permian, 5:52.37; 3. Ashley Mercer, Central, 5:58.43.

3200 — 1. Whitney Perkins, Central, 12:42.05; 2. Ashley Mercer, Central, 12:42.78; 3. Esmerelda Caranzo, Permian, 12:44.16.

100 Hurdles — 1. Kym Kemp, Mansfield, 16.58; 2. Ashley Tatum, Abilene, 17.07; 3. Raegan Ritchey, Big Spring, 17.33.

300 Hurdles — 1. April North, Leander, 48.21; 2. Kym Kemp, Mansfield, 48.44; 3. Ashley Fuentes, Abilene, 50.16.

4X100 Relay — 1. Mansfield Summit, 49.41; 2. San Angelo Central, 49.57; 3. Permian, 50.08.

4X200 Relay — 1. Mansfield Summit, 1:45.45; 2. Permian, 1:46.67; 3. Leander, 1:47.51.

4X400 Relay — 1. San Angelo Central, 4:02.70; 2. Permian, 4:03.36; 3. Mansfield Summit, 4:05.33.

High Jump — 1. Kristen Grund, Central, 5-04.00; 2. Kayla Smith, Mansfield, 5-04.00; 3. Ashley Johnson, Mansfield, 5-02.00.

Pole Vault — 1. Raechelle Stricklen, Central, 9-06.00; 2. Jessica Brogan, Central, 7-00.00; 3. Caryn Carroll, Abilene, 7-00.00; 3. Kim Caddell, Cooper, 7-00.00.

Long Jump — 1. Jazz Feam, Central, 16-06.50; 2. Krystal McKnight, Mansfield, 16-04.50; 3. Kaila Martin, Central, 16-04.00.

Triple Jump — 1. Ashley Johnson, Mansfield, 34-09.00; 2. Kaila Martin, Central, 34-06.75; 3. Jazz Feam, Central, 33-04.50.

Shot Put — 1. Cierra Butler, Big Spring, 37-07.75; 2. Deshonna Hill, Permian, 35-09.75; 3. Amisha Vanderbilt, Big Spring, 35-08.50.

Discus Throw — 1. Cierra Butler, Big Spring, 124-03; 2. Jenar Falcon, Cooper, 109-05; 3. Monica Fierro, Big Spring, 109-00.

JV GIRLS


Team Results — 1. Mansfield Summit, 196; 2. San Angelo Central, 99; 3. Abilene, 96; 4. Cooper, 82; 5. Permian, 39; 6. Leander, 34; 7. Big Spring, 24; 8. Fort Worth Christian, 11; 8. Abilene Black, 11.

Player registration began Saturday at the Big Spring Mall and will run through the next two Saturdays. The BSGSA is open to girls of all ages and will begin play in April.

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GRADY

Continued from Page 10A

desperation three-point attempt at half court.

"What can you say about that," said Krug, who has guided the Wildcats to a school-record 33-1 ledger this season. "I put a lot of pressure on Nick all year and he's found a way to get the job done. He knows what to do."

Aspermont did most of the 'doing' in the early minutes of the contest. The Hornets reeled off three quick baskets in the first quarter and took a 7-4 cushion before the Wildcats managed to find their legs.

After Pribyla had cut Aspermont's lead to one with an inside layup, senior Brent Madison staked Grady to its first lead by knocking down a short six-foot jumper with 4:48 left in the first period.

Madison's basket — which was set up by an Andrew Villa steal at midcourt — gave Grady an 8-7 cushion and ignited a 10-0 spree.

Trent May added fuel to the Wildcats' fire seconds after Madison's shot. He buried a three-point shot from the corner that gave Grady an 11-7 lead.

Aspermont managed to end a four-minute scoring drought late in the frame when Aaron Marks connected from the field.

Grady, which has won 19 straight games since suffering its only loss to Midland Classical, carried a 17-11 advantage into the second period.

Aspermont, which finished the year at 28-6, managed to cut Grady's lead to five in the second quarter. Tim Haag, a 6-foot-5 junior, pushed back an offensive rebound in the final seconds of the half and helped the Hornets post a 13-12 run in the frame.



HERALD PHOTO/Tommy Wells
Grady senior Brent Madison attempts to drive past Aspermont's Duane Godfrey in the fourth quarter Friday in Levelland.

Despite owning a five-point lead, Grady struggled to find its game in the first half. The Wildcats hit just 13 of their 29 shots in the frame.

The Hornets, who suffered a 52-50 loss to Grady in the second game of the season, opened the second half with a flurry. Aspermont reeled off a 12-5 run over the first five minutes of the frame and took a stunning 40-35 lead.

Unfortunately for the Hornets, the run ran out of steam in the final three minutes — thanks in part to a pair of three-point shots from May.

Trailing by five, May cut Aspermont's lead to two, at 40-38, with a three-

pointer from the right wing. Less than 20 seconds later, Pribyla pushed home a reverse layup to tie the score at 40-40.

May's final three-point shot of the quarter came with 24 seconds left on the clock and staked the Wildcats to a 43-40 cushion heading into the final stanza.

May finished the contest with 13 points. Villa also hit double figures with 10.

Offensively, Grady sealed the win with a solid performance in the second half. The Wildcats shot 55 percent from the floor in the final 16 minutes.

Duane Godfrey led Aspermont with 2.

Bagwell, Biggio could be in last year together

KISSIMMEE, Fla. (AP) — Bidge and Bags. Bags and Bidge. Inseparable. Synonymous.

Newcomers Roger Clemens and Andy Pettitte might be the talk of the town, but Craig Biggio and Jeff Bagwell are the enduring core of the Houston Astros.

The bolstered pitching rotation could make their 14th season together their best chance to reach the franchise's first World Series. It also could be the last ride for the Killer B's, who have played together longer than any active pair.

"We have an opportunity to do something special this year," said Biggio, entering the last guaranteed year of his contract. "Guys aren't focused on next year. We're living in the present. Baseball is a game where the only thing anyone cares about is, 'What have you done for me lately?'"

That's part of the problem for Biggio.

Although he's a former All-Star at two positions, he's hit below .270 in three of the last four seasons and is still learning his latest defensive spot, center field.

Biggio has kept his run production steady and has remained among baseball's best doubles

hitters, but he's also 38. The Astros will have to think twice before picking up an option for 2005 that would pay him \$3 million in salary, plus up to \$1.5 million in bonuses. "You can't be naive," Bagwell said. "But let's play this season out first."

While the present is promising and the future is murky, the past has been littered with accolades if not pennants.

In 13 seasons together, they've celebrated four division titles, 11 All-Star trips and awards for rookie of the year and NL MVP (both by Bagwell). Both have endured position changes and injuries, plus the agony of going 2-12 in the playoffs and knowing they were partly to blame: Biggio has hit .130 in postseason, Bagwell .174.

Through it all, with teammates and managers coming and going, the two are as identifiable with the franchise as indoor baseball and rainbow jerseys.

"We know how lucky and fortunate we've been," Biggio said. "If you can get one guy to play that long it's special, let alone two guys to do it together in the same era. It just doesn't happen. What it means is, we've

been able to work things out, both sides. We've given back to the organization and the organization has given back to us."

An entire generation of Houstonians grew up with Biggio and Bagwell in the lineup. They dominate the team record book and already have been immortalized with bronze statues outside the downtown ballpark.

"They're like finger and nail, the way they love the game, the way they communicate, the way they are together," said Dodgers pitcher Jose Lima, a former teammate. "I think they're both Hall of Famers."

Biggio was a first-round pick from Seton Hall in 1987. The following summer he became the first position player of his draft to reach the majors.

Bagwell arrived in a 1990 trade-deadline deal that sent reliever Larry Andersen to Boston. The Red Sox were willing to deal the Double-A third baseman because he was stuck behind Wade Boggs and fellow prospect Scott Cooper.

Just 81 homers shy of 500, Bagwell is the franchise leader in homers, RBIs and walks. He's second in hits and runs, trailing Biggio in both.

Gonzalez error lifts Texas to 10-5 victory over KC

SURPRISE, Ariz. (AP) — Juan Gonzalez helped the Texas Rangers win another game, even though he is now on a different team.

Gonzalez's dropped flyball in the first inning led to three unearned Texas runs, and the Rangers went on to beat the Kansas City Royals 10-5 Friday.

Gonzalez signed with

Texas when he was just 16, and spent 10 of his 12 full seasons in the majors with the Rangers.

After two injury-plagued seasons in his return to Texas, he wasn't offered a new contract. So he signed a \$4.5 million, one-year deal with the Royals that includes a team option for 2005.

The three runs in the first came after two outs

and without a hit. Donnie Bridges (0-1) walked two batters and hit another before Jason Tyner's fly to right was dropped by Gonzalez. Every runner scored on the play, and Texas was ahead to stay.

Joaquin Benoit (1-0) gave up a run on two hits with two strikeouts in two innings.

Gonzalez had a pair of RBI singles.



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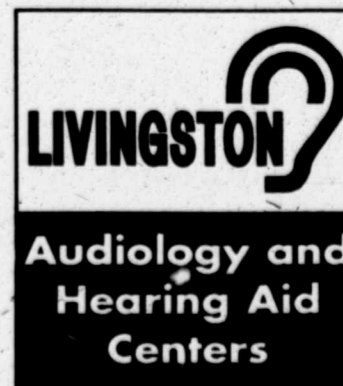
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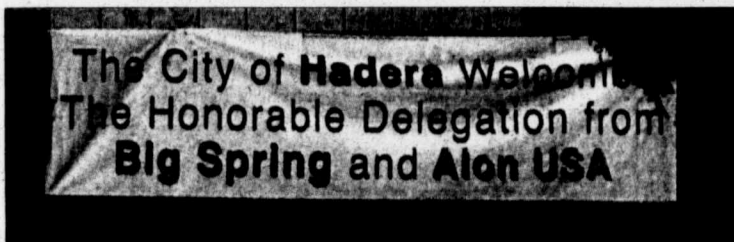
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Diplomats visit sister city



Contingent from Big Spring Refinery, city leaders find new friends in Hadera, Israel

Through the cooperative efforts of Big Spring's largest taxing entity, the local community has found a sister city in the Middle East.

"We now have a sister city in Israel," said Big Spring Mayor Russ McEwen, who was one of the members of a Big Spring delegation that visited the Israeli city of Hadera recently.

According to McEwen, it's unique for a city the size of Big Spring to have a sister city but this accomplishment was thanks to the effort of ALON USA Chairman of the Board David Wiessman, an Israeli citizen.

"He suggested this a couple of years ago," McEwen said. "We worked to make it a reality."

Members of the delegation from Big Spring were State National Bank President Jim Purcell and his wife, Vicki; Wells Fargo Bank President Duane Thomas; Big Spring oil businesswoman Myra Robinson; Big Spring Refinery Plant Manager Joe Concienne and his wife, Brenda; and Big Spring Mayor Russ McEwen and his wife, Laura.

"We spent five days touring Israel and met with some of the top political and business leaders of Israel," McEwen said. "We came away with many impressions of that country."

"We couldn't have been treated better," McEwen continued. "Their hospitality was over the top and we heard over and over how glad they were that we were there."

During the week-long tour, the group had a chance to visit Jaffa, one of the five oldest towns known to civilization; the Roman ruins at Caesarea; the Garden of Gesimine; the Dead Sea; and had a chance to walk many of the same steps Christ took on his way to the cross.

Although more than three times the size of Big Spring with a population of about 80,000, McEwen said Hadera and Big Spring have much in common, including serious economy problems.

But as Big Spring deals with the problem of attracting industry and a declining population, Hadera fights against a very different one.

"Terrorism has caused them to lose more than 80 percent of their tourism business and that's a major portion of their economy," McEwen said. "Israelis live in a constant state of siege, knowing that suicide



bombing has become an integral part of their lives."

McEwen and the delegation got an up close view of this life.

"This was really brought to mind in talking with Mr. Wiessman," he said. "He has a teenage daughter. He told me to think about the things you used to think about when your kids went out at night. What he has to think about also, is will his daughter come home at the end of the night."

