

TUESDAY

August 31, 2004

WEATHER

Tonight:



PARTLY CLOUDY
TONIGHT 60°-61° TOMORROW 85°-87°

BRIEFLY

Forsan ISD sets bond seminars

Forsan Independent School District will host two information sessions concerning the \$4.9 million bond election, scheduled for Sept. 11.

The sessions will be held in conjunction with an open house on each campus.

Forsan Junior/Senior High School will host one meeting at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday in the auditorium. An open house will immediately follow and early voting will be conducted beginning at 7 p.m.

The information session and open house at Elbow Elementary is scheduled for Sept. 2, beginning at 5:30 p.m. Early voting will be held that night beginning at 6.

Everyone is invited to attend either or both sessions and the open houses.

Early voting began Wednesday and will continue through Sept. 7 at the superintendent's office. If passed, the bond package will fund upgrades to district facilities, construction of a multi-purpose athletic facility and new buses.

Cossacks, Legion slated fund-raiser

The Permian Basin Chapter of the Cossacks Motorcycle Club and American Legion Post 506 will hold a benefit auction and "in-house" poker run for local resident Virginia King, who has been diagnosed with cancer.

The benefit will be held Saturday, Sept. 11, beginning at noon at the Legion Post, 3203 W. Highway 80

INDEX

- Classified 4-5B
- Comics 6B
- Features 5-6A
- Obituaries 2A
- Opinion 4A
- Sports 1-2B

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Trustees set tax rate, adopt budgets, approve arts center bidding process

By KENDRA WISS
Staff Writer

Howard College trustees voted Monday to approve unrestricted fund budgets in the amount of \$17,141,626 for Howard College and \$3,445,845 for SouthWest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf.

They also approved the adoption of a tax rate of 27.561 cents per \$100 valuation, the same rate that was approved last year. Howard College President Dr. Cheryl Sparks told trustees taxpayers will see no change in their tax



SPARKS

unless the value of their property goes up or down. Five years of hard work and dedication culminated as trustees voted to begin the bidding process for construction of the two-story, multi-million-dollar structure that will house the theater and arts programs.

"We are very pleased to move to the point of a bidding process for the visual and performing arts

center," said Sparks.

At a construction workshop before Monday's meeting, the board was presented with cost-cutting ideas for the new facility, such as reducing some of the millwork, using king-sized bricks and reducing the height of the building by two feet.

At the board meeting, the question of timing for the bidding process was addressed by Sparks.

"It should take about three weeks to make some

See COLLEGE, Page 3A



HERALD photo/Kendra Wiss
Howard College freshmen Daniel Rodriguez from Big Spring and Cruz Montoya from Stanton purchase their books for the first day of class. The fall semester began Monday.



HERALD photo/Thomas Jenkins
Living Memorial Tree Program Coordinator Gloria McDonald, left, Terrie Johansen and Cody Hare plant a tree at Comanche Trail Park to help begin the newly formed program.

Memorial Tree program special way to remember a loved one

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer

The Living Memorial Tree Program got its first spade of dirt thrown Thursday afternoon, as committee members and city employees planted a "symbolic tree" near Cotton Mize Field at Comanche Trail Park.

Project coordinator Gloria McDonald said the tree, an elderica pine, is a symbol of what the program has planned and helps an area of the park that has already lost several trees due to unchecked growth of mistletoe.

"I worked with (City Parks and Cemeteries Supervisor) Cody Hare, so we could put this tree in an irrigated area

"This program is for anyone who wants to remember a loved one with a memorial of a tree. This isn't limited to any particular entity or organization."



Gloria McDonald

and an area that would be protected," said McDonald. "This is just our symbolic tree. This isn't one of our funded memorial trees, which we'll begin planting in the fall.

"This is an area that has

already lost six trees due to mistletoe and other infestations — it's very bare and it's very hot around the pavilion."

McDonald said during a recent trip to Utah she witnessed the controlled burn of an entire forest of trees infested with mistletoe, which helped her realize the danger it poses to trees.

"They tried chemicals and tried other means to get rid of the infestation, but there was no way," said McDonald. "They had to burn the forest to keep it from spreading and killing all of the trees."

