

TUESDAY

April 13, 2004

WEATHER

Tonight:



PARTLY CLOUDY

TONIGHT 42°-44°
TOMORROW 76°-78°

INSIDE

New County version of Windows released



Thomas Jenkins takes a look at what he says is a new Country version of Windows.

Page 4A

BRIEFLY

Westbrook ISD sets fund-raiser Thursday

Westbrook Independent School District will host an open house at 6 p.m. Thursday.

The WHS Student Council and National Honor Society will sponsor a nacho pile-on in the campus cafeteria. The annual variety show will begin at 7 p.m. in the auditorium. Admission is \$2 per person.

The cost for the nacho meal is \$5 for adults and \$3 for student, and includes the price for admission to the variety show.

Health Fair slated here on Saturday

The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce is hosting the annual Health Fair from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. Admission is free.

Chamber officials have arranged for more than 60 businesses and organizations from West Texas health providers to participate in the health fair.

Dimples the clown will entertain the children and Air Xtreme will provide an obstacle course in the coliseum parking lot.

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Court cost dispute may work out

Attorney says hearings involving state hospital patients from Lubbock could resume soon

By **THOMAS JENKINS**

Staff Writer

The ongoing dispute between Howard and Lubbock counties over hearings involving the Big Spring State Hospital may be one step closer to being resolved this week, as negotiations over past

charges begins.

Howard County Attorney Mike Thomas told county commissioners on Monday that hearings involving State Hospital patients from the Lubbock area may resume being held in Howard County court soon, as the dispute over costs from previous cases

enters negotiations between the two entities.

"This has been an ongoing dispute between Lubbock and Howard County for quite some time now," said Thomas. "There have been some hearings in the past few years that they simply haven't paid us for, and the dis-

pute is over how much we charge for the hearings.

"In the past, we've actually quit doing hearings for Lubbock County, but the Big Spring State Hospital tells us they need the patients from that area, so we've

See **DISPUTE**, Page 3A

County reps: Planning key for a new jail

By **THOMAS JENKINS**

Staff Writer

County representatives recently sent to Longmont, Colo., for a seminar on the ins and outs of designing and building a new jail facility are back, and the focus at this point seems to be set squarely on planning.

"Probably the most important part of the process of looking at a new facility is going in and determining what your needs are," said Howard County Sheriff Dale Walker, who along with Chief Jailer Mike

Smith and county commissioners Jerry Kilgore and Gary Simer attended the conference. "That's

going to be based on a lot of data already in place now and analyzing a lot of it that we already have concerning the number of inmates, whether they are male or female and the length and type of the stay that



Jerry Kilgore, commissioner

"We want to do it right. If we build one, we don't want to build it to small or too large. It takes teamwork to get it right."

they are requiring. "All of this information goes in, and we have some formulas now to try to determine what our

See **JAIL**, Page 3A

JETTING THE MAIN



HERALD photo/Thomas Jenkins
 City employees Randy Roach, right, and Justin Denton work on jetting a sewer main on 16th Street Monday afternoon. City Water Distribution and Collection Superintendent Rick Boiles said his department experienced a high number of sewer-related calls Monday.

Flavors of West Texas to tickle some taste buds

By **LYNDEL MOODY**

Staff Writer

The Flavors of West Texas will be tickling taste buds in the Crossroads area soon as tickets are already on sale.

"In the past, we've called this Around the World in 80 Bites, but we've changed the name to reflect more about West Texas and our local culinary heritage," said museum coordinator Nancy Raney.

A variety of bite-size morsels from homemade bread and hot salsa to grandmother's special chocolate cake are expect-

ed to greet the appetites of the people who attend the long-time museum soiree.

Flavors of West Texas will be held from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., Saturday,

April 24, at the Dora Roberts Community Center.

"Traditionally, we've

See **FLAVORS**, Page 6A

Chefs needed!

Sign up for museum fund-raiser

By **LYNDEL MOODY**

Staff Writer

The Heritage Museum is still seeking cooks to prepare bite-size morsels for the Flavors of West Texas.

"We provide the table and space. All the cooks need to bring are 350 bite-size morsels of their dish,

To volunteer, call 267-8255

and decorations," said museum coordinator Nancy Raney. "If you want to show off your favorite grandmother's chocolate cake recipe

See **CHEFS**, Page 6A

Bush to discuss Iraq in news conference tonight

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush is using a prime-time news conference, his third since he took over the White House, to reassure the nation about rising casualties and instability in Iraq and defend the administration's response to a pre-Sept. 11 memo that warned of threats



BUSH

from al-Qaida. Both issues are critical to Bush's re-election strategy, which is hinged on the president's record on national secu-

See **BUSH**, Page 6A

FBI, Justice Department to defend counterterror efforts

WASHINGTON (AP) — The independent commission investigating the Sept. 11 attacks is turning its spotlight on the FBI and Justice Department, with commission members seeking to determine what law enforcement officials did when con-

fronted with the rising threat of an al-Qaida attack.

If the FBI had information about an al-Qaida presence in the United States and had 70 ongoing investigations, commis-

See **COMMISSION**, Page 3A

City will consider agreement with Atmos today

HERALD Staff Report

Agreements with Atmos Energy, Society of Creative Anachronism, West Texas Water Ski Club, the YMCA and others comprise the bulk of business set before the Big Spring City Council tonight.

The council will convene at 5:30 p.m. in City Council Chambers, 307 E. Fourth St.

The council hopes to clear up an on-going battle with Atmos Energy, which has sought rate

increase since Sept. 11, 2003. While officials determined a rate increase was prudent, they determined that the 7 percent hike Atmos was proposing was too high.

Big Spring City Council, along with the majority of governing bodies from 66 other cities, joined a regional coalition to reach a settlement. Lubbock and Amarillo settled the rate case for 54 percent of Atmos Energy's original request, or a 3.78 percent increase. In January, the coalition members, including Big

Spring, declined that settlement. Tonight, the council will be asked to settle for an increase of 2.93 percent over the existing rate, which is 41.6 percent of the 7 percent Atmos had originally asked for.

That rate, assuming gas cost at \$4.96 Mfc, would mean the average residential rate will be \$8.50 per month, if approved.

Council members will hear a request for the Society of Creative Anachronism, which wants to be able to set up tents in an area of Comanche Trail Park

from July 30-Aug. 1. The agreement would allow as many as 250 members of the reenactment group to camp in the park overnight.

The council will also hear requests allowing the YMCA to operate municipal pool in Comanche Trail Park this summer, setting rates for the West Texas Water Ski Club to use Moss Creek Lake, and appointing election judges and determining their pay for the May 5 city elec-

See **CITY**, Page 3A

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Windows 'Country' version is released

Well, they finally did it. After years of debate over the growing jargon put forth by computer users (I've always wondered who it was that figured out you could make a sideways smiley face with the parentheses and semi-colon keys), Microsoft has finally decided to release a "country" version of



THOMAS JENKINS

Windows, aimed at providing a more user-friendly operating system for those of us that grew up knowing what cow patties and mountain oysters really are.

Labeled "Windows XP - Southern Edition," the new offering hits right at the heart of country living. If you're not sure which OS (operating system... see, the jargon never ends) you are currently running, the Southern Edition splash screen (more jargon) includes a background picture of General Robert E. Lee superimposed on a Confederate flag, and is shipped with a Dukes of Hazard screen saver.

Some of the more notable differences in the new Southern Edition include:

- The Recycle Bin is labeled "Outhouse."
- My Computer is called "This Dern Contraption."
- Dialup Networking is called "Good Ol' Boys."
- Control Panel is known as the "The Dashboard."
- Hard Drive is referred to as "4 Wheel Drive."
- Floppies are "them little ol' plastic disc thangs."
- Instead of an error message, a garbage bag and roll of duct tape pops up.
- Other differences include some changes to the more confusing terminology:
 - OK has been replaced with "ats aw-right."
 - Cancel has been replaced with "stopdat."
 - Reset has been replaced with "try er agin'."
 - Yes has been replaced with "yep."
 - No has been replaced with "nope."

- Find has been replaced with "hunt fer it."
- Go to has been replaced with "over yonder."
- Back has been replaced with "back yonder."
- Help has been replaced with "hep me out here."
- Stop has been replaced with "kwitit."
- Start has been replaced with "crank er up."
- Settings has been replaced with "settins'."
- Programs has been replaced with "stuff dat duz stuff."
- Documents has been replaced with "stuff ah done did."

While many of the changes made to the new Southern Edition simply include swapping icons (more jargon) and command names, Microsoft has added some new applications that will only run on this new edition. Included are applications such as a word processor program called "Tiperiter," a graphics and art program dubbed "colerin book," and one of the most popular by far, a virtual calculator program called "cyferin mersheen."

The next run of the new Southern Edition (runor has it they are going to correct the spelling to "Suthurn Adishun," but that's unconfirmed at this time) is reported to be in the works. Insider information from Microsoft hints the next version will also come with a free potholder bearing the Southern Edition logo, so needless to say, I can hardly wait.

Note - For those that don't immediately get a joke, this is the part of the column when I say this has all been in jest (or ingested, your choice). You have my word... No southerners were harmed in the writing of this column, so take a minute to smile.

Thomas Jenkins is a staff reporter for the Herald. He writes a weekly column on computers and the Internet. He can be reached at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at citydesk@bigspringherald.com

DISPUTE

Continued from Page 1A

entered into negotiations with Lubbock on the matter."

Thomas said Lubbock County has assigned an assistant district attorney to investigate the costs that are currently being charged in Howard court, with an agreement between the two counties appearing to be on the horizon.