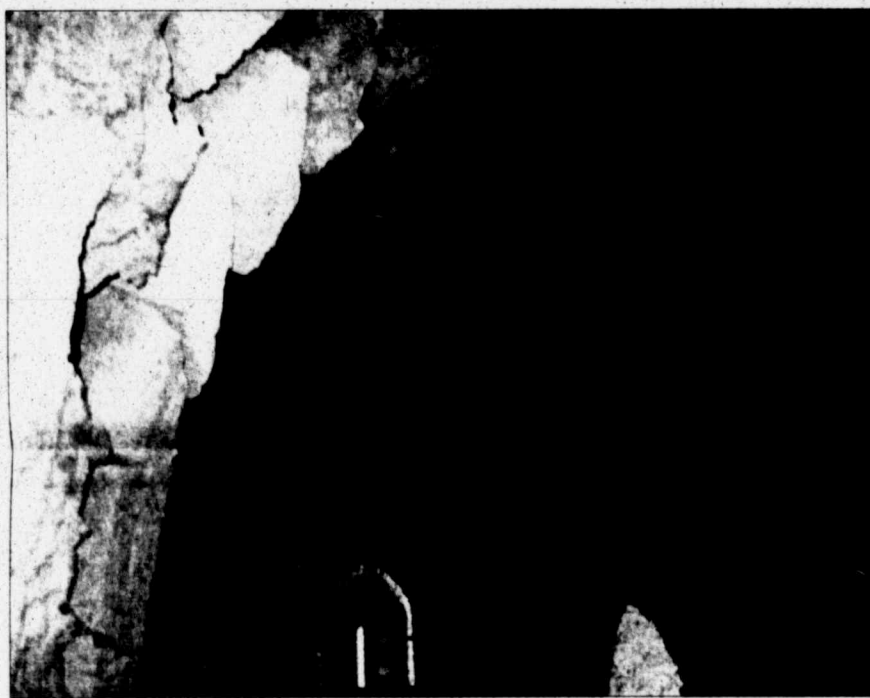
Living with the constant knowledge that a potential terrorist act could occur at any time has caused the country to take drastic measures to provide some sense of safety.

"There is one public entrance to city hall in Hadera," he said. "There are guards posted with machine guns at that entrance. I was jolted that this was a way of life that we can not even comprehend. Can you imagine going to city hall and being subjected to metal detectors and searches just to see a city official or pay a water bill?"

One particular incident while he was on the week-long tour of Israel will be cemented in his mind forever, McEwen said.

"They have a war memorial in Hadera," he said. "Laura and I had an opportunity to meet a gentleman who was there to visit the site in honor of his son, who was in the military. He was blown up in a suicide bombing. He was 18 years old."

"Needless to say, the experience of going to the wall and touching his son's name with him is something we will never forget," McEwen said. "Terrorism has become such a way of life in Israel that we sometimes tend to forget that this involves real people. I know I will never again hear of a suicide bombing or random shooting without saying a prayer for those who have fallen. I ask you to do the same and ask you to include Israel and their peace in your prayers."



Among those from Big Spring making the trip to Hadera, Israel, were (see photo, bottom left) Wells Fargo Bank President Duane Thomas, Big Spring Refinery Manager Joe Concienne, businesswoman Myra Robinson, State National Bank President Jim Purcell, Vicki Purcell, Brenda Concienne, Mayor Russ McEwen and Laura McEwen. The trip was made possible by ALON USA.

Text by Lyndel Moody, Photos courtesy of Jim Purcell



Weddings



**Mr. and Mrs. Mark Cave
Holder-Cave**

Christina Rachelle Holder and Mark Allen Cave were united in marriage December 20, 2003 at Trinity United Methodist Church in Snyder. Jackie Qualls, youth minister of Sunset Church of Christ in Lubbock and husband of the groom's cousin, performed the ceremony.

She is the daughter of Randy and Joan Dryden of Snyder and Terry and Jaymee Holder of Wichita Falls. Parents of the groom are James R. and Lois Cave of Snyder, formerly of Big Spring. The bride's grandparents are Rouy and Jeanenne Holder of Paris, Bill and Ellie Dryden of Snyder, and the late Jimmy and Jo Morris of Paris. His grandparents are Eilene

Cave and the late James Cave, formerly of Roby, and the late Foster Sims and Florine Price of Sterling City.

The bride was escorted by her fathers, Terry Holder and Randy Dryden to the altar. The bride's princess cut gown was white satin with pearl beaded bodice, straps and neckline. The gown's full skirt was trimmed with a beaded pearl design and swept back into a chapel train, featuring small satin covered buttons from the waist to the floor. The bride wore a white, pearl-beaded veil with white satin trim. Christina wore a necklace given to her by the groom as a wedding present and carried a bouquet of White

Eskimo Roses tied with white tulle.

Matron of Honor was Sarah Ashley of Abilene. Bridesmaids were Leslie Rollins of Austin and Sally Barham of Lubbock. They were dressed in black chiffon gowns with fitted bodices, spaghetti straps and softly draped skirts. Each carried long stemmed Cardinal Red Roses tied with silver and white ribbons. Flower girls were Emma Beaver and Morgan Cox, cousins of the groom from Sterling City. They carried posy balls of red berries and spray roses, tied with red satin ribbons. Their ballerina length, ivory, satin dresses were sleeveless and adorned with red sashes. Ivory hair bows and ballet shoes completed their attire. Best man was Casey Doyle of Lubbock. Groomsmen were Matthew Cave, brother of the groom from Weatherford, and Brandon Hackfeld of San Antonio. Ushers were Josh Holder, brother of the bride from Kansas City, Scott Love of Plano, and cousins of the groom, Taylor Johnson of Houston and Cooper Price of Abilene. Ring bearer was Kurt Dryden, brother of the bride. The groom and his attendants, fathers, and the ring bearer wore black tuxedos with matching vests, white wing collar shirts and long, black Windsor ties. Lauren Collier of Snyder registered guests.

The wedding party stood before an altar decorated with two silver fan candle arches, accented with white tulle. A myriad of red poinsettias, lighted garland and a Christmas tree, decorated in white, served as a backdrop for the ceremony. Two globe candelabra, decorated with white tulle bows marked the family pews. Music was provided by pianist, Edna Merrill of Snyder. The groom's sisters and sister-in-law; Robin Cave of Lubbock, Sterling Cave of Dallas, and Becky Cave of Weatherford sang an acappella arrangement of "We're Standing on Holy Ground" during the light-

ing of the Unity Candle. Brady Hackfeld of Snyder sang "I Will Be Here."

The reception was held in the Trinity United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall. Guest tables were covered with floor length white cloths and red damask overlays. The tables were graced with floating candles in silver and glass holders, decorated with red and white berries. The bride's table featured a five-tiered round white cake topped by a bouquet of red roses that cascaded in a swirl to the mirror server, which was decorated with asparagus fern. The cake was flanked by two large silver candleholders. The table was covered with a white, floor-length cloth and a white Battenburg lace overlay. Serving the cake were Lacey Kidd of Abilene and Jodi Mandrell of Weatherford, Okla. The groom's table was covered with a red damask cloth displaying a three-tiered German chocolate cake. The layers were shaped in graduated squares and decorated with variegated greenery and red glass berry garland. Cousins of the groom, Laura Johnson of Abilene, Lila Beard of Lewisville, Joellen Qualls of Lubbock, Jennifer Holmsley of Ozona, and Jillann Backstrom of Colorado took turns serving the groom's cake. Coffee and punch was served from a table covered with a white linen cloth and adorned with an arrangement of red roses and silver and crystal appointments. Serving were Janette Allen of San Antonio and Lauren Hackfeld.

Under a cascade of bubbles the couple left the church for a wedding trip to New Orleans. The bride is a 2000 graduate of Snyder High School and is a student at Texas Tech University. The groom is a 1998 graduate of Snyder High School. He received his B.S. Degree in Mechanical Engineering Technology from Texas Tech University. He is employed by Texas Tech. They make their home in Lubbock.



**Mr. and Mrs. Robert Munden
Nichols-Munden**

MeLissa Hope Nichols and Robert Cody Munden were married at 6 p.m. on Feb. 14 at Immanuel Baptist Church in San Angelo, with James Mitchell performing the ceremony.

The bride is the daughter of Lisa Nichols of San Angelo and Oliver Nichols of Big Spring, and the late Ricky Robertson. Her grandparents are Jim Lemons and the late Rhoda lemons of Big Spring, Myrta Nichols of Big Spring, and the late Morris Robertson and Jim Robertson.

The groom is the son of David and Lynn Munden of Bray, and the grandson of Nelda Munden and the late Bob Munden of Brady and Bill and Beth McDowell of Smithville.

The bride was given in marriage by her brothers, Trey Nichols and Richard B. Robertson.

The matron of honor was CharitiXan Stephens and Licia Robertson. Bridesmaids were Mandy Elkins, Mendy Seahorn and Carrie Elkins.

The flower girls at the ceremony were Madison, Morgan and Macy Massey, and Dillon Orr was the ring bearer.

James Kirk was the groom's best man. Groomsmen were Will Seahorn, Shay Elkins, Thadd Rich, Chilli Cole, Kaden Baker and Casey Hayes.

A reception at the Holiday Inn in San Angelo followed the ceremony.

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Big Spring Newcomers

• Bob Munsell, wife Beverly and daughter Latisssha of Midland. He is employed by the Texas Railroad Commission.

• Annelisse Ceniza, son Roland and daughters Katryna and Janica of Spearman. She is employed by Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

• Steven Johnson, wife Stephanie and sons Tanner and Corey of Midland. He is employed by Patterson Drilling.

• Mike Hays and wife Joyce of San Angelo. He is employed by O&M Construction.

• LeRoy Belcher of Denver, Colo. He is a semi-retired accountant.

• Jerry Belcher of

Austin. He is a retired machinist.

• Anthony Reiding of Siloam Springs, Ark. He is employed by the VA Medical Center.

• Scott Hendricks and wife Carrie of Grand Rapids, Mich. They are both employed by Wal-Mart Supercenter.

• Frank Olivarez Jr., wife Lupe and sons Frank III, Moses and Chris of Round Rock. He is employed by Hillside Properties.

• Alex Ledezma, wife Savannah and son Ezekiel of Austin. He is employed by Hillside Properties.

• Cecil Garcia, wife Sonya, daughters, Rebecca, Samantha,

Cassidy and Haley and son Dylan of Sweetwater. He is employed by J.S.J. drilling.

• Victoria Garza of Lamesa.

• Maryann Pacheco of Lamesa. She is employed by Texas Bollweevil.

• Sinn Robles and son Angle of Lamesa. He does security work.

• Jim Daniels, wife Kim and daughter Leah of Odessa. He does oilfield work and she is employed by Cornell Corrections.

• Pete Garcia, wife Belinda, daughter Christine and sons Timothy and Issac of Sweetwater. He is employed by J.S.J. Drilling.

• Kathleen Ellison and sons Abraham and Hezekiah of San Angelo. She does babysitting.

• Shamekia Ellison and sons John, King and Benjamin of San Angelo. She is a teachers aide.

• Terri Connell of San Angelo. She is employed by Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez Texas State Veterans Home.

• Tanner Davlin, wife Crystal and son Braxton of Midland. He is employed by Kirby Vacuum Cleaner Sales & Service.

• Moises Luna of Dallas. He is employed by Big Spring Holiday Express.

• Louis Morelino of Racho Cucamongo, Calif. He is employed by J.T. Construction.

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Engagements



**Carrie Clem and Matthew Reinhert
Clem and Reinhert**

Carrie Clem and Matthew Reinhert will be married at 7 p.m. on May 29 at Tankersley Gardens in Mount Pleasant.

She is the daughter of Kendal and Debra Clem of Ore City, and the granddaughter of Calvin and Betty Clem of Onalaska and Randy and Laura Bryant of Ore City.