"We came back to Big Spring and had been looking at the park for some time, knowing

See TREES, Page 3A

GOP turns to domestic issues after saluting Bush

NEW YORK (AP) — Republicans are turning to conditions at home after saluting President Bush as a wartime president whose leadership is "rock solid." California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger gets star billing on the second day of the party's convention as the GOP extends its outreach to moderate Democrats and independents.

As the Republican National Convention headed for Tuesday's session at Madison Square Garden under extremely heavy security, Bush supporters scrambled to explain the president's day-old comments that the war against terror could not be won.

First lady Laura Bush defended her husband, saying on ABC's "Good Morning America" that "this isn't a war with a country where you're going to have a surrender at some point, but the fact is, as we look around the world, we are already winning the war on terror."

Democrats pounced on the president's remark in hopes of stealing some convention-week spotlight from Republicans. Asked by reporters whether the war on terror could be won, Democratic presidential candidate John Kerry replied, "Absolutely."

In Monday's opening session, Republicans invoked the memory of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks as a test of Bush's mettle as a strong and decisive leader.

"Since September 11th President Bush has remained rock solid," former New York Mayor Rudolph

See GOP, Page 3A



Akron Beacon Journal/Paul Tople
U.S. Senator John McCain (Ariz.) speaks during the evening session of the 2004 Republican National Convention at Madison Square Garden in New York City on Monday.

Broadway returns to Big Spring with Sept. 11 tribute

By MEGAN KNIGHT
Special to the Herald

Broadway comes to Big Spring on Sept. 11 with Howard College's rendition of "The Guys" by Anne Nelson.

Howard College Associate Professor Clay Grizzle said the play was performed by Bill Murray and Sigourney Weaver in 2001 to benefit the Fireman's Relief Fund, and revolves around the tragic events of Sept. 11, 2001.

"It's about healing, and takes heroes, and turns them into real

people -- the guys next door," Grizzle said.

Howard College will perform "The Guys" in the Municipal Auditorium. Tickets can be purchased at the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, 215 W. 3rd Street, for \$10. All proceeds will be used to purchase new communications equipment for the Big Spring Fire Department.

"The play is about a fire captain who loses his company during 9-11 and has to deliver their eulogies. He has a hard time, and

hires a writer to help him write them," Grizzle said.

The headlining actors will be Pat Barrera, a Big Spring High School teacher, and Bill Kersh, of Midland.

Grizzle said, "Bill has been acting for decades and Pat does a great job; the play should be wonderful."

Grizzle said he had read the play, and wanted to perform it, but the rights are hard to obtain because it is going to be turned into a film within the

next year, and using the performance as a benefit just made sense.

"Part of what a community theater does is provide services to the community, and that's what the fire department does, too," Grizzle said.

Grizzle added that the troupe will also be delivering performances of "The Guys" in Lamesa and Stanton to benefit the local volunteer fire departments there.

For more information contact Clay Grizzle at 432-264-5068.

AUG 31 2004

Child dies in hot car

BROWNSVILLE (AP) — Authorities said miscommunication between two sisters may have led to the death of an 18-month-old girl who was left in a hot car for about two hours.

Jasmine Morin died of heat exhaustion Saturday afternoon after her aunt, 17-year-old Ana Lopez, left the child in a car with the windows closed.

Police said Jasmine was in the car when Lopez dropped off the child's mother, Blanca Lopez, 24, at work Saturday afternoon.

"The mother indicates she told the aunt the child was in the back seat, but she (the aunt) didn't hear that," Lt. James Paschall said in Tuesday's editions of The Brownsville Herald. "There was some miscommunication there."

Morin was found several hours later in the back seat of the car by relatives. Ana Lopez has been charged with felony abandonment of a child and is being held on a \$20,000 bond.

Funeral services set for siblings

SEMINOLE (AP) — Funeral services were scheduled for Thursday for three young siblings killed in a weekend traffic accident.

Rachel Lindsey, 10, Madelyn Lindsey, 6, and Yates Lindsey, 1 month, died Saturday after the truck they were riding in was hit by a driver who failed to stop at a stop sign, Seminole police Sgt. Chad Hallum said.

Their parents, Dirk and Tara Lindsey were injured, Hallum said. They and the driver of the other truck, Eloisa Quintanilla, were in stable condition.