"They have assigned an assistant district attorney, John Grace, to look into the matter," he said. "They sent the Howard County commissioners an e-mail saying that Mr. Grace has looked over what our current charges are for the hearings, and he said he doesn't believe Lubbock will have any

objections to them.

"Once we get the approval from them on what future hearings will cost, we'll look at the hearings we've done in the past and try to negotiate a settlement for what they owe us. The total amount they owe us right now is somewhere between \$3,000 and \$4,000."

Commissioners also approved the continuation of the county attorney's summer internship program, which is designed to give young people interested in a career in law the chance to work in a law office environment.

Thomas said he's glad the commissioners decided to keep the program despite the strained budget, calling the program an asset to the community.

"It's wonderful for the youth of

Big Spring," he said. "What we've done in the past is try to choose a college-age student that is interested in the practice of law. They come in and work with us and get the chance to see what a lawyer does and how a law office works. They cover for the staff when they go on vacation and go with me to hearings, and it gives them a chance to get some on-the-job experience."

"I think it's great the commissioners decided to keep the summer intern program. They're looking at cutting everywhere they can, but I'm glad they decided to keep this."

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

JAIL

Continued from Page 1A

needs are going to be now, as well as projecting the next 20 to 25 years down the road. Planning is critical. If you mess up during the planning stage, you can find yourself dealing with it and living with whatever the problem is. One of the things they urged us not to do was build a new old jail, and that will take a lot of planning."

Kilgore said he learned a lot during the Planning of New Institutions Program (PONI) seminar, which was hosted by the U.S. Department of Justice, and came away with one very distinct goal.

"We want to do it right," said Kilgore. "If we build one, we don't want to build it to small or too large. It takes teamwork to get it right. If we start this process, as commissioners we don't really know what the requirements are in the jail, so we're going to have data that comes from the sheriff and chief jailer, and we'll also need an outside influence. We want to plan, and we want to do it right."

"If we actually started right now, which we have somewhat, we're looking at two to three years before you could see any results from it. We've started gathering information quite some time ago, and we've been on the right track even before this. It's just that long of a process, and that would probably be the quickest you could get anything done."

While the idea the building of a new jail facility is still in the "if" stage, Kilgore said he can't see any other answer to the county's problem at this point.

"I don't see any other way," said Kilgore. "You hear from people that we have jails in the area and we could farm the inmates out to them, but we're already doing that and it's very expensive."

We simply can't afford to continue that. We have to help the public understand that. We're charged by the Texas constitution to maintain a jail, and in some way or another you have to do it.

"After talking to the people and seeing what the other counties have done, I'd say we're looking at between \$5 million and \$7 million, which is pretty much in line with the numbers we've heard in the past."

Kilgore said some residents have questions about using other facilities in Howard County, such as the prisons and privately owned correctional facilities, but that's not an option because of regulations aimed directly at jails.

"You have to understand there is a difference between a prison and a jail," said Kilgore. "They are maintained by a totally different set of laws. The state jail standards and court orders are over the jail, while the prisons are ruled by a completely different set of rules and laws. Prisons are paid for by the state and federal governments, while jails are maintained strictly by the county. There's no federal or state grants or money for jails. The taxpayers of each county pay for them."

Chief Jailer Mike Smith said he felt one of the most important components to the process is winning the support of the public, and agreed with Kilgore and Walker on the importance of careful planning in the future.

"The support of the public is a very big issue," said Smith. "That's something we're going to have to develop. I agree with commissioner Kilgore about farming out the inmates. It's extremely expensive and we can save a lot of money by taking care of them on our own."

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"Of all the counties at the seminar, we had the oldest jail by far. Some of the jails that were represented were only 12 to 17 years old, and ours is going on 52 years. I think that really shows the importance of planning and staying with the project right up to the point you're ready to open the doors."

Smith said one particular analogy used to describe the Howard County Jail and other facilities in similar situations had an immense impact on him, and he hopes it will help give people a better idea of the need for a new jail.

"There was a phrase we heard while we were there that I kind of agree with," said Smith. "It's like buying furniture for the deck of the Titanic. You're just covering up a lot of things, and it's going to get to the point it can't be fixed. We've got it looking really good right now and it passed jail inspection, and we're pleased with that. However, the whole Titanic analogy really sums up the situation. It's a money pit that you keep pouring money into, and it's a non-stop process that will never end as long as it's located

upstairs."

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

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

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Jonita Ferguson, 61, died Saturday. Memorial Service will be at 4:00 PM Wednesday at Myers & Smith Chapel.

Hugh Rhyne, 84, died Monday. Funeral Services will be at 2:00 PM Wednesday at Myers & Smith chapel. Burial will be at Mt. Olive Memorial Park. The family will receive friends from 5:00 until 7:00 PM Tuesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

W. Geraldine "Gerry" Gates, 84, died Monday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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Applications for new students wishing to attend Bauer Magnet School (Grades K-4) during the 2004-2005 school year will be accepted on Thursday, April 15, from 7:30 A.M. until 11:00 A.M. at Bauer Magnet School.

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Beverly Couch RNC, NP
Women's Health

CITY

Continued from Page 1A

Consideration of purchasing a bus for transporting Texas Department of Corrections from Colorado City to Howard County for the joint work program is also on the agenda.

Councilman Woody Jumper has asked for discussing regarding ball field user fees and an appointment or appointments will be considered for the Ad-Hoc Living Memorial Tree Committee and the Convention & Visitor Bureau Board.

Items to be approved on second reading include:

- Zone change on north side of Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, from single family to light commercial;
- Board minutes.

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Forsan High captures district academic crown

HERALD Staff Report

By dominating the contest, Forsan High School captured the University Interscholastic League 3A District Academic Meet championship on Saturday, April 3.

The FHS academic team finished with 548 points, garnering nine individual first-place finishers and five team championship plaques. Crane High School placed second with 247 points followed by Stanton High School at third with 218, Colorado City, fourth with 205 points, Seagraves at fifth with 117 and Coahoma at sixth place with 104 points.

Other notable awards went to Sean Flanagan of Stanton for the high biology score and Lauren Yeater of Coahoma who garnered the high chemistry score.

Individual who placed first through third and

first place teams qualified to advance to the regional contest on April 23-24 in Abilene.

Individual awards are as follows:

Accounting: 2. Amanda Moreno, Forsan; 4. Kim Berry, Forsan; 5. Claire Koenes, Forsan. Calculator applications: 1. Levi Johnson, Forsan; 4. Staci Borel, Forsan and Kourtney Graves, Stanton; 5. Savannah Smith, Stanton.

Computer application: 1. Micaela Purcell, Forsan; 2. Rachel Clinton, Forsan; 3. Casi Graves, Forsan; 5. Rebecca Briggs, Stanton; 4. Ezekial Bryand, Stanton; 6. Isreal Rosa, Stanton.

Computer Science: 1. Sean Flanagan, Stanton; 2. Daniel Lopez, Stanton; 3. Kirk Canada, Stanton; 4. Matthew Ireton, Stanton. Current events: 3. Chad James, Forsan; 4. Trey Thornton, Coahoma.

Mathematics: 3. Levi Johnson, Forsan; 5. Andy Garcia, Stanton; 6. Brandon

Burleson, Forsan. Number sense: 1. Levi Johnson, Forsan; 3. Brandon Burleson, Forsan; 6. Josh Helmstetler, Forsan.

Science: 2. Sean Flanagan, top biology score, Stanton; 3. Lauren Yeater, Coahoma, top chemistry score; 4. Levi Johnson, Forsan.

Editorial writing: 1. Kacy Liles, Forsan; 2. Dani Borel, Forsan; 3. Brandon Burleson, Forsan; 6. Shelby Harp, Stanton. Feature writing: 1. Kacy Liles, Forsan; 3. Abby Janca, Forsan; 4. Brennan Harp, Stanton; 6. Ashley Cox, Stanton.

Headline writing: 1. Levi Johnson, Forsan; 2. Ashley Gutierrez, Stanton; 4. Hailey Butts, Coahoma; 5. Abby Janca, Forsan; 6. Leslie Kennedy, Coahoma.

Informative speaking: 2. Staci Borel, Forsan; 3. Micaela Purcell, Forsan; 4. Garrett Cornett, Coahoma; 6. Carly Louder, Stanton.

News writing: 1. Brennan

Harp, Stanton; 3. Kacy Liles, Forsan; 4. Hailie Butts, Coahoma. Literary criticism: 1. Jessica Page, Forsan; 2. Kourtney Graves, Stanton; 4. Aarika Thixton, Forsan; 5. Rachel Clinton, Forsan; 6. Mary Alania Hedrick, Stanton.

Ready writing: 2. Kirk Canada, Stanton; 3. Ruth Kaelin, Forsan; 4. Micah Harrison, Forsan, 6. Krystle Mauldin, Stanton.

Persuasive speaking: 2. K.K. Kellar, Coahoma; 3. Kesha Christian, Forsan; 4. Dani Borel. Poetry: 1. Kesha Christian, Forsan; 2. Crystal McNew, Forsan; 3. Cayley Eggleston, Forsan; 4. Kourtney Graves, Stanton; 5. Savannah Smith, Stanton.

Prose: 1. Abby Janca, Forsan; 2. Eric Barton, Coahoma; 3. Rachel Clinton, Forsan; 4. Tiffani Paige, Coahoma; 5. Garrett Cornett, Coahoma; 6. Brandon Gressett, Coahoma.

Spelling & vocabulary: 5.

Abby Janca, Forsan; 3. Keelie Roseberry, Stanton.

Cross exam debate: 2. Levi Johnson and Rachel Clinton, Forsan; 3. Jarrod Price and Kayla Spence, Forsan; 4. Dani Borel and Kassi Wash, Forsan. Lincoln-Douglas debate: 1. Staci Borel.