He is the son of Janet Reinhert and the former Ralph Reinhert of Big Spring, and the grandson of Evelyn Malcolm and the former H.A. Malcom and Floyd and Evelyn Reinhert all of Iowa.

A 1998 graduate of Ore

City High School, the prospective bride received a master's of accounting degree from A&M University in 2003.

She is a staff accountant at Ernest and Young of Fort Worth.

The groom to be is a 1993 Big Spring High School graduate. He received a bachelor of science degree in agriculture from Texas Tech University, and a master's of business administration in finance from A&M University in 2002. He works as a financial analyst for Americredit Corp.



**Jessica Hogg and Michael Tulley
Hogg and Tulley**

Jessica Jo Hogg and Michael J. Tulley Jr. will be married at 5:30 p.m. on April 24 at the Shack in the Back in Midland.

The bride to be is the daughter of Greg and Cathey Hogg of Big Spring.

She holds an associate degree in nursing, and is employed at the

emergency room at Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

The prospective groom is the son of Michael and Wendi Tulley of Midland.

He earned a firefighter/emergency medical technician degree and is employed by the Big Spring Fire Department.

60th Anniversary

Hollis and Dorothy Bond celebrate

Hollis and Dorothy Bond celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on Christmas Day, 2003. On Jan. 31, a reception in their honor was given by their children at Windsor Park Baptist Church in DeSoto. The couple make their home in Mansfield.

They were married in 1943 at the home of the bride. Dorothy is the daughter of Perry N. Burleson and Reatha Carter Burleson, now deceased, who were residents of Big Spring for more than 50 years.

Hollis is the son of Luther Max Bond and Beulah Reynolds Bond, now deceased, who were residents of Big Spring for more than 30 years. His brother, Lane Bond, and sister, Freda Jo Hoover, live in Big

Spring. Their children are Hollis Bond Jr. of North Las Vegas, Nev., a network specialist, Philip Bond, the academic dean at Everest College in Arlington, and Beverly Bond Deacon, a dentist in DeSoto. They have seven grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Hollis is a retired captain from the Navy chaplaincy and currently serves as the Minister to the Homebound with Fielder Road Baptist Church in Arlington. Dorothy is a former school teacher and has served for 17 years as national secretary for the Burleson Family Association.

Their favorite hobby is genealogy, and each has gathered substantial data on their families.



Mr. and Mrs. Hollis Bond

Births



Trevor Lee Boyce

Trevor Lee Boyce

Stephanie and Henry Boyce of Artesia N.M. welcomed their son at 10:58 p.m. on Feb. 14, 2004, weighing 8 pounds, 1.4 ounces and 21 1/2 inches long. His grandparents are Kenneth and Mary Lou Baker of Big Spring and Sherry and Johnny Patman of Artesia, N.M. His great-grandparents are James and Jan Baker of Baird and Elwyn R. Barber of Homer, N.Y. His great-great-grandmother is Gizella Brack of Abilene.

Austin Louis Herl

Robyn Runyons and Bill Herl of Big Spring welcomed their son at

6:50 a.m. on Feb. 24, 2004, weighing 6 pounds, 5 ounces and 19 inches long. His grandparents are Bonnie Thuringer of Carlin, Nev., Robert Seago and Sheri Quiroga of Big Spring, and Gary Herl of Rockport.

Serena Nicole Alvarado

Sarah Olivas and Martin Alvarado of Big Spring welcomed their daughter at 6:36 p.m. on Feb. 25, 2004, weighing 7 pounds, 7 ounces and 20 1/2 inches long. Her grandparents are Erlinda Olivas of Big Spring, Emma Martinez of Mississippi and Vincent Alvarado of Knott.

Zoey Renee Castillo

Tony and Jaime Castillo of Big Spring welcomed their daughter at 10:08 a.m. on Feb. 26, 2004, weighing 7 pounds, 3 ounces and 20 inches long. Her grandparents are Fred Castillo, Sandy Castillo and Janie Valdez, all of Big Spring, and Juquin Valdez of Dallas.

Menus

SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER

MONDAY - Chicken strips, potatoes, squash, salad, milk/rolls, fruit.
TUESDAY - Beef tips & rice, peas/carrots, salad, rolls, milk.
WEDNESDAY - Steak & onions, potatoes, green beans, salad, milk/rolls, fruited gelatin.
THURSDAY - Cheeseburgers, French fries, lettuce/tomato, milk/buns, cobbler.
FRIDAY - Chicken spaghetti, mixed vegetables, salad, garlic bread, milk, fruit.

SANDS ISD
Breakfast
MONDAY - Cinnamon rolls.

TUESDAY - Muffins.
WEDNESDAY - Pancakes and sausage.
THURSDAY - Pop tarts.
FRIDAY - Cereal.
LUNCH
MONDAY - Hamburgers, lettuce and tomatoes, pickles, fries, cake and milk.
TUESDAY - Roast beef with gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, hot roll, mix fruit, milk.
WEDNESDAY - Frito pie, salad with cheese, pinto beans, corn bread, pear and milk.
THURSDAY - Ham with gravy, Mexican style rice, mashed potatoes, roll, peaches, and milk.
FRIDAY - Pizza, corn, salad, cookies, milk

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The features department of the Big Spring Herald is updating Bulletin Board, Take Note and Support Group columns. Please email us with updated information and a telephone number.
life@bigspringherald.com

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BUSINESS AND AGRICULTURE

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BIG SPRING HERALD

Page 4B
Weekend Edition, March 6-7, 2004

Stewart convicted on all counts

NEW YORK — Martha Stewart was convicted Friday of obstructing justice and lying to the government about a superbly timed stock sale — a devastating verdict that probably means prison for the woman who epitomizes meticulous homemaking and gracious living.

Stewart was found guilty of conspiracy, making false statements and obstruction of justice. The charges carry up to 20 years in prison at sentencing June 17, but she will most certainly get much less than that under federal sentencing guidelines.

Her ex-stockbroker, Peter Bacanovic, 41, was convicted of conspiracy, perjury, making a false statement and obstruction

of justice, but was acquitted of making a false document.

Stewart grimaced upon hearing the verdict, and her eyes widened.

"I am obviously distressed by the jury's verdict but I continue to take comfort in knowing that I have done nothing wrong," Stewart said in a statement on her Web site. "I will appeal the verdict and continue to fight to clear my name. I believe in the fairness of the judicial system and remain confident that I will ultimately prevail."

The jury of eight women and four men reached the verdicts on the third day of deliberations in the case.

Trading in her company, Martha Stewart Living Omnimedia, was halted after

"I am obviously distressed by the jury's verdict but I continue to take comfort in knowing that I have done nothing wrong."

the verdict. Earlier the stock shot up on word of a verdict.

The charges centered on why Stewart dumped about \$228,000 worth of ImClone Systems stock on Dec. 27, 2001, just a day before it was announced that the Food and Drug Administration had rejected ImClone's application for approval of a cancer drug. The announcement sent ImClone's stock plummeting.

Stewart and Bacanovic claimed they had a standing agreement to sell when the price fell below \$60. But the government contended that was a phony cover story and that Stewart sold because she was tipped by her broker that ImClone CEO Sam Waksal was frantically trying to dump his own holdings.

Waksal later admitted selling

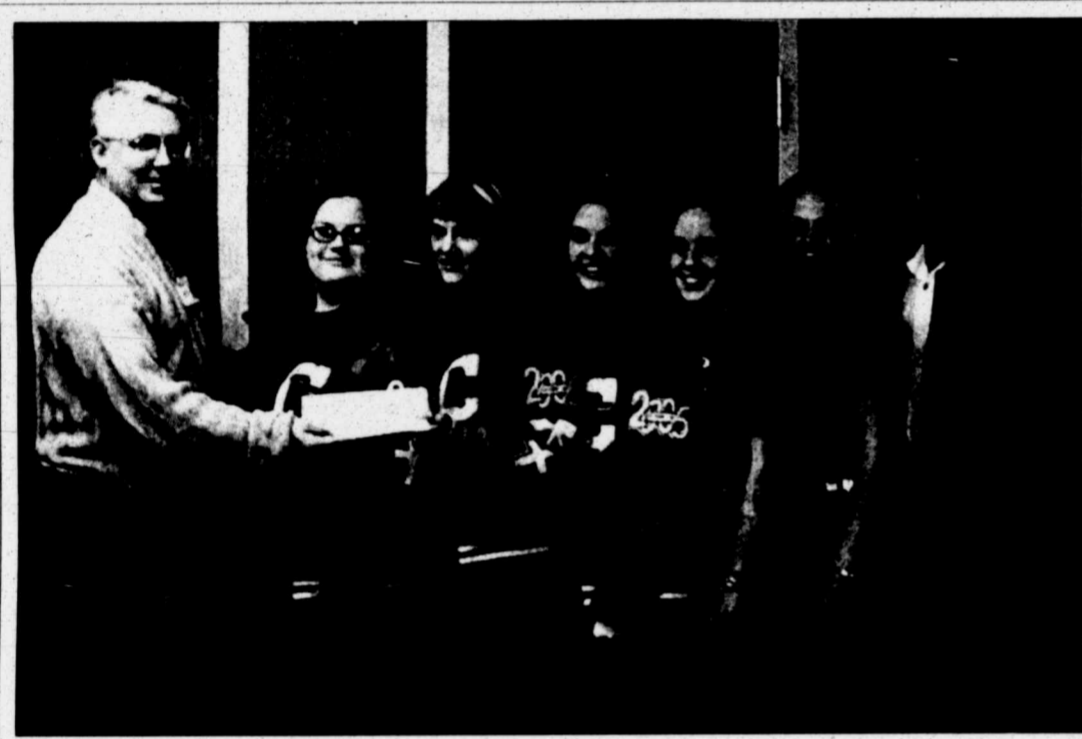
his stock based on advance word of the FDA decision. He is serving seven years in prison for insider trading.

Stewart, who averted more than \$51,000 in losses by selling when she did, was not charged with insider trading; instead, she and her broker were accused of lying about the transaction and altering records to support the alleged cover story.

The government now may press to have her removed from the board of her company. She stepped down as chief executive after being indicted last summer but remains as chief creative officer.

The verdict jeopardizes the

See STEWART, Page 5B



Bill Beauchamp, chief financial officer for Scenic Mountain Medical Center, presents a donation to Coahoma juniors, from left, Chelsea Griffin, Lauren Yeater, Brandi Kilpatrick and Megan Jackson. Two of the sponsoring parents, Susan and Mike Yeater, look on. The donation is for the Coahoma Prom and After Prom event to be held on May 4.

Courtesy photo

Coke paid its executives hefty bonuses amid cuts

ATLANTA (AP) — The Coca-Cola Co. paid \$8.4 million in bonuses to its top six executives last year, the equivalent of about \$2,300 for each of the 3,700 employees the world's largest beverage maker laid off during the same period, a federal filing shows.

The company also said the present value of retiring chief executive Doug Daft's restricted stock awards is \$86 million, and it paid out millions last year to companies that some of its directors own or hold a major stake in.

Corporate governance experts credited Coke for the disclosures in its proxy Thursday, but some question the justification for the compensation and business ties at a time when the company is downsizing and there is a heightened awareness toward accountability in corporate America.

"The reality is things aren't changing very much," said Paul Lapides, a corporate governance expert at Kennesaw State

"...our senior management took these actions to ensure that our organization delivers against the ever-evolving needs of our business and positions the company for long-term success."

University near Atlanta.

The company noted that the bonuses and the layoffs — which represented 7 percent of Coke's work force — are not related and should not be linked.

"Separating employees is always a difficult decision," Coke spokesman Ben Deutsch said. "But our senior management took these actions to ensure that our organization delivers against the ever-evolving needs of our business and positions the company for long-term success."

The filing said four shareholder

proposals facing the company at its annual meeting next month seek restrictions on executive compensation-related issues. Coke's board is asking shareholders to reject each of the proposals.

Deutsch defended the compensation and governance decisions.

He said the company achieved record results in 2003 in revenue and earnings. He also noted the company increased its return to shareholders 18 percent.

The company noted that 12 of its

See COKE, Page 5B

TDLR now accepting applications for new electrical safety program

Special to the HERALD

For decades, licensing of electricians has been done at the local or regional level and each Texas community has set its own standards and requirements. Some cities instituted licensing based on experience and testing, others required only registration and payment of a fee. In rural areas, there has generally been no licensing at all.

That will change on Sept. 1, when Texas kicks off a statewide licensing program for electricians. Electricians will need to earn only one license that will be valid throughout the state and all licensed electricians will be required to demonstrate

the same minimum standard of competence. The program was created by the 78th Texas Legislature last spring. It will be administered by the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR).

TDLR began accepting applications for the new license this past week. The agency estimates 60,000 electricians will apply.

"Texans have the right to feel secure in their homes and businesses, and a substandard electrical system can be dangerous," said State Representative Joe Driver, who sponsored the legislation that created the new program. "Right now, the standards

for electricians can vary widely from community to community and in rural areas there may be no standards at all. We deserve better than that.

"TDLR has earned a first-rate reputation for administering consumer protection programs," he said. "I believe that under their capable stewardship this program will allow Texans to be confident that any licensed electrician they hire will have the training and experience needed to capably perform his or her duties. The legislature has made an important commitment to consistency and security across the state."

The licensing program See LICENSE, Page 5B

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Area-Wide cover celebrates Relay for Life

The Howard/Glasscock Chapter of the American Cancer Society is celebrating its 10th anniversary for the Relay for Life event in Big Spring this May. To commemorate that, the Western Plains Area-Wide Phone Book will feature on its cover Tonya Vess, Kelsey Jones and Regan Newsom holding the "Links for a Cure" chain.

"More than 55,700 of the new directories will be delivered by the time distribution wraps up at the end of March," said Vicki Stout, sales manager for the Western Plains Area-Wide Phone Book.

Distribution of the book will begin March 15. The phone book includes listings and city maps for Big Spring, Colorado City, Snyder and Sweetwater, with added coverage of six counties and 31 communities. An updated Web pages section is located in the front of the book.

In addition, a popular feature, the coupon section, plus green cross-reference pages, are back, along with the area calendar of events page.

"For the convenience of Internet users, the Area-Wide Phone Book is now online at www.area-wide.com," said Stout.

Associated Publishing Company, with headquarters in Abilene, publishes and distributes more than 954,000 Area-Wide Phone Books to businesses and residents in 10 Texas markets, covering 65 counties and serving almost one million people.

Dell to step down as computer giant's CEO

DALLAS — After a 20-year run that has taken him from a student dormitory at the University of Texas to the list of the richest Americans, Michael Dell is stepping down as chief executive of the computer company bearing his name.

Dell Inc. announced Thursday that its 39-year-old founder would remain chairman but give up the CEO title to president and chief operating officer Kevin Rollins when shareholders meet July 16.

Analysts said they expected few changes at Dell, one of the world's most successful computer companies, even during a recession and technology slump that decimated profits at many of its rivals.

The timing of the move, however, caught analysts off guard. Dell, who became one of the richest men in America as his company grew, had given no strong signals he would step away from the CEO's duties.

Retailers report strong February sales

NEW YORK (AP) — Consumers' rising confidence gave the nation's retailers their third straight month of solid sales in February, with business above

See BUSINESS, Page 5B



Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce and Ambassador members held a ribbon cuttin this past week for Wireless Depot, 501 S. Birdwell, Suite 6. Pictured are, left to right, back row, Ryan Haskell, Steven Johnson, Brent Wood, Fran Roberts, Raul Marquez and John Weeks, and front row, Linda Shafer, Daryn Forrest and Shane Blair of Wireless Depot in Levelland, Shane Forrest of Wireless Depot in Big Spring, Clarence Hartfield and Debbye ValVerde.

Courtesy photo

BIG SPRING WEEKLY

PUBLISHED

Hot Check

The address known and problems with 264-2226.

Alvarado, Currie, Gard

Arcidez, Tanglewood,

Chelette, J. Big Spring

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Hansen, Park Ave., B

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Massey, S. No. 901, Mic

Moreno, f Mesquite

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Smith, B. Big Spring

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PUBLIC RECORDS

Hot Checks/Warrants issued:
The addresses listed are the last known addresses. If there are any problems with this list, please call 264-2226.

Alvarado, Cecilia, 317 West Currie, Garden City
Arcidez, Roseann, 325 Tanglewood, Midland
Chelette, Joyce, 1107 Jeffrey Rd., Big Spring
Dickerson, Rhonda, 601 Culp, Big Spring
Hansen, Timothy Edward, 1310 Park Ave., Big Spring
Hernandez, Rudolfo Jr., 1404 Park Street, Big Spring
Massey, Shelby, 4301 Raleigh Dr. No. 901, Midland
Moreno, Brigidom, 1330 Powell, Mesquite
Olivarez, Ramona, 1002 N. Main Street Apt. 46, Big Spring
Robles, Mercie, 3702 Hamilton, Big Spring
Smith, Bonnie, 2708 S. Anderson, Big Spring
Sowell, Brenda Loper, 2912 Cherokee, Big Spring
Westmoreland, Myron Dewayne, 1102 Lancaster, Big Spring
Wren, Richard M. Jr., 3303 91st

Street, Lubbock
Yates, Anthony, 1807 1/2 Johnson, Big Spring

County Court Decisions:

Probated Judgment: Malcolm Osburn, driving while license suspended, \$250 fine, \$311 court costs, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, six months probation).
Judgment and Sentence: Bobby Phillip Masters, perjury, \$500 fine, \$311 court costs, 60 days in jail.
Probated Judgment: Daniel A. Castillo, possession of marijuana less than 2 ounces, \$500 fine, \$261 court costs, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, 24 months probation).
Probated Judgment: Ernesto M. Muniz, possession of marijuana less than 2 ounces, \$500 fine, \$261 court costs, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, 24 months probation).
Judgment and Sentence: Leo Garcia Pena, driving while intoxicated-second offense, \$2,500 fine, \$326 court costs, 180 days in jail.
Probated Judgment: Jose Robert Hernandez, theft-more than \$500, less than \$1,500, \$500 fine, \$311 court costs, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, 12 months probation).

Probated Judgment: Benito Jose Rodriguez, driving while intoxicated, \$1,500 fine, \$276 court costs, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, 12 months probation).
Probated Judgment: Joshua Burcham, driving while license suspended, \$400 fine, \$261 court costs, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, six months probation).
Probated Judgment: Marcus Anderson, Failure to identify as a fugitive-intentionally giving false information, \$250 fine, \$261 court costs, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, six months probation).
Probated Judgment: Javiel Soliz, criminal trespass-habitation, \$500 fine, \$261 court costs, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, six months probation).

Marriage Licenses:
Gary Len Green, 30, and Abigail Robinson, 22, both of Big Spring.
Cody Gene Carlisle, 25, and Kendra Gamble McKenzie, 22, both of Knott.
Roberto Salazar Hernandez, 55, and Irene Cerna Ruiz, 56, both of Big Spring.
Russell Lee Carson, 22, and Alicia Faye Green, 17, both of Big Spring.
Michael Eugene Kloss II, 22, and Amanda Sue Jordan, 21, both of Big Spring.
Maragrito Castaneda Loya, 27, and Janette Marie Headrick, 33, both of Big Spring.
Robert Allen Fleet, 32, and Felicia Guadalupe Mendoza, 24, both of Big Spring.
Bobby Allen King, 31, and Kimberly Leann Smith, 26, both of Big Spring.

District Court Filings:
Fernando Alavarez vs. Betty Newberry, divorce.
Big Spring Hospital Corporation dba Scenic Mountain Medical Center vs. Brad Talley dba Karyn Properties, accounts, notes and contracts.
State Farm Bank FSB vs. Claudie Horn and Patsy Horn, accounts, notes and contracts.
Pangea Corporation, Arthur W. Wiebusch and Lonnie C. Gaston vs. Jimmy Hector and Dave's Tubing Testing and Hot Oil Services Inc., accounts, notes and contracts.

Warranty Deed:
Grantor: Ricky Edwards
Grantee: Mark Edwards
Property: Lot 8, Block 20, Cole and Strayhorn Addition
Date filed: Feb. 17, 2004

Grantor: Doyle D. Vaughn and Mildred M. Vaughn
Grantee: Clay Harris
Property: Lots 1 and 2, Block 39, Original Town of Big Spring
Date filed: Feb. 23, 2004
Grantor: George Sloan and Lola Sloan
Grantee: Dana B. Sloan
Property: SW/4 section of Section 24, Township 12, Oklahoma County
Date filed: Feb. 24, 2004
Warranty Deed with Vendor's Lien:
Grantor: Juan Guevara and Elisa Guevara
Grantee: Alex Gutierrez and Abby Z. Gutierrez
Property: South half of Lot 9, Block 2, Wright's Second Addition
Date filed: Feb. 19, 2004
Grantor: Gary Lynn Gressett and

Tommy D. Gressett
Grantee: Dennis P. Schwartz
Property: Lot 9, Block 4, Mitel Acres
Date filed: Feb. 20, 2004

Grantor: Reveille Mae Patterson
Grantee: Benjamin D. Muller and Misti D. Muller
Property: Lot 7, Block 17, Kentwood Addition No. 2
Date filed: Feb. 20, 2004
Grantor: Prasanna Athyala and Sailaja Athyala
Grantee: Alfonso Preciado and Gisela Preciado
Property: Lot 12, Block 11, Coronado Hills
Date filed: Feb. 24, 2004
Grantor: Cecilia Mae Adams and William Davis McDonald
Grantee: Shawn Zubiate and Jose Zubiate
Property: Lot 1 and the est seven feet of Lot 2, Block 27, Cole and Strayhorn Addition.
Date filed: Feb. 24, 2004

STEWART

Continued from Page 4B

media empire that Stewart carefully built over the years in becoming the nation's premier homemaker — an image she put forth by way of magazines,

TV programs and everything from cookie cutters and garlic presses to bedsheets and pillows. Marketing experts have said that the company is so closely tied to her name and face that the effect could be devastating.

Stewart was easily the most recognizable face in the govern-

ment crackdown on corporate crime that began with the collapse of Enron in 2001. Stewart's supporters claim she was being targeted because of her celebrity status.

The government's star witness was Douglas Faneuil, a former Merrill Lynch & Co.

assistant who said he passed the tip about Waksal to Stewart on orders from his boss, Bacanovic. Faneuil said that when he told Bacanovic about a flurry of selling by the Waksal family that morning, Bacanovic blurted: "Oh my God, get Martha on the phone."

He also said Bacanovic pressured him to lie about the transaction.

Prosecutors further contended Bacanovic doctored a worksheet of Stewart's portfolio after the fact by making the notation "(at60)" next to her ImClone stock.

COKE

Continued from Page 4B

16 directors are independent, meaning they aren't Coke employees. The company also said high salaries are important to retain key executives, and that it always ties its decisions to performance.

The company said the majority of the restricted stock awards are tied to

the company hitting a certain growth target over a certain period and Daft being with the company through 2005. It is not clear how much of the stock awards Daft will ultimately receive or when.

Deutsch said the board's compensation committee has not made any decision about Daft's retirement benefits.

Among the highlights in the filing:

— Coke paid Daft a \$4 million bonus last year, \$1.5 million to president Steve Hoyer, \$874,531 to executive vice president Alexander Allan, \$650,000 to chief financial officer Gary Fayard, \$589,875 to executive vice president Mary Minnick and \$787,000 to former vice chairman Brian Dyson. Daft announced last month that he would retire at the end of 2004, and Dyson retired from

the company in August. — At the end of 2003, Daft's 1.7 million restricted stock shares were valued at \$86.3 million.