Team results are as follows:

Science team: Levi Johnson, Jonathan Moore, Ben Breyman, Forsan, 2. Sean Flanagan, Kirk Canada, Laura Teveni, Stanton, 3. Mathematics team: Levi Johnson, Brandon Burleson, Audrey Montgomery, Forsan, 2; Laura Teveni and J.C. Hinojosa, Stanton, 3.

Calculator team: Levi Johnson, Staci Borel, Seth Johnson, Forsan, 1.; Adrien George, Laura Teveni, J. C. Hinojosa, Stanton, 4. Computer Science: Sean Flanagan, Kirk Canada,

Daniel Lopez, Stanton, 1.

Number sense team: Levi Johnson, Brandon Burleson, Josh Helmstetler, Forsan, 1; Kirk Canada, Joe Benny Bryand, Stanton, 3.

Accounting team: Amanda Moreno, Kim Berry, Claire Koenes, Melissa Marlow, Forsan, 1.

Current events team: Chad James, Jonathan Gomez, Kandise Snowden, Forsan 2.

Literary criticism team: Jessica Page, Aarika Thixton, Rachel Clinton, Forsan, 1; Kourtney Graves, Mary Alania Hedrick, Carly Louder, Stanton, 2.

Spelling: Keelie Roseberry, Robert Seanz, Traci Carr, Stanton, 3.

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Ephedra ban takes effect nationwide

NEWARK, N.J. (AP) — A federal judge allowed a nationwide ban on dietary supplements containing ephedra to take effect Monday, turning aside a plea from two manufacturers.

Ephedra, once hugely popular for weight loss and bodybuilding, has been linked to 155 deaths, including that of Baltimore Orioles pitcher Steve Bechler a year ago.

U.S. District Judge Joel Pisano refused to grant a temporary restraining

order that would have prevented the Food and Drug Administration from banning the products.

After years of fighting manufacturers over the risks, the FDA announced in December that it was banning the sale of the amphetamine-like herb — the first such ban of a dietary supplement.

"These products pose unacceptable health risks, and any consumers who are still using them

should stop immediately," Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy G. Thompson said.

NVE Pharmaceuticals of Newton, manufacturer of the diet supplement Stacker 2, had hoped to head off the ban, arguing its product is safe if used as directed. It was joined by a second company, the National Institute for Clinical Weight Loss, manufacturer of a product called Thermalean. The judge said the man-

ufacturers did not meet several legal requirements, including proving that they are likely to win the case and that they would suffer irreparable harm if the ban took effect.

Pisano's ruling means the ban will be in effect at least until NVE's lawsuit can be heard. No trial date has been set.

Ephedra sales already had plummeted because of publicity about the risks, especially after Bechler's death.

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THE HUMMING BIRD

Once, in the woods not too far from where you and I live, there lived a hummingbird. Oh, she was a pretty bird with red feathers on her neck, white feathers on her tail, and dark green feathers on her back. She was a real beauty! She was even the prettiest hummingbird in all of our county. Even the hummingbirds from the next county over came just to see her! Do you want to know what her name was?

Well, her name was Sandra. But she never liked that name. She was a tomboy. She didn't play with dolls or girl things. She was a very pretty girl, but girl toys bored her. She wanted everyone to call her "Sam."

Now, everything about Sam was pretty, except for one thing. Have you ever heard of a hummingbird that couldn't hum? Well, you have now! Sam couldn't hum like all of the other hummingbirds! Sam couldn't even sing like a regular bird!

Whenever she tried to hum, the noise was horrible. You would have to put your hands over your ears. It sounded like a trumpet! That's how bad her singing and humming was! But Sam never got upset over not being able to hum. She would just sit in the treetops and listen to all the other birds singing and humming along with the melody. It was quite lovely.

Sam was a friendly hummingbird, so all of the other birds liked her. She had lots and lots of friends.

One day everyone was in the woods eating lunch. The hummingbirds were getting nectar from the flowers, and the other birds were finding seeds and berries to eat. It was a very peaceful day until,----- a huge alley cat showed up! Now, cats love to eat birds, and Sam knew this. She was the first to see the cat sneaking up on the other birds. She knew that she didn't have the time to quickly fly over and tell the other birds to get up into the trees where it would be safe from the cat. And the cat was getting closer and closer to Sam's friends! The only thing that she could do was, yep, try to hum and warn the other birds!

Well, the noise that Sam made trying to hum scared that cat so badly that he didn't stop running until he got well into the next county! And he never came back!

Now, even though it was a very scary and dangerous thing for the birds, they could not help thinking it was funny, watching that cat skee-daddle! So did Sam! They all laughed about that for a long time.

And you know, from then on, the other birds brought nectar to Sam to pay her for sitting up in the treetops and being their watchbird so they didn't have to worry about cats or any other animals ever again!

And with that voice, she made a great watchbird! Would you like for Sam to sing a lullaby for you so you can drift off to sleep? **Good Night!**



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BUSH

Continued from Page 1A

ity. Bush is to open his news conference — the 12th of his presidency — with a statement on Iraq, White House communications director Dan Bartlett said Monday. He said the president was prepared to address questions about a memo, titled "Bin Laden Determined

To Strike in U.S.," that he received on Aug. 6, 2001, as part of the President's Daily Brief.

"After a tough week, there are important questions that are on the minds of the American people," Bartlett said. The news conference is scheduled to begin tonight at 7:30 CDT.

With the Sept. 11 commission hearings and the recent battles in Iraq being broadcast into

American homes, this is a good time for Bush to defend his policies, said Stephen Hess, a political analyst at the liberal-leaning Brookings Institution.

"This is an administration that gets in trouble because it doesn't speak up in a timely way and defend itself," Hess said. The news conference is "really quite necessary," he said.

At his Texas ranch on Monday, Bush deflected

questions about the presidential memo, telling reporters that if the FBI had known about an imminent terrorist attack against America, the agency would have told him.

Still, he added that now might be the time to "revamp and reform our intelligence services."

To questions about whether the security situation in Iraq was untenable, Bush replied, "The

situation in Iraq has improved."

The president's upbeat assessment was based on a fragile cease-fire in Fallujah. The predominantly Sunni Muslim city west of Baghdad has been the site of fighting between insurgents and American troops after a mob mutilated the bodies of American security contractors killed in a March 30 ambush. U.S. troops have killed

about 700 insurgents across Iraq since the beginning of the month. About 70 coalition troops — almost all Americans — have died in clashes.

Another U.S. soldier died in Iraq Monday after gunmen attacked a large convoy of troops headed toward Najaf. Two other soldiers and an American civilian contractor were also wounded in the attack, officers in the convoy said Tuesday.

COMMISSION

Continued from Page 1A

sion members want to know what actions were taken and how broadly that information was disseminated throughout the government.

"The FBI is going to have to answer the question: 'Why didn't they deliver the information up? Did they get clear instructions from the top that it should be delivered up?'" said former Sen. Bob Kerrey, a Democratic member of the Sept. 11 commission.

The panel was begin-

ning a new two-day round of hearings Tuesday with testimony from former FBI Director Louis Freeh, Attorney General John Ashcroft and former Attorney General Janet Reno. Thomas Pickard, who served as acting FBI director in the months just before the attacks, and former CIA counterterrorism center director Cofer Black also were scheduled to testify.

Aides to Ashcroft said he wanted to rebut criticism that he was more focused on issues such as illegal drugs and gun crimes than terrorism before the attacks. They

pointed to a May 9, 2001, Senate hearing in which Ashcroft testified his agency had "no higher priority" than protecting against terrorist attacks.

Jamie Gorelick, a Democratic member of the commission and deputy attorney general in the Clinton administration, said Tuesday that Ashcroft was sure to come under heavy criticism.

"I think there are some real criticisms of the Department of Justice during that time period," she said on ABC's "Good Morning America." Former Sen. Slade

Gorton, a Republican commission member, said he was dubious of an assertion in a declassified Aug. 6, 2001 presidential daily brief which said the FBI had some 70 terrorism-related investigations of terrorism under way at the time.

"I'll tell you, I don't know what those 70 full field investigations were. That's a comforting statement to make in such a briefing," Gorton told ABC. "And I think it is a very, very significant exaggeration and I certainly want to follow up on it."

In an article in

Monday's Wall Street Journal, Freeh said the FBI "relentlessly did its job pursuing terrorists" before the attacks but was hampered by lack of resources and political will.

The hearing follows the weekend release of the August 2001, intelligence memo which also warned that al-Qaida was operating in the United States and might be looking to hijack airplanes. The memo did not provide

specific times or places for potential attacks.

President Bush, speaking Monday with reporters at his ranch in Crawford, Texas, repeated his view that the memo was "kind of a history" of Osama bin Laden's intentions but contained no warning that "something is about to happen in America."

"There was nothing in there that said, you know, 'There is an imminent attack,'" Bush said.

CHEFS

Continued from Page 1A

than all you need to do is bake the cake and cut it into 350 bite-size pieces."

The annual event draws a number of local chefs who provide a wide selec-

tion of delicacies for the community to taste.

Flavors of West Texas will be held from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., Saturday, April 24, at the Dora Roberts Community Center.

Raney said the community event is a perfect place for organizations or

new restaurants to promote themselves and even raise funds.

"This is a great way to publicize a new restaurant or a group," Raney said. "If they want to fund-raise, they can as long as they bring 350 bite-size morsels to give away free."

For more information about volunteering to be a cook, or for tickets, contact the museum at 267-8255.