— McLane Co., a subsidiary of billionaire investor and Coke director Warren Buffett (news web sites) Berkshire Hathaway holding company, paid Coke \$103.9 million last year for fountain syrup and other products. Also in 2003, Coke gave McLane \$11 million in

agency commissions related to the sale of the company's products to customers.

— Fast-food and ice cream chain Dairy Queen, another company Buffett owns, and its subsidiaries, paid Coke \$2.2 million for fountain syrup and other products. Coke and its subsidiaries last year gave Dairy Queen and its subsidiaries \$688,000 for promotional and marketing incentives

for corporate and franchise stores.

— Coke paid The Washington Post Co., in which Buffett holds a significant stake, \$400,000 in 2003 for advertising fees.

— In 2003, Coke paid King & Spalding, an Atlanta law firm, \$13.8 million for legal services. Coke director Sam Nunn, a former U.S. senator, was a member of the law firm until he retired on Dec. 31.

LICENSE

Continued from Page 4B

was created last year by House Bill 1487. The law specifies the experience needed to qualify for each level of license, from apprentice to master electrician, from journeyman sign to master sign electrician and electrical contractor. In addition, electricians are required to demonstrate their knowledge by passing an electrical code examination approved by TDLR.

The law, however, allows for a three-month grandfathering period during which electricians may qualify to receive a state license without taking an exam if they meet specific criteria including, but not limited to, prior local licensure, education and experience.

In addition to the benefit uniform standards offer consumers, the program also will make it easier for many electricians to ply their trade, legislators said. Under the current balkanized system of licensing, an electrician may be required to obtain a separate license for each municipi-

pal or regional license.

For example, Keith Bell, who chairs TDLR's Electrical and Licensing Advisory Board, is an electrician in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. He currently maintains 28 municipal licenses — all expiring at different times — and has allowed 10 others to lapse this year because there was no immediate need for them.

"It is not often you can create a new regulatory program that actually reduces the regulatory burden and red tape for license holders," said William Kuntz, TDLR executive director. "But in many cases, that is what this one does. Instead of maintaining dozens of licenses and trying to keep track of all of them, electricians will need only one. Instead of having to acquire a new license every time they work in a different city, they will have a portable license that allow them to work anywhere in the state."

While the law does not prohibit cities from issuing local licenses that will permit electricians to work in those cities, many cities have indicat-

ed they plan to discontinue their local licensing programs once the new statewide program begins. This will allow cities the ability to free up resources now dedicated to electrician licensing to meet other critical needs. TDLR will be

working closely with communities to ensure the transition to the new system is smooth and all local and state efforts are coordinated.

An "electricians" Web page set up on the TDLR site located at www.license.state.tx.us

will allow applicant to check on the status of their application as it is processed. Until June 1, applicants can apply for a license without passing an exam if they can satisfy requirements established by HB 1487.

After the grandfathering

period ends, all applicants will need to present proof of having passed a TDLR-approved exam, which evaluates their occupational knowledge. Unless exempted by law, all electricians who wish to work statewide will be required to be licensed by Sept. 1.

Hurry, The Deals Are Great....
Come Get Your Vehicle Today, Before It's Gone!!

CARS



2000 Pontiac Grand AM GT Coupe 2D - Stk# D26, V6, Auto., FWD, A/C, Power Steering/Windows/Doors/Locks, Tilt/Cruise, Alloy Wheels. Was \$9,795. NOW \$8,995

1997 Cadillac Catera 4-DR. - Stk# C177, Gold, Sunroof, Leather Seats, 54,000 Miles! Was \$9,995. NOW \$8,995

2000 Chrysler Concorde LX. - Stk# C158A, V6, auto., Power Seat, Windows, Locks/Mirrors, 39,000 Miles. Was \$9,995. NOW \$8,995

2000 Buick LeSabre Custom Sedan 4D - Stk# D29, V6, Auto., FWD, A/C, Power Steering/Windows/Locks, Tilt/Cruise, Alloy Wheels. Was \$11,995. NOW \$10,995

2001 Buick LeSabre Limited - Stk# C110, Auto., Power Steering, Power Windows/Locks, CD, Traction Control, Leather, Dual Power Seats. Was \$12,995. NOW \$10,995

2000 Mercury Grand Marquis LS Sedan 4D - Stk# C146, V8, 4.6 Liter, Auto, A/C, Power Steering, Power Windows/Locks, Alloy Wheels. Was \$12,995. NOW \$11,495

2001 Buick LeSabre Custom Sedan 4D - Stk# C143, V6, 3.8 Liter, Auto., FWD, A/C, Power Seat, Alloy Wheels, 23,000 Miles. Was \$13,995. NOW \$11,995

2003 Buick Century - Stk# C120, V6, Automatic, Power Windows/Locks, AM/FM Cassette, Power Seat. Only 13,500 Miles! Was \$14,995. NOW \$12,495

2000 Buick LeSabre Limited - Stk# C103, Auto., AC, Power Windows/Locks, CD, OnStar, Leather, Dual Power Seats. Was \$14,995. NOW \$12,995

PICKUPS

2000 GMC Sierra 1500 Long Bed - Stk# D23, V8, 4.8 Liter, Auto., 2WD, SLE, A/C, Power Steering/Windows/Door Locks, Tilt/Cruise, Alloy Wheels. Was \$12,995. NOW \$11,995

2000 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 Pickup Short Bed - Stk# D39, V6, 4.3 Liter, Auto., 2 WD, A/C, Power Steering, AM/FM Stereo, Alloy Wheels. Was \$12,995. NOW \$11,995

1998 Ford F150 Super Cab Short Bed - Stk# D8, V8, Auto., 2WD, Third Door, XLT, A/C, Tilt/Cruise, AM/FM Stereo, Cassette, Only 47K miles. Was \$12,995. NOW \$11,995

2001 Chevrolet S-10 Ext. Cab Xtreme LS - Stk# D16, V6, Automatic, Blue In Color, Ground Effects. Was \$13,995. NOW \$12,995

2002 Dodge 1500 Pickup Short Bed - Stk# D2, Automatic, 2WD, ST, A/C, Power Steering, Tilt/Cruise, AM/FM Stereo, 11,000 Miles. Was \$15,995. NOW \$14,995

2000 GMC Sierra 1500 Ext. Cab SLE - Stk# C179, 47,000 Miles, Dual Power Seats, CD, Bed Liner, 5.3 V-8, Auto. Was \$16,995. NOW \$15,995

2001 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 Pickup Extended Cab Long Bed - Stk# C167, V8, 5.4 Liter, Auto., 2 WD, SLE, Towing Pkg., Alloy Wheels. Was \$16,995. NOW \$15,995

2002 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 Pickup Ext. Cab Short Bed - Stk# D33, V8, 5.3 Liter, Auto., Tilt/Cruise, AM/FM Stereo, CD, Alloy Wheels. Was \$21,995. NOW \$19,995

2002 Chevrolet Silverado Pickup HD Ext. Cab Short Bed - Stk# D36, V8, 6.6L Turbo Diesel, 6 Speed manual, 4WD, A/C, Tilt/Cruise, Alloy Wheels. Was \$30,995. NOW \$28,995

PICKUPS

2001 Dodge 1500 Pickup Short Bed - Stk# D1, Automatic, 2WD, A/C, Power Steering/Locks, Tilt/Cruise, AM/FM Stereo, Alloy Wheels. Was \$11,995. NOW \$9,995

2002 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 Pickup Short Bed - Stk #503A, V6, 5 Spd., A/C, PS, T/C, AM/FM Stereo, Alloy Wheels. Was \$11,995. NOW \$11,495

2000 Ford F150 XL - Stk# C178, Reg. Cab SWB, White, 34,000 Miles, Tilt/Cruise, CD, 6 Cyl., Automatic. Was \$12,995. NOW \$11,495

SPORT UTILITY

1997 GMC Suburban 2500 - Stk# D11, V8, 5.7 Liter, Auto., 2 WD, SLT, A/C, Rear Air, Tilt/Cruise, Alloy Wheels, MUST SEE! Was \$12,495. NOW \$11,995

2000 Jeep Grand Cherokee Laredo - Stk# D21, 6 Cyl., Automatic, CD, Cassette, Tow Pkg. Was \$13,995. NOW \$12,995

2001 Chevrolet Suburban 1500 Sport Utility - Stk# C131, Auto., 2WD, LT, A/C, Rear Air, Power Steering/Windows/Locks, Tilt/Cruise, AM/FM Stereo, Cass., Towing Pkg., Alloy Wheels, One Owner! Was \$25,995. NOW \$23,495

2003 Chevrolet Suburban 1500 Sport Utility - Stk# C156, Auto., 4WD, 271 Off-Road Pkg., A/C, Rear air, Power Steering/Windows/Locks, Tilt/Cruise, AM/FM Stereo, Cass., Alloy Wheels. Below Wholesale! Was \$31,995. NOW \$28,995

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Help Wanted

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

CITY OF Big Spring is accepting applications for Jailor and Animal Control Officer. For further information contact the Personnel Department at City Hall, 310 Nolan, Big Spring, TX 79720 or Call (432)264-2346. The City of Big Spring is EOE.

Help Wanted

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FAX 432-699-2353
or apply online at www.intrepidusa.com



Help Wanted

FULL TIME legal secretary needed. Must have strong computer and typing skills. Two years legal experience required. Must have references. Send resume to P.O. Box 2199, Big Spring, Texas 79721.

Help Wanted

WALLACE MEDICAL Prison Unit in Colorado City is taking applications for an LVN for the 3 pm to 11 pm shift. For further information contact Sandra Sullivan, Human Resources at (325)728-3431 ext. 7105 for more information.

Help Wanted

BRAZOS SALON. Opening for 2 Nail Techs, 2 months FREE. Call Barbara (432)268-1019 Mon.-Fri. 9:00-4:00.

Help Wanted

IMMEDIATE OPENING for clerk/cashier/cook. Apply at 3315 E. FM 700, Neighbors Convenience Store.

Help Wanted

Help Wanted



The Alon USA Refinery in Big Spring, Texas has the following Maintenance positions available. Knowledge of safety policies and procedures and personal protective equipment is essential. Additionally, all new hires will be required to progress to a Level III certification proficiency within two years.

Instrument and Electrical Craftsman - Level I

Applicants should have one year of I/E experience in an industrial environment and be able to complete basic instrument and electrical tasks. Applicants with a two year Associates degree in an I/E field and that possess basic computer skills are preferred.

Pipefitter Craftsman - Level I

Applicants should have three years of experience as a pipefitter/boilermaker and have the ability to operate equipment associated with maintenance activities such as a 15 ton crane, winch truck and JLG. Applicants should have experience installing both welded and threaded pipe and be qualified in exchanger maintenance, filter changes and rigging skills.

Qualified applicants should mail or fax a resume to:

Alon USA
Human Resources Department
P.O. Box 1311
Big Spring, Texas 79721
Fax# 432-263-9366

Equal Employment Opportunity - M/F

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

\$ EARN EXTRA MONEY \$ DELIVERING TELEPHONE BOOKS

Independent Contractors (must be at least 18) needed to deliver the Western Plains Area Wide Phone Book in Big Spring, Colorado City and surrounding areas.

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Market Distribution Specialists, Inc.

Help Wanted

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

Help Wanted



West Texas Centers for MHMR:

Has opening for HCS Service Coordinator part time up to 20-40 hours as needed. Performs needed assessments, service planning/authorization, monitoring, and advocacy activities for individuals with mental retardation. Travel required within service area. May be required to use personal vehicle. Requires Bachelor's degree in Human Service field or 4 years related experience. Salary is \$12.90 hr.