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

FLAVORS

Continued from Page 1A

held the event at the museum where exhibitors could set up throughout the facility, and participants could enjoy not only good food but also our displays," said Raney. "Because of its increasing popularity, the event has

outgrown the museum, and we decided to move it this year."

Admission for Flavors of West Texas is \$10 for all ages. Tickets are available at the museum, 510 S. Scurry St.

Those who attend may decide to add to the cultural evening as the Heritage Museum offers a combination ticket for \$16 which include admission

to Flavors of West Texas and the Big Spring Symphony's performance "The Symphony is Song." The performance begins at 8 p.m. at Big Spring Municipal Auditorium.

"You can make an evening of two great events," Raney added.

Copies of a cookbook filled with recipes of past Around the World in 80 Bites and Flavors of West

Texas participants will be on sale for \$5 as will other Heritage Museum merchandise.

For more information, contact the museum at 267-8255.

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

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The tourna... mat will be... scramble.
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IN BRIEF

CGA to hold benefit tournament for Relay

The Chicano Golf Association of Big Spring has scheduled a tournament to benefit the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life for Saturday, April 24, at the Comanche Trail Golf Course.

The tournament's format will be a four-man scramble.

Entry fees are \$20 per player and all players must be registered by 10 a.m. the day of the tournament.

For more information, call Billy Pineda at 264-7116 after 7 p.m.

Umpires needed for Little League season

Umpires are needed for the Little League baseball season.

Anyone interested in working with youth should call Jason Hester at 264-7777 or Don Booth at 263-6597.

Teen League slates registration

The Big Spring Teenage Baseball League is holding registration through Friday at All District Screen Printing, 1005 E. 11th Place.

Players may register from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. each day.

The league is open to all players between the ages of 13 and 16.

For more information, contact Stan Parker at 264-2570.

BSCC schedules four-man scramble

A four-person scramble has been scheduled for April 24-25 at the Big Spring Country Club.

Entry fees are \$75 per player plus cart rental, but private carts are welcomed.

Play begins with a 1 p.m. shotgun start both days.

Entry fees include barbecue on the course both days and players can play practice rounds on Friday.

For more information, call the BSCC pro shop at 267-5354.

Coahoma schedules Junior League sign-up

Registration for Coahoma Junior League baseball are set for 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday at the Coahoma Little League Park.

The league is open for players that are 13 and 14 years old.

For more information, contact Darrell Hunt at 394-4481.

Texas Tech sets tennis camp dates

The Texas Tech Tennis Camps for boys and girls of all ability levels between the ages of 9 and 17 have been scheduled.

Day camp will be June 28 through July 1, while the overnight camp will be July 4-8.

For more information, call Efe Unstundag, assistant men's coach, at 806-742-3355.

ON THE AIR

Event	Time	Station
Lady Steers at Levelland	3:45 p.m.	1490
Mavericks at Houston	8 p.m.	1490
Astros at Brewers	6:40 p.m.	1490
Steers vs. Frenship	3:45 p.m.	1490

Hidalgo homer lifts Astros over Cards

By JIM SALTER

Associated Press Writer

ST. LOUIS — Richard Hidalgo hit a three-run home run and broke an eighth-inning tie with a sacrifice fly to help the Houston Astros beat the St. Louis Cardinals 10-5 Monday night.

Craig Biggio had three doubles, three RBIs and scored three times for the Astros. Ricky Stone (1-0) pitched one scoreless inning to get the win.

Hidalgo's homer in the first off St. Louis starter Woody Williams gave the Astros a 4-0 lead.

After the Cardinals took a 5-4 lead, the Astros tied it in the seventh when Adam Everett hit a sacrifice fly off reliever Mike

Lincoln (2-1), who allowed five runs in 1 1/3 innings.

Jeff Kent was hit by a pitch leading off the eighth and went to third on Lance Berkman's single before Hidalgo's sacrifice fly made it 6-5.

Later in the inning, with the bases loaded and two outs, Biggio drove a pitch from Julian Tavarez off the left-field wall to score three. Everett brought Biggio home with a single.

The teams combined to send 16 batters to the plate in a 44-minute first inning, as hitters were apparently unbothered by the cold. The temperature, a breezy 52 degrees at the start, dropped into the 40s by the end

of the game.

Jeff Bagwell doubled home Biggio, and Hidalgo hit a two-out homer over the left-center field wall.

Houston knuckleballer Jared Fernandez, subbing for the injured Andy Pettitte, came into the game with a 27.00 ERA — and it got worse.

Fernandez walked three of the first five hitters, including a bases-loaded walk to Jim Edmonds that gave St. Louis its first run. A single by Scott Rolen, a sacrifice fly by Edgar Renteria and a single by Reggie Sanders tied it 4-4.

Fernandez left after getting just one out. He has allowed six runs

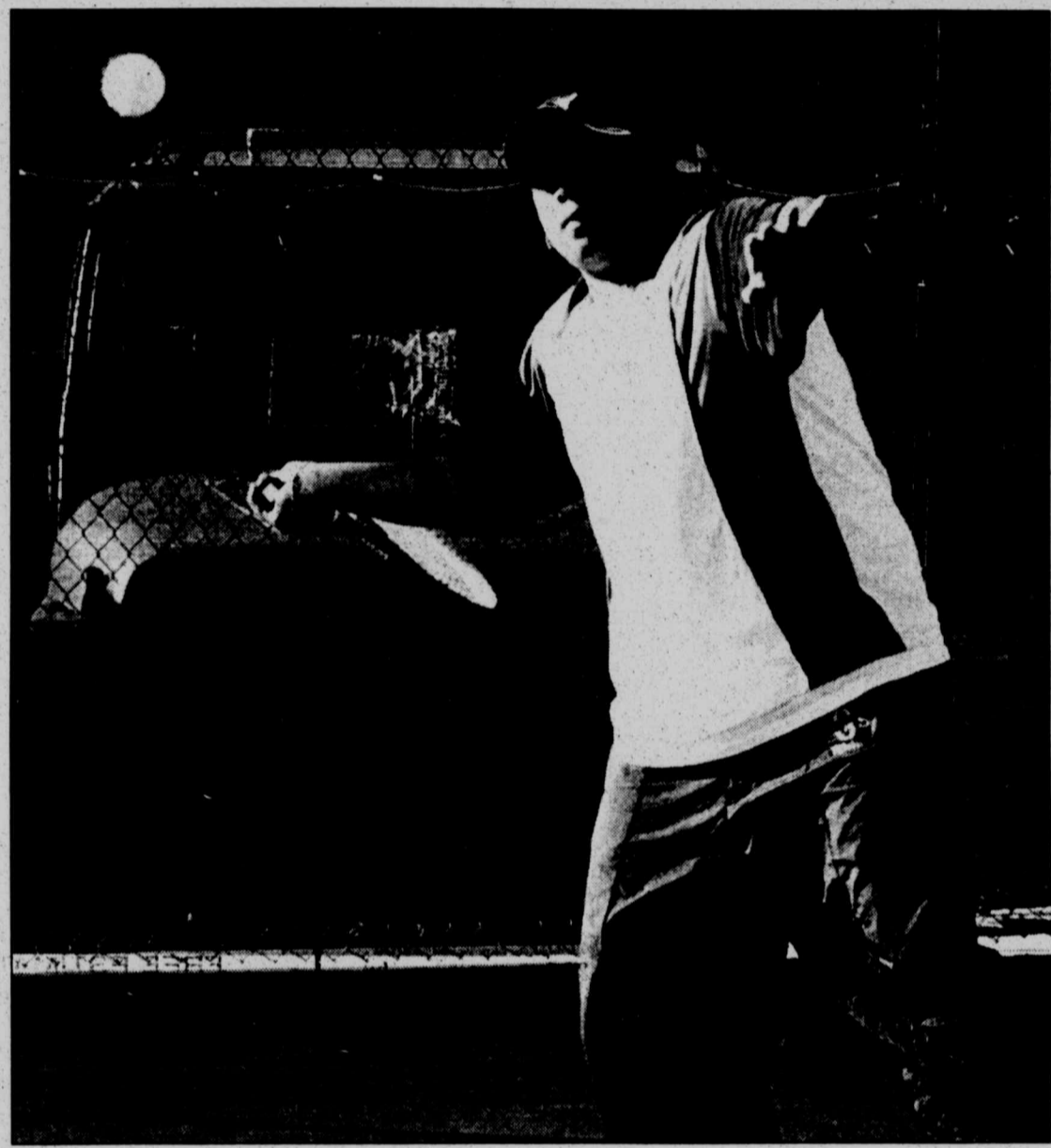
in one inning this season.

St. Louis went ahead in the second on consecutive singles by Ray Lankford, Albert Pujols and Edmonds off Brandon Duckworth.

But the Cards had just three hits after the second, two singles by Renteria and one by Rolen.

Williams got a late start to spring training with tendinitis in his throwing shoulder. He pitched just five innings in the spring and made it through only three while getting no decision in a 9-4 win over Milwaukee Thursday.

He was sharp after the first inning Monday night, allowing six hits in six innings.



HERALD photo/Thomas Jenkins

Big Spring's Nick Rivera warms up for the opening round of boys' doubles play in the District 4-4A Tennis Tournament at the Figure 7 Tennis Center at Comanche Trail Park. Big Spring will host the tournament with finals scheduled for Wednesday.

Fullmer helps Rangers edge Angels, 7-6

By STEPHEN HAWKINS

AP Sports Writer

ARLINGTON — Brad Fullmer isn't happy with the way he's swinging the bat. Now neither is his former team.

Fullmer's swing was just fine on his pinch-hit, three-run double that helped the Texas Rangers beat the Anaheim Angels 7-6 on Monday night.

"It's always nice to come through with men in scoring position," Fullmer said, downplaying the significance of beating his old teammates. "I'm just trying to battle and keep my head above water until I get my timing stuff straightened out."

Fullmer wasn't in the starting lineup against left-hander Jarrod Washburn (1-1), but came on with two outs and the bases loaded in the sixth to face Ben Weber. His hit into the right-center field gap cleared the bases and put the Rangers up 7-3.

"He came out ready to hit," said Michael Young, the first across the plate. "He's pumped up to come up with the bases loaded in a situation he can do some damage."

And he did, with runs that proved valuable when the Angels scored twice in the ninth against closer Francisco Cordero before he was able to wrap up his second save.

Hank Blalock was 3-for-5 with a go-ahead two-run single before Fullmer's big blow, and finished the four-game series with 10 hits.

Fullmer spent the last two seasons in Anaheim, playing for the World Series champion in 2002 before last season ended in June because of a ruptured tendon in his right knee. The Angels didn't offer him a new contract, and he signed with Texas

in December.

"It's a long season, you don't want to put too much emphasis on one particular game or one particular team," Fullmer said. "You just have to bring it every day, no matter who you're facing."

Fullmer started five of the first six games as the designated hitter and was hitting .235. In 193 games over two seasons in Anaheim, he was a .294 hitter.

"Brad was an easy guy to write in there," manager Buck Showalter said. "He's a professional hitter."

After Weber replaced Washburn with two on and one out in the sixth, Young reached on an infield single — a grounder that third baseman Shane Halter made a backhanded diving stop of behind the base.

Instead of trying to get to the bag for a forceout, Halter scrambled to his feet and threw to second late. Blalock then singled for a 4-3 lead and Fullmer delivered the decisive blow.

Carlos Almanzar (1-0) pitched a perfect sixth after replacing shaky starter Colby Lewis.

The Angels twice came from behind against Lewis, who walked five and allowed five hits in five innings. He threw 47 balls and 47 strikes.

Anaheim tied the game 1-1 without a hit in the second. After the bases were loaded on two walks and a hit batter, Jose Guillen scored on a double play grounder.

David Eckstein walked to start the third and scored on Darin Erstad's double to tie the game at 2. Halter led off the fourth with a double and scored

See RANGERS, Page 2B

Rockets primed for postseason after big win over SuperSonics

SEATTLE (AP) — The Houston Rockets feel as though they're just about ready for the playoffs.

Houston wrapped up the seventh seed in the Western Conference with a 111-107 win over the Seattle SuperSonics on Monday night. The Rockets host Dallas on Wednesday in the regular-season finale.

"We won't just be happy getting through the first round," said Mark Jackson, who scored a season-high 25 points. "We're talking about moving on. I think we can create havoc in this playoff picture."

Seattle had beaten Houston in the three previous meetings this year. "This was a big win for us," said Jim Jackson,

who scored 18 of his 22 points in the first quarter. "Seattle was a tough matchup for us, but we managed to pull through in the end."

The Rockets have won three of their last four games entering the season finale. They're not playing great, but feel they have a team that can win in the postseason.

Mark Jackson, who signed with the team as a free agent on Jan. 15, entered the game with a 1.9-point average. He's one of the few Rockets with any significant success in the playoffs.

"That's veteran leadership," Jim Jackson said of the 39-year-old Mark Jackson. "He's played in this league and he's done some phenomenal things.

He understands how to play the game. When the time was called for him to step up and play a big role, he stepped right into that position and played that role."

The two Jacksons were in the starting lineup because the Rockets' usual starting guard tandem of Steve Francis and Cuttino Mobley. Francis has a sprained right wrist and inflammation in his left elbow. Mobley has a bruised left shoulder, which he got while setting a pick at Utah on Saturday.

Yao Ming had 20 points, Jim Jackson scored 18 of his 22 points in the first quarter, Maurice Taylor had 16, Scott Padgett

See ROCKETS, Page 2B

Spurs eliminate Trail Blazers from playoffs with 78-66 win

By ANNE M. PETERSON

AP Sports Writer

PORTLAND, Ore. — While it might be mathematically possible for the San Antonio Spurs to wind up the top seed in the Western Conference, coach Greg Popovich doesn't think they will. San Antonio is a game behind rival Minnesota in the West, with one game to go at home against Denver on Wednesday. Minnesota's finale is at Memphis.

The Spurs, who eliminated the Trail Blazers from the postseason with a 78-66 victory Monday night, would win the tiebreaker and claim the Midwest Division

title. "I wouldn't expect it," Popovich said. "Minnesota has been through a lot the last five, six, seven years. They want to get someplace this year, so they are going to go into Memphis and they'll take care of business."

Even Tim Duncan, who had 14 points and 15 rebounds against the Blazers, was skeptical of finishing at the top.

"It's kind of disappointing to look back at some of the games that we lost," Duncan said. "But we're excited about how far we've come."

The Blazers, meanwhile, will miss the playoffs for the first time in 22 seasons.

The Blazers' fate was sealed by about halftime against the Spurs when the Denver Nuggets beat the Sacramento Kings 97-89 to earn the final playoff spot in the West.

The Blazers had been to the playoffs for the past 21 seasons, a mark that was the longest active streak in the NBA and one short of the league record. Portland not only needed to beat San Antonio, but also needed losses by the Jazz and the Nuggets.

The Blazers host the Lakers in their finale Wednesday.

"Looking back, there are several games I'd like to take back," coach Maurice Cheeks said. "But we'll practice tomorrow and get

ready for the last one. What we'll do is practice and have a little fun."

Tony Parker led the Spurs with 22 points.

Zach Randolph had 13 points and nine rebounds for the Blazers. As the final quarter wound down, Portland guard Derek Anderson put his arm around forward Ruben Patterson, whose face was buried in his hands.

"It hurts," Patterson said. Portland shot a season-low 30.8 percent from the floor and trailed by as many as 21 points as team owner Paul Allen watched stern-

See SPURS, Page 2B

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Roddick, U.S. team could choose clay

By STEVEN WINE
AP Sports Writer

DELRAY BEACH, Fla. — Andy Roddick's clay-court season begins this week and could end with a Davis Cup match in September.

Flying high after big victories the past two weekends, Roddick heads to Houston to start a clay schedule that will prepare him for the French Open in May.

The Roddick-led U.S. Davis Cup team will consider clay for its Sept. 24-26 semifinal against visiting Belarus. Fort Worth, Texas, and

Carson, Calif., are two early candidates for the site, which will be chosen in the next month.

Captain Patrick McEnroe said he'll talk with Roddick and other top American players before picking a surface. He'll also monitor tournament results in the next few weeks.

"If the guys feel strongly about a particular surface, that's probably what I'm going to go with, because they're the guys that are out there playing," McEnroe said. "If we have a lot of success on clay, then it might make that an easier decision

for us." The top players for first-time semifinalist Belarus, Max Mirnyi and Vladimir Voltchkov, prefer fast surfaces. For that reason, McEnroe's most likely choice will be clay or a slow, high-bouncing hard court similar to the one used for the Americans' 4-1 victory over Sweden in the quarterfinals.

Roddick said a slow surface against Belarus make sense. He has won four clay-court titles and is hoping for a breakthrough at Roland Garros, where he lost in the opening round the past two years.

ROCKETS

Continued from Page 1B

added 12 and Bostjan Nachbar had 11 for the Rockets.

"Even though this was just a regular-season game, we don't want to

carry the way we've been playing into the playoffs," said Yao through an interpreter. "We have to alter that and go in on a better note."

Houston led 81-61 with 4:54 to play in the third quarter, but the Sonics made a run in the fourth quarter.

Seattle made three straight 3-pointers, one each by Vladimir Radmanovic, Ray Allen and Rashard Lewis, before Lewis caught a fast-break lob from Ronald Murray for a dunk that trimmed Houston's advantage to 98-94 with 3:45 to play.

Nachbar hit a 3-pointer with 30.9 left. Radmanovic responded with another 3-pointer with 12.8 to make it 105-103.

Mark Jackson and Jim Jackson combined to make five free throws in the final 12 seconds to keep the Rockets in front.

SPURS

Continued from Page 1B

ly from his courtside seat. Their 66 points was the fewest they've scored this season.

The Blazers were rattled by Saturday's 110-100 overtime loss at Denver, which they complained could have gone the other

way if Earl Boykins had been called for fouling Damon Stoudamire with 2.3 seconds left in regulation.

Anderson missed his first two shots, both 3-point attempts, and San Antonio went up 18-8 on Hedo Turkoglu's hook shot.

Stoudamire's 3-pointer narrowed it to 27-22, but the Spurs responded with

six unanswered points and pulled ahead 37-25 at halftime.

"Every streak has to come to an end," Anderson said.

Notes: The scores of the Utah and Denver games weren't shown on the scoreboard within the Rose Garden during the game. Cheeks and most of the players said they did-

n't know the Nuggets had won until after the left the court Monday night. ... The Blazers' 25 first-half points were their fewest this season. The franchise low for a first half is 24 points. ... Utah's second-best current streak of 20 straight playoff appearances also was snapped. ... The Spurs have won six straight against the

Blazers.

RANGERS

Continued from Page 1B

on a single by Jose Molina for a 3-2 Anaheim lead.

Halter was in the lineup for Troy Glaus, held out with a tweaked left hamstring he hurt when he slipped in mud running bases Sunday. Halter also hit an RBI single in the eighth.

Washburn allowed four

runs on eight hits over 5 1-3 innings. Weber allowed three runs on three hits and a walk while getting just two outs.

"I thought I made great pitches all night," Washburn said. "No hit in my mind was a mistake. They did a good job. They're no pushovers."