Applications may be obtained at 409 Rannels or by calling **JOBLINE 800-687-2769**
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18 Mos. to 13 yrs.
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Commercial or Residential
Munoz Const.
Office: 432-570-4815
Cell: 894-1354

HOME IMPROVEMENT

DOORS/ GARAGE DOORS/OPENERS
Home Repair • Carpentry
Sheet Work
Repaired/Replaced
Kitchen & Bath
BOB'S CUSTOM WOODWORK
409 E. 3RD 267-5811

HOME IMPROVEMENT

Brickwork Cinderblock Concrete Work
Brickwork, Blockwork Fences, Concrete, Patios, Driveways
Mailboxes
Free Estimates
Luis Rios Jr. 432-263-5570
Cell: 466-3103

LAWN SERVICE

LAWN CARE
MOWING & EDGING
267-7558

LAWN SERVICE

MOWING, TILLING, HAULING TREE TRIMMING CLEAN STORAGE SHEDS AND ODD JOBS
CALL **432-267-5460**
LEAVE MESSAGE

LAWN SERVICE

GRASSMASTERS
Lawn Care Service
Tree Trimming
432-264-0729
432-213-2500
Locally Owned & Insured
Willie Stilwell

RENTALS

VENTURA COMPANY
432-267-2655
Houses
Duplexes
1, 2, 3 Bedrooms
For rent/sale
410 Dallas
905 E. 15th
710 E. 18th

ROOFING

FULLMOON ROOFING, INC.
Voted Top 100 Roofing Contractors In America
FREE ESTIMATES
No Money Down
COMPETITIVE PRICES
432-267-5478

ROOFING

PALACIOS ROOFING & HOME IMPROVEMENT
Roofs, Room Additions, Ceramic Tile, Fences, Painting Insured & Bonded
Home Phone# **432-263-5430**
Cell# **432-213-0363**

ROOFING

JOHNNY FLORES ROOFING
Shingles, hand nailed Hot Tar & Gravel.
All types of repairs. Work guaranteed!!
Specialized Hot Tar Roofs
Free Estimates & Surrounding Areas
267-1110

SIDING

FOUR SEASONS Insulation & Siding
Big Spring's OLDEST
LOCALLY OWNED
Insulation & Siding Company
432-264-8610

TAX SERVICES

FAST CASH
On Income Tax Refund Loan In 1-3 Days
TAX ASSOCIATES
406 Rannels (Across From Bargain Mart)
CALL **(432) 264-6134**
"So Habla Espanol"

TREE TRIMMING

LUPE'S TREE TRIMMING
More than 20 years of experience. Stump grinder available.
For Tree Trimming and removal.
Call **Lupe**
432-267-8317
432-268-9841

WEED CONTROL

SOUTHWESTERN A-1 PEST CONTROL
Since 1954
432-263-6514
2008 Birdwell Lane
Max F. Moore
www.swalpc.com
mm@swalpc.com

WEB PRINTING

For Information On Web Printing
Call **Tony Hernandez**
263-7331
BIG SPRING HERALD

Help Wanted

Medical Arts Hospital
changing lives one caring for today

ATTENTION MEDICATION AIDES and LVNs!

EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITIES IN CORRECTIONAL NURSING! Now staffing all shifts at TDCJ Preston E. Smith Unit in Lamesa. We offer a great benefits package as well as competitive salaries. Direct inquiries/resume:

Human Resource Medical Arts Hospital
1600 N. Bryan
Lamesa, Tx. 79331
806-872-2183
806-872-7943 Fax

Help Wanted

BRAZOS SALON. All - All-Styling Station for rent looking for a whole new crew. 2 Months FREE Rent. Call Barbara (432)268-1019 Mon.-Fri. 9-4.

BROWNE BROTHERS in Colorado City is now accepting applications for full time welding positions. 5 yrs. exp. prefer. Apply in person Mon-Fri. 7:30-4:30. Salary DOE. Call (325)728-3817

PHILLIPS FINA- Looking for cashier & manager position. Apply @ store. Located @ 1506 East FM 700. Manager position salary starting @ \$600. weekly. Please No Calls.

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

Help Wanted

DO YOU ENJOY WORKING WITH PEOPLE?

If, so, Citizens-Federal Credit Union may have a job for you! We have a career opportunity for a full-time Teller. We're looking for an enthusiastic, highly motivated individual to be part of our team. Excellent communication skills are a must, a financial background a plus. Starting salary based on experience. We offer a broad range of benefits. Send your resume to Citizen FCU Personnel Dept. P.O. Box 425, Big Spring, TX 79721. You may also pick up an application in our lobby at 701 E. FM 700, Big Spring, Texas, 79720, Citizens is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

DRIVERS BE HOME DAILY. Coastal Transport is a leader in transport of LPG Asphalt & Petroleum Products. Coastal serves high profile accounts & needs dedicated professionals to join our growing team in Big Spring. Qualify 25 with class A & One year driving experience. Call Jay at 888-527-7221

Help Wanted

Flatbed Drivers & Owner Operators
The Time Is Now To Start With SMX

Owner Ops: Wkly Settlements, Group Rates on Insurance, License Plates & Permits Program. **Company Drivers:** High Wkly Miles, 99' or newer equip, Full Benefits Pkg, Min. age 23 yrs, good MVR, 1 yr. OTR, CDL-A

800-247-8040
www.smxxc.com EOE

GIRLING HEALTH Care, Inc. Home Care Attendants needed in Big Spring and surrounding areas to help with housekeeping and personal care. For more information call (800)665-4471 or (915)643-5604. Spanish Speaker a plus!

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

Help Wanted

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.

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.

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.

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

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

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, Trackhoe Job Placement Assistance. Call Today!! 1-866-565-1694.

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.

Instructional

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.

Miscellaneous

500 ALL Time Best Computer Games on one CD Rom. Don't Delay!! Call 307-276-3707.

FOR SALE: Nice Queen size Hide-a-bed Sofa, tables, lamps and TV table. Call for more info (432)264-7671.

MORGAN HOTTUB seats 5 people. Pearl white. Great Condition. \$1200.00. OBO. Call (432)267-2171 or 816-6029.

Miscellaneous

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

\$100,000/YEAR CLERICAL work for government, No Commute, No experience necessary, any hours. \$128.3 billion in Federal money for the Unemployed or Underemployed just released. Everyone qualifies. Call Federated 1-800-506-5546 24/7.

GOVT 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

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

DATA ENTRY Could Earn \$15/ Hour and up! Medical Billing, Training Provided, PC Required! CALL 7 Days. 1-800-797-7511 ext. 227

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 1-888-269-6090 ext. 100

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LOVELY NEIGHBORHOOD COMPLEX

Swimming Pool
Carports,
Most Utilities Paid,
Senior Citizen
Discounts,
1 & 2 Bedrooms &
1 or 2 Baths
Unfurnished

KENTWOOD APARTMENTS

1964 East 25th Street
267-5444
263-5000

2202 RUNNELS, 3 Bedroom, 1 bath. Call (432)267-3841 or 270-7309.

Help Wanted

DRIVERS WANTED

Crude Oil Hauling

WE OFFER:
Guaranteed 40 Hours • 401k/Health Benefits/Bonus Program

WE REQUIRE:
CDL, X Endorsement, 1 Year Experience
Good MVR and Work History

Please Call 1-877-818-9548 ext. 109

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

CAP ROCK ENERGY has immediate opening for Groundman position in our Stanton Office. Position assists crews and lineman 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

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

Vehicles

Jimmy Hopper Auto Sales

MOST CARS FINANCED W/REASONABLE DOWNPAYMENT

CARS

1995 Mazda Miata Convertible	1997 Kawasaki Vulcan 800 CC
1999 SOLD Ramry 4-DR.	1998 Chevy Cavalier 2-DR.
1998 Ford Taurus SE	1999 Chrysler Sebring
1999 SOLD Cabre	2000 SOLD Port 2-DR.
1999 Nisan Altima	2001 Mercury Sable
	2002 Chrysler P.T. Cruiser

TRUCKS

1999 SOLD Ext. Cab	1999 Chevy Tahoe LT
1998 Ford Grand Reg. Cab	1999 GMC Yukon SLT
1998 Dodge Ram Caravan SE	2001 SOLD Ext. Cab 3-DR.
2000 Ford Windstar	2001 Ford F-150 Ext. Cab
1996 Ford Explorer 4-DR.	2002 Chevy Reg. Cab Short Bed
1997 Ford Explorer Eddie Bauer 4-DR.	2001 Ford Sport Explorer 2-DR.
1997 Chevy Suburban 4X4	1996 Isuzu Rodeo
1998 Ford Explorer Limited 4-DR.	1994 GMC Sierra Ext. Cab
2000 SOLD XLT 4-DR.	1995 Chevy Ext. Cab

Jimmy Hopper Auto Sales

1607 E. FM 700
Big Spring, TX 79720
267-5588

Help Wanted

West Texas Centers for MHMR:

Has position for Best Practice Specialist. High school diploma/GED required. Prefer 1 year experience in duties related to the position. Salary \$9,93hr (\$20,652.00 annually). Benefits Mon.-Fri. 8-5.

Applications may be obtained at 409 Runnels or by calling JOBLINE 1-800-687-2769 or www.wtcmhmr.org. EOE.

Help Wanted

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

Help Wanted

West Texas Centers for MHMR:

Chief Accountant: Challenging fast paced position. Accounting degree required, supervisory experience preferred. Supervises a group of staff that perform accounting, budget and payroll activities. Salary \$40,000-\$50,000 annually. DOE.

Applications may be obtained at 409 Runnels
JOBLINE at 800-687-2769. or visit www.wtcmhmr.org. EOE.

Help Wanted

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.

Newsday Crossword

SATURDAY STUMPER by Anna Stiga
Edited by Stanley Newman

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| ACROSS | 50 Philippine native | 4 Proscriptions | 32 Angling spot |
| 1 Subs | 51 First | 5 Stowe book | 33 One in custody |
| 9 '90 Wimbledon champ | 53 Washing-machine part | 6 Sure thing | 34 Most summery |
| 15 Grand Canyon carver | 55 Brutus Jones creator | 7 Worship | 37 Fryer |
| 16 More handy | 56 Become balanced | 8 Mythology branch | 38 Lapse |
| 17 Repent | 57 Swiss conglomerate | 9 Tied up | 39 Sort of stand |
| 18 Jennifer Lopez, for one | 58 Long writing | 10 GM offering | 40 Oscar role of '42 |
| 19 Does over | 59 Have no use for | 11 They fly by night | 44 Begin |
| 20 Brooklyn Dodgers' last manager | | 12 Eastern African | 45 Stir |
| 21 Times | DOWN | 13 Give up | 46 In order |
| 22 Hearst columnist | 1 Close calls | 14 Funding recipients | 49 Fountain orders |
| 24 Fixed routine | 2 Conveyors | 23 New Deal agcy. | 50 Common-wealth member |
| 25 Byelorussia, once | 3 Roberto of baseball | 26 Prevents | 52 Tad |
| 26 Casablanca topper | | 29 X-ray unit | 54 Go fast |
| 27 Election tender | | 31 Water-filled vessel | |
| 28 Compass letters | | | |
| 29 Fixed routine | | | |
| 30 Media buyer's concern | | | |
| 32 Dietary need | | | |
| 35 Perfects | | | |
| 36 Needing fixing | | | |
| 39 Give out | | | |
| 41 NL team | | | |
| 42 Sports runner | | | |
| 43 Golf-show segment | | | |
| 44 Loads of fun | | | |
| 47 Fringe | | | |
| 48 Oz figure | | | |

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Answer to previous puzzle

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Real Estate for Rent

Real Estate for Rent

Real Estate for Rent

HILLSIDE PROPERTIES

Homes With Alarm Systems

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

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

Swimming Pool - Basketball & Volleyball Courts

24 Hour Emergency Maintenance

2501 Fairchild Phone 263-3461

Real Estate for Rent

Real Estate for Rent

Real Estate for Rent

Ponderosa Apartments

A Nice Place For Nice People

¥All Utilities Paid

¥One Bedroom - 820 sq. ft.

¥Two Bedroom One Bath - 1080 sq. ft.

¥Two Bedroom Two Bath - 1280 sq. ft.

¥Three Bedroom Two Bath - 1800 sq. ft.