Kevin Mench was 2-for-4 with a run scored for Texas and is 11-for-24 in six games.

After playing their first seven games on the road, the Angels play their 39th home opener in Anaheim on Tuesday night. It will be the last home opener in the majors, after the Chicago White Sox play their first home game during the day.

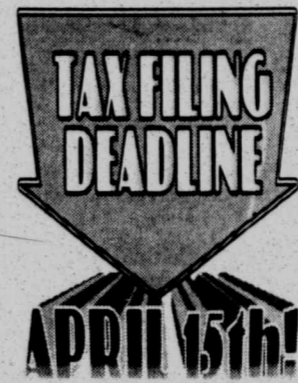
The Angels' nine-game homestand at newly named Angel Stadium of Anaheim begins against Seattle.

Notes: Lewis has a five-

game winning streak and a 4.28 ERA (19 earned runs in 40 innings) over his last seven starts. ... Texas took three of the four games against Anaheim. ... Washburn dropped from first to a second-place tie for best career winning percentage by Angels pitchers with at least 50 decisions. At 57-42 (.576), he dropped below Bert Blyleven (33-24, .579) with Frank Tanana (102-75, .576).

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SPRING HOME IMPROVEMENT directory

Avoid Getting 'Hot Under the Collar' During Home Projects

There are some home projects that make you sweat just thinking about them: fixing leaky pipes in a cramped space, cleaning out the garage, repairing the car, organizing the attic and scrubbing the floors. These are just a few of the projects that are hard work no matter when you tackle them. But on a hot summer day, they can

make you hot under the collar in more ways than one. However, there are several ways to make the job a little easier on yourself.

First, make sure you have all the tools and supplies you need before you start your project. There's nothing worse than getting halfway done, only to realize that you're not prepared to

finish the job. And don't forget to gather everything necessary for cleaning up — boxes, trash bags, cleaning solution, sponges and so forth.

Second, especially when it's hot outside, it's important to pace yourself. Take frequent breaks and drink plenty of fluids. If the inevitable frustration of a long, tough project doesn't get you, the summer heat will. Tackle each project in phases, and take a break as you reach the completion of each part. Doing this will not only allow you to give your body a much needed rest, but you'll gain a sense of accomplishment as well.

Finally, proper ventilation in your work area will help you keep your cool and protect you and your project from dust and debris. If you're using chemicals like paint or varnish, keep

the windows open to reduce the likelihood of any possible harm from fumes. A fan can also be helpful. The new Stanley® blower fan is a workhorse for a multitude of jobs. It has a high-velocity, focused stream of air and a patented 360-degree pivoting head. That means you can position the air stream exactly where you want it — even horizontally for drying carpets and floors.

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As the dog days of summer take hold, just remember the "three Ps" before you start any home project: preparation, pac-

ing and proper ventilation in your work area. To learn more about powerful, compact, effective ventilation tools at a price

that won't break the bank, and to find retailers in your area, call Lasko Products at (800) 394-FANS.



AS THE DOG DAYS OF SUMMER take hold, just remember the three Ps before you start any home project: preparation, pacing and proper ventilation in your work area.

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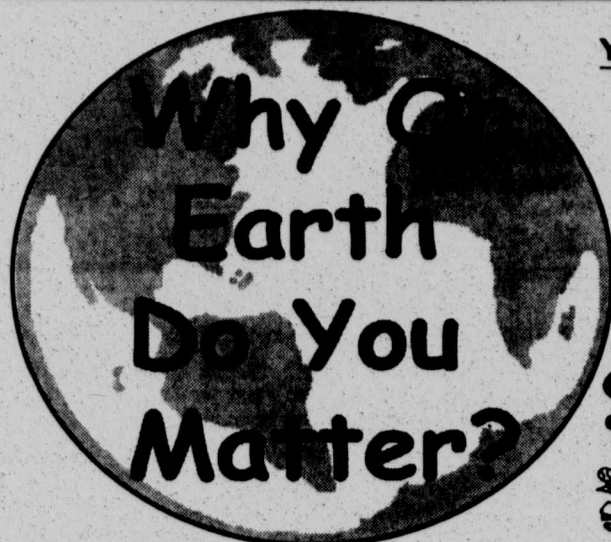
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LET'S ON E
Mini great

Especially for kids and their families
The Mini Page

By BETTY DEBNAM



Your Earth is the ground you stand on. Your school, house, community and roads are built on Earth. You swim in the Earth's oceans. You drink Earth's waters. You eat Earth's plants. You breathe Earth's air. Earth is where you live. Earth is home.

Earth matters to you. You matter to Earth.

We all need to pay attention to the Earth's environment and to our surroundings. Many people around the world will be celebrating Earth Day on or around April 22.

The purpose of the day is to call attention to the Earth and its many wonders and problems. Celebrating Earth Day every day is a good idea.

Earth has so much to show us, but it can't speak for itself. Maybe you could speak up and do something for our Earth.

You matter when you pick up trash.

- Litter such as broken glass and sharp items can hurt people and animals.
- Litter can be harmful to animals that might eat it and die or be trapped by it.
- Litter spoils how things look. It makes our surroundings unpleasant. Cleaning it up costs money.
- Litter is the breeding place for cockroaches, flies and rats. These insects and rodents cause health problems.



Kids and their parents often join together on Earth Day and clean up a seashore, riverbank or park.

You matter when you plant a tree.

Trees you plant offer shade and can help protect people from harmful ultraviolet rays of the sun.

A big tree can make enough oxygen to keep a family of four alive for four days.

Trees you plant reduce carbon dioxide, a gas in the atmosphere.

Trees you plant can be used to make paper, furniture and other products.

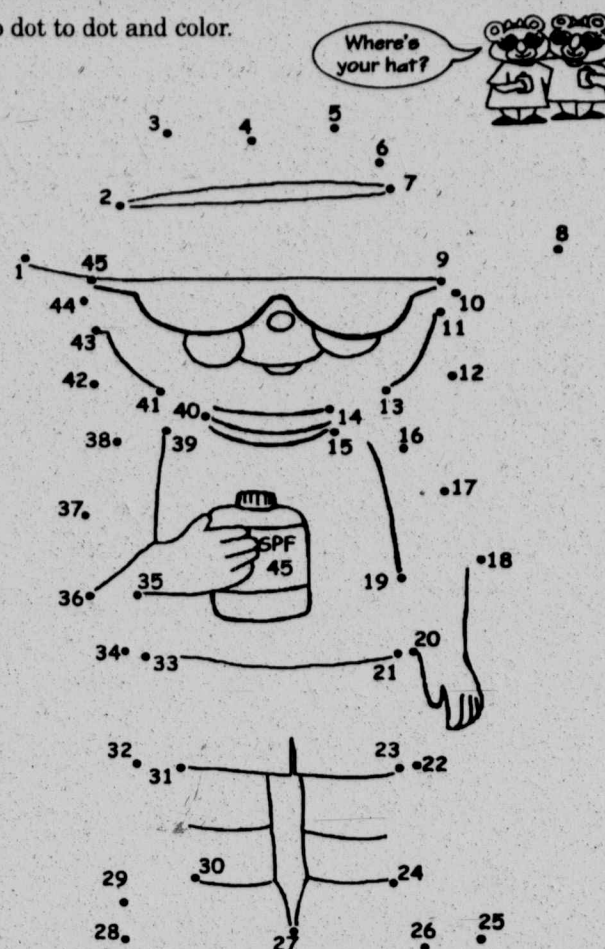
Trees you plant can be homes for many kinds of wildlife.

Trees you plant hide ugly areas and offer privacy.

Trees you plant grow fruits to eat and flowers to enjoy.

Trees you plant might help protect against strong winds.

Go dot to dot and color.



Rookie Cookie's Recipe Tortilla Wraps

- You'll need:**
- 4 eggs, hard-cooked with shells removed
 - 4 tablespoons mayonnaise
 - 1 tablespoon mustard
 - 1/2 teaspoon dried dill weed
 - 1/2 cup lettuce, shredded
 - 5 tortillas, white or wheat
- What to do:**
- Mix together first 4 ingredients to make egg salad.
 - Lay tortillas flat on plates.
 - Spread 2 tablespoons of egg salad in center of each tortilla.
 - Place lettuce on top.
 - Fold in 2 edges from opposite sides of tortilla so they touch.
 - Take one other edge and roll it up. Now you have a tortilla "wrap." Makes 5 wraps.

The Mini Page Rookie Cookie Cookbook
Easy, everyday recipes designed especially for kids!

- snacks
- soups
- salads
- sandwiches
- breads
- beverages
- casseroles
- main dishes
- microwave dishes
- desserts

Ingredients:

- Step-by-step directions
- Measuring tips
- Utensil guide
- Cooking terms
- How to set a table
- Table manners guide

Encourages kids to read and follow directions!

To order, send \$9.95 plus \$2.25 postage and handling for each copy. Send check or money order (U.S. funds only) payable to: Andrews McMeel Universal, P.O. Box 6414, Leeswood, KS 66206 or call toll-free 1-888-511-3977. Please send 3 copies of The Mini Page Rookie Cookie Cookbook (Item #1024) at \$12.29 each, including postage and handling. (Bulk discount information available upon request.) www.minipage.com

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Goldie Goodsport's Report Supersport: Jennie Finch

Height: 6-0 Birthdate: 9-3-1980
Hometown: La Mirada, California

Jennie Finch adds an extra sparkle to a softball diamond. Attractive and athletic, Finch ranks as the premier pitcher on the U.S. Olympic team.

In college, Finch starred at Arizona University. She won an NCAA record 80-straight games, led the Wildcats to two national titles, and twice was named National College Player of the Year in Division I.