Furnished & Unfurnished

1425 E. 6th • 263-6319

Real Estate for Rent

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

BEAUTIFUL GARDEN COURTYARD
•Swimming Pool
•Private Patios
•Carpools
•Appliances
•Most Utilities Paid
•Senior Citizens Discount
•1 & 2 Bedroom Unfurnished
PARKHILL TERRACE APARTMENTS
800 W. Marcy Drive 263-5555 263-5000

Heights Apartments
ALL BILLS PAID
Renovated 1 bedrooms
267-2771

1 BEDROOM, 1 bath house, carport, washer & dryer connections, appliances & water furnished. Outside city. \$325. plus deposit. Call 432-263-2345 or 263-3996.

Real Estate for Rent

1, 2 & 3 Bedrooms
Rent Based on Income
NORTHCREST APARTMENTS
1002 North Main Big Spring, TX (432) 267-5191

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

*FREE CABLE
*On site Laundry Facilities
*Covered Picnic area with BBQ Grills
*Playground for the Kids
*Central Air & Heat

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

1111 SETTLES, 3 Bedroom 2 bath w/aprt. in back. Fenced yard, CH/A. Out door pets OK. \$550/mo. \$250/deposit. Call 915-252-8842

1208 MAIN, 2 Bedroom, 1 bath. \$250/mo. \$100/deposit. 1600 Jennings, 1 bedroom, 1 bath. \$125/mo. \$50/deposit. Call (830)875-2511.

Real Estate for Rent

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

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

2210 LYNN 3 bedroom, 2 bath, CHA, garage fenced yard. One year lease required. No indoor pets. \$595. month, \$400 deposit. Call 432-263-6514 Owner/Broker.

3711 Connolly 3 Bedroom, 2 bath. Fireplace, dishwasher, very nice. \$300 + deposit. Call (432)263-4528 or 296-1523.

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

FOR RENT or Sale. 3 Bdrm 1 bath. \$500/mo. \$400/deposit. Call (432)264-9907.

BIG SPRING HERALD
263-73331

Real Estate for Rent

IN CISD 2-3 Bedroom 1 bath house with large rooms. CH/A, dishwasher, washer and dryer. \$400 month plus deposit. Call (210)325-1675 leave message.

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.

SPACIOUS, DELIGHTFUL. Extra private 1 bedroom apartment. Utilities paid. \$395. Trees, picnic sit. 1 person. No pets. Non-smoker. Credit Quality. 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.

2111 RUNNELS, 3 Bedroom, 1 bath with 1 bedroom 1 bath Apartment. Call (830)875-2511

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

Real Estate for Sale

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.

ATTRACTIVE HOME for Sale by Owner. 3 Bedroom, 2 Bath, CH/A. \$29,500. Shown by Appt. Only. Call (432)268-9874 or 213-2124.

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

FOUR ACRES fenced - truck scales, steel box car - Office \$10,000. 1608 North Birdwell Lane. 4 Bedroom 2 bath house 908 Ayleford. 2 Bedroom house \$5000.00. 1 Bedroom house \$4000.00. Call (432)264-0510 or 263-7903.

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 p.m. 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.

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

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

1991 CHEVY S-10 Pickup, ext. cab, 4.3 liter V-6, 4 speed, auto, cruise, pwr windows/locks, 184k, \$2,000.

1988 GMC Sierra 3/4 ton Pickup, 5.7 liter V-8, 4 speed, auto, cruise, toolbox, 5th wheel trailer hitch/wiring, 45k, \$2500.

1988 Travellite 5th Wheel Camping Trailer, 27 ft, self contained, A/C, 6 gal wtr htr, queen bed 16 ft Awning, \$5,500. Call (432)213-0942

1996 Pontiac Grand AM, loaded. \$3500. 1994 Chevy Pick-up Ext. Short bed. New tires, V-8, 5 speed. \$5500. 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.

Vehicles

Vehicles

FOR SALE, red 2003 Ford F-250, 4x4, 29,000 miles. Reduce for quick sale, \$24,500. Located 600 Main. Call 432-267-3126, from 8:00-5:00, 432-267-7648 after 5:00.

FOR SALE: Low miles all. 1980 Honda CB650 Custom, \$1,000 or best offer. 1985 Honda CB450 Nighthawk, \$850, or best offer. Call 432-264-0460

YAMAHA VENTURE 1989 Full Dressed Bike (Burgundy). AM-FM cassette, cruise, 2 helmets w/internal speakers, cover, new tires, 30k. \$4,000. Call (325)242-1136 evenings or (432)268-4831 daytime.

Legals

RFP 04-006
Advertisement for Sealed Proposals

The Howard County Junior College District is now accepting proposals for the following:

Snack Vending Service
Specifications may be obtained from Dennis Churchwell, Purchaser, Howard College, 1001 Birdwell Lane, Big Spring, TX 79720, (432)264-5167. Sealed proposals will be accepted through 3:00 p.m. on April 06, 2004, in the Administrative Annex, room A2, Howard College, 1001 Birdwell Lane, Big Spring, TX 79720, at which time they will be read into record. Vendors are instructed that a formal opening will not occur. The college will negotiate with qualified vendors concerning the proposals submitted. The final determination of proposal award will be made at a future board meeting. All questions should be directed to Dennis Churchwell, Purchaser, 1001 Birdwell Lane, Big Spring, TX 79720, e-mail dchurchwell@howardcollege.edu, (432)264-5167. Howard County Junior College District reserves the right to reject any and all bids. #4134 February 29 & March 7, 2004.

RFP 04-005
Advertisement for Sealed Proposals

The Howard County Junior College District is now accepting proposals for the following:

Soft Drink Vending Service
Specifications may be obtained from Dennis Churchwell, Purchaser, Howard College, 1001 Birdwell Lane, Big Spring, TX 79720, (432)264-5167. Sealed proposals will be accepted through 2:00 p.m. on April 16, 2004, in the Administrative Annex, room A2, Howard College, 1001 Birdwell Lane, Big Spring, TX 79720, at which time they will be read into record. Vendors are instructed that a formal opening will not occur. The college will negotiate with qualified vendors concerning the proposals submitted. The final determination of proposal award will be made at a future board meeting. All questions should be directed to Dennis Churchwell, Purchaser, 1001 Birdwell Lane, Big Spring, TX 79720, e-mail dchurchwell@howardcollege.edu, (432)264-5167. Howard County Junior College District reserves the right to reject any and all bids. #4134 February 29 & March 7, 2004.

CITY OF BIG SPRING PUBLIC NOTICE

THE BIG SPRING CITY COUNCIL WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING ON TUESDAY, MARCH 23, 2004, AT 5:30 PM, IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 307 EAST 4TH, BIG SPRING, TEXAS TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING REQUEST FOR A ZONE CHANGE: The owner of a 5 acre tract out of the SW/4 of Section 32, Block 33, T-1-N, T. & P. RR Co. Survey, Howard County, Texas (1 block east of W. Marcy Drive, North side of Martin Luther King Boulevard) has requested a zone change from Single Family -2 (SF-2) to Light Commercial (LC) for the use of a Multi-Family Complex. #4155 March 7 & 8, 2004

Vehicles

Vehicles

Vehicles

Vehicles

Vehicles

It's Official!!
Truck Month is Here!
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#4142 Mar

Legals

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTS
Sealed proposals for highway improvement contracts will be received by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) until the date (s) shown below, and then publicly read.

CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE CONTRACT (S)

Dist/ Div: Abilene
Contract 6109-62-001 for INSTALLATION OF ILLUMINATION in HOWARD County, etc will be opened on March 30, 2004 at 2:00 pm at the District Office for an estimate of \$225,397.73.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. Bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Pre-qualification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.dot.state.tx.us and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor.

NPO: 12426
State Office
Constr./ Maint. Division
200 E. Riverside Dr.
Austin, Texas 7870
Phone: 512-416-2540
Dist/Div Office(s)
Abilene District
District Engineer
4250 N. Ciack
Abilene, Texas 79604-0150
Phone: 325-676-6800

Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TxDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin.
#4142 March 7 & 8, 2004

Legals

Notice is hereby given that on February 4, 2004, NewCorp Resources Electric Cooperative, Inc. (NCREC) filed an application with the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Commission) under Section 37.154 of the Public Utility Regulatory Act. NCREC has been engaged in the transmission of electricity as the successor of NewCorp Resources, Inc. since December 1996. In its application, NCREC requests that the Commission approve the transfer of CCN No. 30191 concerning certain transmission facilities, which was previously issued to NewCorp Resources, Inc. No new facilities, are being sought in this filing. Persons with questions about this project should contact Ronnie Lyon, General Counsel of NCREC, at (903)813-0377. Persons who wish to intervene in the proceeding or comment upon the action sought, should contact the Public Utility Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 13326, Austin, Texas 78711-3326, or call the Public Utility Commission at (512)936-7120 or (888)782-8477. Hearing- and speech-impaired individuals with text telephones (TTY) may contact the Commission at (512)936-7136. The deadline for intervention in this proceeding is April 26, 2004, and a letter requesting intervention should be received by the Commission by that date.

NCREC own and operates 305.9 miles of 138kV transmission facilities and related substation facilities in Borden, Glasscock, Howard, Martin, Midland, Mitchell, Reagan, and Upton Counties. As the sole shareholder of NewCorp Resources, Inc., NCREC became the owner of the transmission facilities and other assets of NewCorp Resources, Inc. when it was dissolved in December 1996.

A copy of the map illustrating the facilities is available in NCREC's offices at 500 West Wall Street, Suite 400, Midland, Texas 79701. Arrangements to view or obtain a map may be made by contacting Ronnie Lyon at (903)813-0377.
#4151 March 7 & 14, 2004

Legals

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR FLUID INJECTION WELL PERMIT
BTA Oil Producers, 104 South Pecos, Midland, TX 79701, is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to inject fluid into a formation which is productive of oil and gas.

The applicant proposes to inject fluid into the Wolfcamp 7613 JV-P Calverley 26 Well Number 8. The proposed injection well is located six miles Northwest of Garden City in the Blalock Lake, Se (Wolfcamp), in Glasscock County. Fluid will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 7972 to 8080 feet.

LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Texas Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas. Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected, or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711 (Telephone 512/463-6792).
#4152 March 7, 2004

Legals

Notice of Application for [Commercial] Fluid Injection Well Permit

Finley Resources, Inc., 1308 Lake Street, Ste. 200, Fort Worth, Texas 76102, is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to inject fluid into a formation which is productive of oil and gas.

The applicant proposes to inject fluid into the Canyon Reef, Winans, J.F. Lease, Well Number 1W. The proposed injection well is located 3/4 miles Southwest of Vealmoor, in the Oceanic (Pennsylvanian) Field, in Howard County. Fluid will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 3,330' to 8,277' feet.

LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Texas Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas.

Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Austin, Texas 78711 (Telephone 512/463-6792).
#4153 March 7, 2004

PUBLIC NOTICE

Sale to satisfy land lord's lien of household furniture, clothing, tools and other items of the following tenants now stored at Greatdane Storage, 1510 W. 4th. Street, Big Spring, Tx 79720.

Tana K. Daily
Denise Deanda
Tracy Forman
Donald W. Chandler
Sale to be held at Big Spring City Auction, 2611 W. Business 20. March 18, 2004.
#4135 February 29 & March 7, 2004

STAND UP AND BE COUNTED!

VOTE!

Dear Prudence says...

Dear Prudence: I need your perspective. My wife is almost five months' pregnant. Knowing how close my wife and her mother are (they talk at least once a day, if not more), I asked my wife if she wanted to have her mother in the delivery room. She said she didn't know and asked what I wanted. I said I felt that the delivery of our baby would be something we would share as a couple.



Margo Howard

She wasn't too happy with my answer. She said because she was going through the labor that she should have whoever makes her the most comfortable nearby. We both backed off at that point. I love her mother, but am I way off-base wanting the delivery of our baby to be an event just for my wife and me? — Confused in Boston

Dear Con: Prudie gathers that you asked your wife if she wanted her mother in the delivery room, she said she didn't know, at which point you announced your preference for only the two of you. It would have been wiser to open that discussion by saying what a wonderful event for two people to share and not bringing up the mother option. Given the physical and emotional stresses of the situation, your best bet now is to invite your wife to have things just as she would like them.

Prudie, by the way, has watched customs change drastically regarding delivery room "support." She knows of whole families who have been present, and then, of course, there are those who take videos. (If anyone knows for whom these "movies" are shown, do drop a line.)

In Prudie's day, should there be any social historians among you, the preferred delivery room contingent consisted of doctors, nurses and a hairdresser. — Prudie, contemporarily

Dear New: Prudie herself has, um, occasionally cropped a photograph to remove someone from the festivities, but to "cleanse" an entire album of your sister-in-law's ex is taking things to extremes. Everyone looking at the album well knows that how things were then is not how they are now, especially your in-laws... the ones dying to see the pictures.

A wedding album is a record of how things were at the wedding — no revisions required. Your "as if" was perfectly correct, by the way; the in-law divorce has nothing to do with your wedding. So invite your husband's family over, take some wedding cake out of the freezer, and enjoy the pictures. — Prudie, nostalgically

Dear Hope: What you do is get a grip and learn

to be a chess player. That is, try to look ahead and tell yourself that if you do X, Y will happen.

Prudie will give you a preview. If you "confess," he will either a) brush you off, nicely, saying he thinks you're swell but he is happily married or b) he will leap at the invitation, and then you will be entangled with a married man who is also camped out in your workplace.

Down the line, something will happen to break it up, and you will be in a most unfortunate position. If you totally deep-six the friendship, he will figure everything out — if he hasn't already.

It is indeed possible to have a "personal relationship" without providing catering, work prep, and defender services. To salvage your dignity and protect your own job, stop with the fancy slave-girl lunches and carrying his water with upper management. Make an effort to rein it in and spare yourself some heartbreak. — Prudie, professionally

Dear Prudence: I read your column every week and always learn from the advice you give others. This time, I need it for myself.

My husband's sister is going through a difficult divorce after having been married for just over a year. She is very sad and depressed about it, but she's doing it for the right reasons, and we're all supporting her decision.

On the other hand, my husband and I got married about seven months ago, we are very happy together, and we just now got our wedding album from our photographers. Both my husband's sister and her husband were part of the wedding, and they appear together in many of the pictures. I cannot afford to pay for the album to be modified. (I don't even know if that's possible.)

Should we go ahead and show our wedding album to my husband's family, as if one thing (my sister-in-law's divorce) has nothing to do with the other (my wedding)? My husband's family has been asking to see it for many months. Am I making too big a deal out of this? — Newlywed

Dear New: Prudie herself has, um, occasionally cropped a photograph to remove someone from the festivities, but to "cleanse" an entire album of your sister-in-law's ex is taking things to extremes. Everyone looking at the album well knows that how things were then is not how they are now, especially your in-laws... the ones dying to see the pictures.

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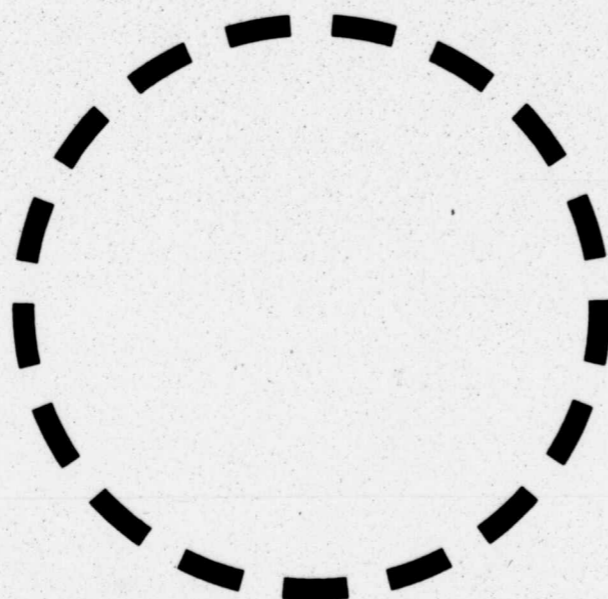
Dear Prudence is written by Margo Howard, Ann Landers' daughter. All letters must be sent via e-mail to dearprudence@creators.com. Due to a high volume of e-mail, not all letters will be answered.

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

BY JOYCE JILLSON
Saturn ends a retrograde phase with a grinding halt. The planet of lessons needs time to get back its old momentum, and you may



Joyce Jillson

feel the same way, especially in regard to personal growth. Relationships that seemed to turn around and take two steps backward now progress again. If you want to know if growth is real, it's got to be tested.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Maybe your big objective should have nothing to do with the future for a change. Instead, put focus on figuring out what's perfect about today. For stress relief: Figure out where your clutter comes from, and get rid of it.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You'll feel you're watching the same story but with different characters. You may have to admit to the fact that on some level your emotional baggage is still being shuffled and moved from situation to situation. It's time to drop it.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). A cleaning project will bring you peace, just as soon as you figure out the best way to get started. (Why make life hard on yourself? Ask someone who has already accomplished this task for tips.) Enroll family wherever possible.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). The most exciting things happen on a whim — that is, if you follow through. Reach out to friends — they're waiting, just like you. The one with the hilarious sense of humor will keep you laughing all evening.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). An in-between stage is

awkward. Decide what you really must know in order to move forward in a relationship. You don't need truth serum, a hot iron or hypnosis to get someone to confess — all you have to do is ask.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Practice being a light spirit even when the day presents you with heavy questions. Relationships need time to settle into a groove. Your levity will allow you to speak the truth tonight and be heard.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Ignore errors that are of little consequence. Loved ones appreciate that they can count on you not to be petty or shallow. A Virgo can help you make a master plan for de-cluttering and also help you follow through.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). When you make a decision, you'll shake everyone up — and why not? You're probably just the one to shock someone into action. Ask friends and family to help you dispose of what you don't want. One man's trash ...

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Instead of figuring out a way to cut your budget, think of a way to increase your income to afford necessities and plenty in your reserve, too. Plan a surprise party. Why do you need an occasion?

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). A false belief could be holding you back. A reality check comes from someone younger — probably a Gemini or Leo. Listen up. Conversation provides info you can use to free yourself from your self-created bondage.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Maybe you're solidly sick of what a loved one is doing. Don't worry — this person will change, as soon as he or she is solidly sick of it, too. Be generous with your prayers. Mentioning

every single one of your helpers is lucky.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Nothing is more boring than perfectly seasoned and refined social interaction. Get a little spicy — loved ones are exhilarated by your unpredictable approach. Friends rely on your endorsement.

FORECAST FOR THE WEEK AHEAD: Saturn is the stern professor of the zodiac, but the lessons are life lessons and often more of a pass/fail nature than A through F grades. Our stern teacher has been exploring a retrograde transit that ends on Sunday. If you feel you've taken a few steps back in

your personal life recently, things will be set straight again, but this time, you can continue your journey with the confidence that you've really studied well. If not for tests, how are we to be sure that we know what we know? Wednesday, Venus and Saturn are in an auspicious relation to one another. Judgment is enhanced, which is good news for those on a quest for beauty, romance and aesthetics. None of these things have to cost much, either! Friday, just when relationships settle in, the Sagittarius moon urges us to stretch — personally, professionally, aesthetically and geo-

graphically. When you see what you want, instead of being jealous, figure out a way to get it, or some form of it, for yourself. In the workplace on Friday, a static situation sees a breakthrough. Saturday, the moon moves into the last quarter. Be aware of the cost of things on all levels, but especially the karmic expense.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: James Van Der Beek is a hunky Pisces with Mercury (communication) in emotional Pisces as well. These aspects show sensitivity and the ability to relate to a wide variety of people. Philanthropic moves

attract career success this year for Van Der Beek. He could endorse a popular product this year and give his compensation to charity.

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

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Annie's Mailbox: Advice for those in need

Dear Annie: I was single for many years and wanted to share the rest of my life with someone. I met "Irene" in church and listened intently to her conversations, trying to get to know her better. After two years, I asked her out on a date. We fell in love immediately. As soon as we married, however, my world fell apart.

Irene seemed depressed the day of our wedding, but I thought it was nerves. After the ceremony, I realized the woman I married was not the same person I dated. It was the worst three days I've ever had. On the fourth day, Irene packed her bags and moved back into her apartment.

Her family recently told me that Irene is bipolar, although they did not realize how ill she was or they would have told me sooner. Because she seemed so happy, they assumed she was doing better.

I have filed for a divorce, because frankly, I don't know what else to



KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

do. I am totally confused and am not sure if I'm doing the right thing. From what I have read about depression, this is a lifelong disease. My friends tell me to run and not look back, but how do you turn away from someone you love, but cannot help? Please give me your opinion. I'm on an emotional roller coaster. — Feeling Guilty

Dear Feeling Guilty: Don't beat yourself up. Dealing with someone who is bipolar can be difficult and stressful, and we understand this is not

what you signed on for when you married Irene. Still, somewhere inside that unhappy person is the woman you fell in love with.

Bipolar disorder often can be successfully treated with medication and therapy, if Irene is willing to take the necessary steps. Please contact the Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance (dbsalliance.org) at 730 N. Franklin St., Suite 501, Chicago, IL 60610, for help and information.

Dear Annie: How late is too late to apologize? Two years ago, I had a disagreement with a co-worker. She said some nasty things to me and quit. Later, she made several attempts to apologize, but I ignored her. Now I hear she is very ill. I'm afraid if I call her, she will hang up on me. Have I waited too long? — Confused

Dear Confused: It's never too late to say you are sorry, and she might be relieved to clear the slate. Please call her and say you've been thinking of her.

Dear Annie: Many people have given up hope of ever finding relief from psoriasis (the red, flaky skin; the itching and burning). But now there is good news for the five million people in the United States who have this chronic skin disease. New therapies are emerging, including biologic medications, which could reduce the activity of the disease without many of the side effects of traditional treatment.

Psoriasis is triggered by an immune system response that induces skin cells to mature abnormally and form thick patches. I want to dispel the "myths" about this disease:

Psoriasis is not contagious.

Psoriasis can develop at any age, although it usually shows up in 15- to 35-year-olds (average age at diagnosis: 28 years). Psoriatic arthritis, a joint disease, develops in 10 to 30 percent of people with psoriasis.

Psoriasis can be triggered by stress, certain medicines or injury to the skin.

It is impossible to know who will get psoriasis,

although researchers are looking for a genetic link. Early diagnosis and treatment is best. — Kenneth Gordon, M.D., Director, Loyola Psoriasis Center, Loyola University Health System, Maywood, Ill.

Dear Dr. Gordon: Thank you for your helpful and informative letter.

Dear Annie: Would you please send a heads-up to families whose married sons and daughters will be returning from overseas soon? My friend's husband will be coming home to a wife and three kids whom he hasn't seen much of since his deployment to Iraq a year ago. His parents and siblings told his wife that they are coming to town for his return.

We know they love and miss him, but the last thing his wife wants is a bunch of people in her house when her husband comes home. My in-laws did this to me when my husband came back from Afghanistan. All we wanted was for him to get reacquainted with me and the children, and see his newborn son.

Tell the relatives to think before they jump in to reunite. The returning service members need time with their own families first. — Army Wife Who's Been There

Dear Army Wife: It's hard for parents and siblings to delay seeing their loved ones, especially since the service members have been gone such a long time and the family has been worried sick.

Nonetheless, it is overwhelming to be surrounded by well-meaning but intrusive relatives. Our service members need time to adjust to the change in their environment and a few moments of calm with their spouses and children before the rest of the family descends.

Parents, as difficult as it is, please ask when you should visit, before assuming your presence is immediately welcome. And spouses, remember that Mom and Dad are eager to see their child. Don't make them wait too long.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, P.O. Box 118190, Chicago, IL 60611. To find out more about Annie's Mailbox, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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