Finch also recently became the first woman to play in a softball game that included major league baseball players.

Jennie, who has two brothers and three dogs, has much on her agenda now — the Olympics and a wedding. She is engaged to minor league baseball player Casey Daigle. Wonder if she can strike him out?

Meet Cuba Gooding Jr.

When Cuba Gooding Jr. was growing up, he used to go backstage at concerts with his father, Cuba Gooding Sr., a lead singer in a popular group in the 1970s, The Main Ingredient. Cuba even spent time with The Jacksons.

His talent as a boy was dancing. He broke-danced in the closing ceremonies of the 1984 Olympic Games and was a backup dancer for singer Paula Abdul.

Cuba always wanted to be a movie actor. He played small parts in some movies, but his big chance came when he was cast in the movie "Boyz n the Hood." Since then he has starred in many other movies, including "The Tuskegee Army," "Men of Honor," "Snow Dogs," "Fighting Temptations" and "Radio." He is the voiceover for the character named Buck in the new Disney movie, "Home on the Range."

Cuba, age 36, has a wife, Sara, who is a schoolteacher, and two sons, Mason and Spencer.

MIGHTY FUNNY'S Mini Jokes

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

Ivy: How does a giant's watch tick?
Orrin: King Kong!

Leona: How can you make time fly?
Priscilla: Throw a clock out the window!

Amos: Why did the boy take his watch to school?
Ceasar: So he could take his time!

EARTH DAY TRY 'N FIND

Words and names that remind us of Earth Day are hidden in the block below. Some words are hidden backward or diagonally, and some letters are used twice. See if you can find: EARTH, COMMUNITY, ENVIRONMENT, SURROUNDINGS, WONDERS, AIR, QUALITY, MATTER, GROUND, TREES, PAPER, OCEAN, HELP, FRUITS, CLEAN, ENERGY, RECYCLE, DONATE, WATER, SAVE, INDEX, HOME, BIN, FLOWERS.

LET'S CLEAN UP ON EARTH DAY!

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

Mini Spy ...

Mini Spy and her friends are recycling books together, a great way to help the environment. See if you can find:

- man in the moon
- question mark
- olive • cat
- number 3
- word MINI
- ruler
- pig's face
- number 8
- carrot
- caterpillar
- pencil • bell

Take an Earth Checkup

Let's celebrate Earth Day by taking a checkup to remind you to do some of the things that matter to you on Earth.

Put a check if you usually do them, or an X if you do not.

Do you reduce, reuse and recycle?

Do you:

- Save energy and the Earth's resources by writing on both sides of the paper?
- Put cans, paper and other items that can be recycled in the recycling bin?
- Take care and repair things so they will last longer?
- Encourage your parents to look for items with the Energystar label? This label on light bulbs and electric appliances means that these products save energy and money because they run on less power. For example, light bulbs with the Energystar label use almost 70 percent less energy and last six times longer than some other bulbs.

Good sites for teachers and parents:

- Earth Day Network at www.earthday.net
- The Environmental Protection Agency, www.epa.gov
- Air Quality Index: www.epa.gov/airnow, then click "Where I Live." The air quality of many cities will be on the map.
- Energystar: www.energystar.gov

What On Earth Do You Do?

Do you use less water so others will have some?

Do you:

- Turn off the water while you are brushing your teeth?
- Do you take showers instead of baths?

What on Earth do you do to make our air cleaner?

Do you:

- Sell or donate items rather than throwing them out?
- Encourage your family to use recycled products with this symbol when they are available?
- Ask your parents to walk you to a nearby friend's house rather than drive the car?
- Turn off lights, computers, TV and other electrical appliances when you are not using them?

Many cities in our country have dirty air, mostly caused by burning fuel. When we burn things, we release pollutants (harmful substances) into the air.

Air Quality Index

The Air Quality Index (AQI) is a way we can learn about whether air in some cities is good or bad. The Environmental Protection Agency, or EPA, is in charge of this index.

On the days with higher numbers, the air can be unhealthy for some people to breathe. The Air Quality Index uses numbers from 0 to 500. These numbers help decide what the AQI will be. You might hear these alerts on the radio or TV, or read about them in the newspaper.

GREEN IS THE CLEANEST AIR, 0-50
RED INDICATES UNHEALTHY AIR, 151-300

The Mini Page thanks the Environmental Protection Agency; and Tracy Pakulniewicz-Chidiac, director of communications, and Eric Rubin, director of education at the Earth Day Network, for help with this story.

The Mini Page is created and edited by Betty Debnam

Associate Editors: Tali Denton, Lucy Lien
Staff Artist: Wendy Daley

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COAHOMA ISD is accepting applications for the position of custodian. Applications are available at the Administration Office, 600 N. Main. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. Coahoma ISD is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

COVENANT HOME HEALTH CARE of Big Spring is now hiring for a full-time RN for home visits in the Big Spring area. Home Health experience preferred but not required. Apply in person at 2000 S. Birdwell Lane, Suite 110 or call (432)263-6816. Equal Opportunity Employer.

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1601 W. 11th Place
Big Spring, TX 79720
432-268-4961
432-268-4959 fax
robby_banks@hq.chs.net

LOCAL SALON looking for shampoo tech, massage therapist and receptionist. Call anytime (432)349-0105.

LOOKING FOR Friendly Professional front desk sales agent also have openings for housekeeping positions. Apply in person @ 2900 E. I-20, Comfort Inn.

Help Wanted

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

PHILLIPS FINA- Looking for Manager position. \$600.00 weekly. Apply @ Office. Located @ 1508 East FM 700. Please No Calls.

MIDWEST FINANCE CORP now hiring assistant manager/collector. Benefit package. Pay DOE. Apply in person, 612 S. Gregg. No Phone Calls!

NEED INDIVIDUALS with Grocery experience in Checking, stocking shelves, receiving trucks and etc.. Call after 7:00 pm @ (432)270-0937.

PARK VILLAGE Apartments is taking applications for an assistant maintenance person who is self-motivated. Make ready experience required. Must pass drug test and background check. No Phone Calls Please! Apply at 1905 Wasson Rd. or Fax resume, (432)267-3049, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

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PHARMACY TECHNICIAN Opening. Wal-Mart Pharmacy is currently looking for Certified Pharmacy Technician. Salary negotiable. All interested applicants Call (432)267-1585 for details.

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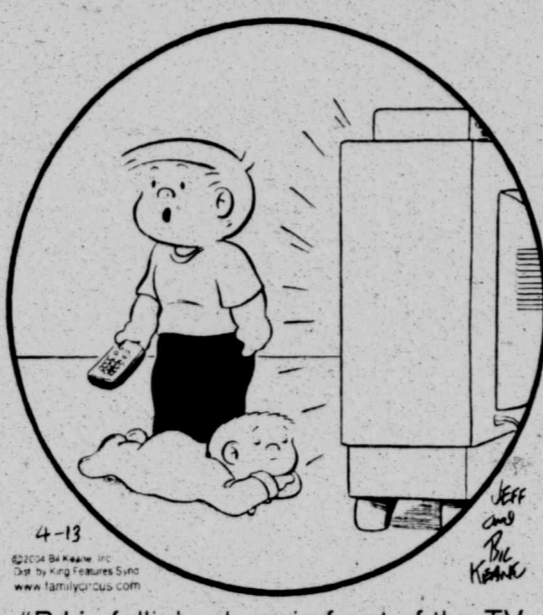
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7 PM	8 Simple Rules	8 Simple Rules	Mariana de la Noche	American Idol	Navy NCIS (CC)	Prisionera	Whoopi (CC) Happy Family	Seinfeld (CC) Seinfeld (CC)	Update/Israel N. McBride	Nova (CC) (DVS)	The FBI Files (CC)	Movie: Navy SEALS	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	The Parkers The Parkers	Movie: Going to the Mat	Conference Quarterfinal	Conference Quarterfinal	Law & Order: Special	Martin Lawrence
8 PM	According- Jim	According- Jim	Bajo la Misma	24 (CC)	Century City (CC)	El Alma Herida	Frasier (CC) Scrubs (CC)	Movie: Grosse	Light of the Southwest	Innovation (CC) (DVS)	Animal Face- Off		Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Access College Hill	(CC) Recess (CC)	Teams to Be Announced	Teams to Be Announced	Movie: Training	Runteldat :45 Movie:
9 PM	NYPD Blue (CC)	NYPD Blue (CC)	Casos de la Vida Real	70s Show Dharma-Greg	Judging Amy (CC)	Mujeres Apasionadas	Law & Order: Special			Independent Lens (CC)	MythBusters (CC)	Movie: Jaws	Charmed (CC)	Comicview	Sister, Sister Boy World	NHL Hockey: Conference	MLB Baseball:		Deuces Wild (CC)
10 PM	News (CC) Nightline	News Nightline	Primer Impacto	70s Show Raymond	News Late Show	Noticias Laura	News The Tonight	:10 Movie: The Big Hit	The Hour of Healing	Charlie Rose	The FBI Files (CC)	the Revenge	Angel (CC)	Nightly News Grown Folks	Kim Possible Proud Family	Quarterfinal	Mariners at Anaheim	Law & Order: Special	Movie:
11 PM	Ent. Tonight Jimmy	Extra (CC) Jimmy	En las Mejores	Becker (CC) Spin City	(CC) The Late Late	Al Rojo Vivo	Show (CC) Late Night	(CC) (DVS)	Joe McGee Rabbi	(CC) Sign Off	Animal Face- Off	Movie: Navy	The X-Files Love	Midnight Love	Even Stevens Sister, Sister	Announced NHL 2Night	Angels (CC)	Special Victims	Dangerous Game (CC)
12 AM	Live (CC) Oprah	Live (CC) Paid Program	Rencor Apasionado	Blind Date Blind Date	Show (CC) Street Smarts	Maria Celeste Corte-Familia	Frasier (CC)	12-10 Movie: Just Cause	Update/Israel Booker		MythBusters (CC)	SEALS	The X-Files (CC)	Comicview	Boy World Recess (CC)	NBA Fastbreak	SportsCenter (CC)	(CC) Nash Bridges	Movie: Deser

DENNIS THE MENACE



"GRANDPA SAYS THAT WHEN HE WAS A KID, ICE CREAM ONLY CAME IN THREE FLAVORS."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

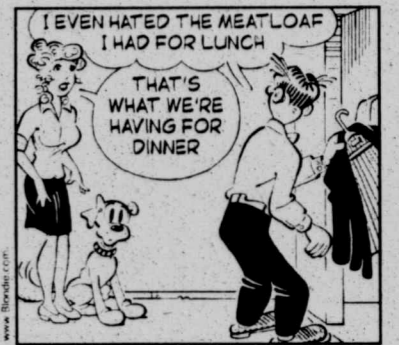
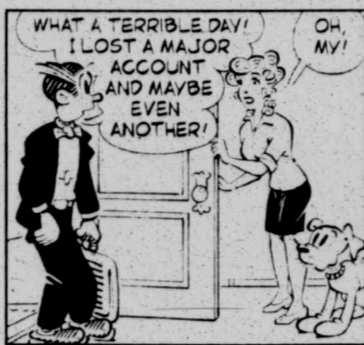


"PJ is fallin' asleep in front of the TV. Shall I turn up the volume?"

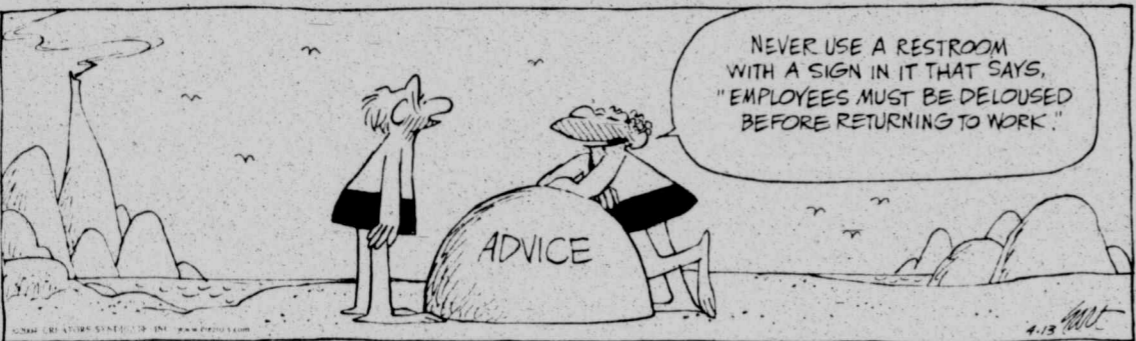
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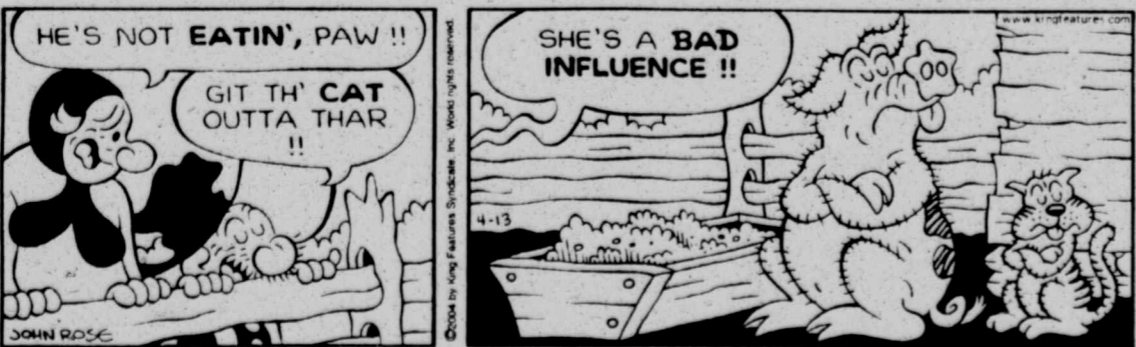
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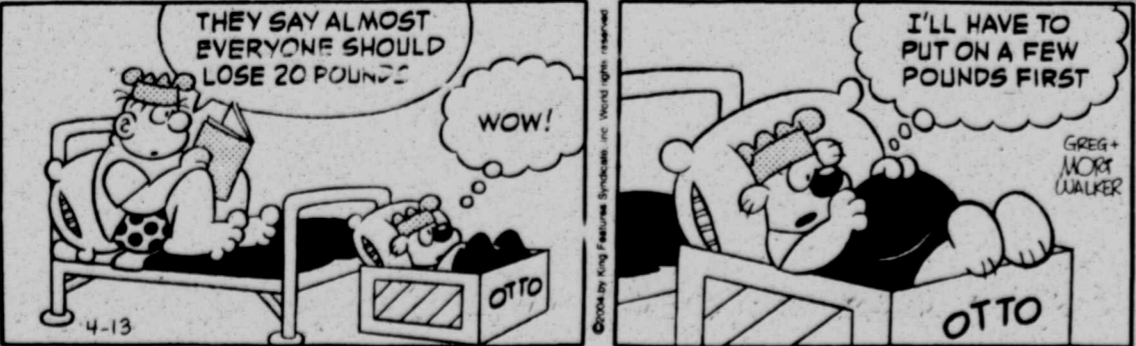
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEEBLE BAILEY



This Date In History

By The Associated Press

Today is Tuesday, April 13, the 104th day of 2004. There are 262 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On April 13, 1970, Apollo 13, four-fifths of the way to the moon, was crippled when a tank containing liquid oxygen burst. (The astronauts managed to return safely.)

On this date: In 1598, King Henry IV of France endorsed the Edict of Nantes, which granted rights to the Protestant Huguenots. (The edict was abrogated in 1685 by King Louis XIV, who declared France entirely Catholic again.)

In 1742, Handel's "Messiah" was first performed publicly, in Dublin, Ireland.

In 1743, the third president of the United States, Thomas Jefferson, was born.

In 1870, the Metropolitan Museum of Art was founded in New York.

In 1943, President Franklin D. Roosevelt dedicated the Jefferson Memorial.

In 1958, Van Cliburn became the first American to win the Tchaikovsky International Piano Contest in Moscow.

In 1964, Sidney Poitier became the first black performer in a leading role to win an Academy Award, for "Lilies of the Field."

In 1981, Washington Post reporter Janet Cooke received a Pulitzer Prize for her feature about an 8-year-old heroin addict named "Jimmy"; however, Cooke relinquished the prize two days later, admitting she'd fabricated the story.

In 1986, Pope John Paul II visited a Rome synagogue in the first recorded papal visit of its kind.

In 1992, the Great Chicago Flood took place as the

city's century-old tunnel system and adjacent basements filled with water from the Chicago River.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Howard Keel is 85. Movie director Stanley Donen is 80. Actor Don Adams is 78. Senator Ben Nighthorse Campbell, R-Colo., is 71. Actor Lyle Waggoner is 69. Actor Edward Fox is 67. Playwright Lanford Wilson is 67. Actor-Paul Sorvino is 65. Movie and TV composer Bill Conti is 62. Rock musician Jack Casady is 60. Actor Tony Dow is 59. Singer Al Green is 58. Actor Ron Perlman is 54. Actor William Sadler is 54. Singer Peabo Bryson is 53.

Answer to previous puzzle

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

Newsday Crossword

GRAY DAY by Gail Grabowski
Edited by Stanley Newman

ACROSS

1 Wide belt
5 Retract a deletion
9 Prodded
14 Blues singer James
15 Auto for hire
16 Self-confidence
17 List-ending letters
18 Vicinity
19 Reveille instrument
20 Movies, with "the"
23 E.T., for one
24 Diner display
28 Lusterless
29 Reproachful sound
32 Canada's capital
33 Spirit-raising meeting
36 Funny fellow
37 Outdoor cooker
41 Keep clear of
42 Finish, as a project
43 Spanish marks
46 Collar, as a crook
47 Mauna
50 Photo
53 Discover
55 Lent beginner
58 City north of Sarasota
61 Zhivago's love
62 Former Yugoslavian leader
63 Westminster

DOWN

1 Playground device
2 Head Hun
3 Lenin successor
4 Cut in two
5 Night sight
6 Old salts
7 Business VIPs
8 Royal headdress
9 Optimistic
10 Type of plane ticket
11 Musician's job
12 Nonnative speaker's course; Abbr.
13 Poor grade
21 Go in
22 "Xanadu" grp.
25 What a judge sets
26 GI crime
27 Lab runner
30 Possum's pouch
31 Have no doubt
33 Refinisher's need
34 One's wheels
35 Pizzazz
37 Face feature
38 Luau dance
39 College stat.
40 Kremlin cash
41 Map lines; Abbr.
44 Literary works
45 "Quiet!"
47 Sarcastic reaction
48 Talks pompously
49 Whichever person
51 Young barn bird
52 About to weep
54 Rival of Helena
56 Trickle
57 Prefix for second
58 File folder feature
59 Lincoln's nickname
60 CEO's degree, maybe

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14				15				16					
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23								24			25	26	27
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41								42					
43				44	45			46			47	48	49
50								51	52		53	54	
				55				56	57				
58	59	60						61			62		
63								64			65		
66								67			68		

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