Bush says diplomacy best option with Iran

TAYLOR, Mich. (AP) — Calling war divisive for the country, President Bush said he will continue pursuing diplomatic rather than military options to try to get Iran to halt its nuclear program.

Earlier this month, Iran confirmed it had resumed building nuclear centrifuges, which can be used to enrich uranium to weapons grade, and declared it should have the right to advanced nuclear technology.

While he's "deeply concerned" by Iran's actions,

Bush said diplomatic efforts are just beginning there and he's hopeful they will be successful. He noted military action to topple Saddam Hussein's regime in Iraq came only after more than a decade of failed diplomacy.

"The military option is always the last option for a president, not the first," he said in an interview broadcast Tuesday on NBC's "Today" show.

"Going to war is divisive," he said later in the interview. "I've always said my job is to confront

problems, not to pass them on. The best thing I know to do is to continue to explain to people why the decisions I have made are going to make the world a more peaceful place."

Bush comments came as he continued a campaign swing that will take him to New York, where he'll speak Thursday night to the Republican National Convention.

On Tuesday, Bush continues his pre-convention barnstorming, traveling to Nashville, Tenn.

GOP

Continued from Page 1A

Giuliani said, likening the president to Winston Churchill and Ronald Reagan. "We need George Bush more than ever."

That prompted Democratic Party chief Terry McAuliffe to recall "a certain Churchill quote that, after the last four years, certainly applies to George Bush: 'He's a humble man with much to be humble about.'"

Democrats and some Sept. 11 victims say Republicans are politicizing a national tragedy. Giuliani denied that, saying Democrats made frequent mention of Sept. 11 at their convention last month in Boston. He said if Republicans did not cite Bush's response to the tragedy it would be like President Abraham Lincoln not mentioning the Civil War when he ran for re-election in 1864.

"How do we as Republicans defend the president that we think has gone a good job with Sept. 11 without mentioning it?" Giuliani asked during an appearance Tuesday on ABC. "It wouldn't even be a fight with one hand tied behind your back, this would be a fight with two hands tied behind your back."

At the convention, Schwarzenegger was sharing billing Tuesday with Mrs. Bush and Education Secretary Rod Paige. The actor-turned-politician was the latest in a march to the convention podium of moderates and other politicians with broad popular support.

Bush was addressing the American Legion in Nashville, Tenn., on Tuesday before heading to Iowa to campaign. Kerry was spending most of the day at his beachfront home in Massachusetts, then flying to Nashville to spend the night. He talks to the American Legion on Wednesday.

On Monday, Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., drew enthusiastic cheers when he voiced strong support for his 2000 GOP presidential rival. McCain heartily

endorsed the president's Iraq and anti-terrorism policies, saying the United States had little choice but to invade Iraq.

"Don't let anyone tell you otherwise. Not our critics abroad. Not our political opponents. And certainly not a disingenuous filmmaker," McCain said in a clear dig at filmmaker Michael Moore that delighted his audience. Moore, who was sitting in the press section, was roundly booed by the crowd.

Moore's box-office hit, "Fahrenheit 9/11,"

sharply questions Bush's motives for invading Iraq. McCain said the filmmaker, whom he did not name, "would have us believe that Saddam's Iraq was an oasis of peace when in fact it was a place of indescribable cruelty, torture chambers, mass graves and prisons that destroyed the lives of the small children held inside their walls."

Scores of "We Salute Our Troops" banners waved as McCain spoke. McCain did not single out Kerry, a good friend, for criticism.

TREES

Continued from Page 1A

we had some mistletoe. You don't pay too much attention to it because it's green in the winter and you can't see it in the summer or spring. We began looking at it, and it has just gotten to be more and more each year and we're losing trees — we're losing them rapidly."

While the newly planted tree begins to take root in the park, McDonald said it should have plenty of

"company" come fall, when the program will transform itself from numbers on a bank account into flora throughout Big Spring's parks.

"The memorials that we've received thus far will be taken out of the account and used to buy as many trees as possible," explained McDonald. "After that we'll get with the parks department and city crews to look at the area in most need, and that's where the trees will be planted."

"A lot of people have the idea that the Living Memorial Tree Program is a city project — the city employees are doing it and it's just for them. This program is for anyone that wants to remember a loved one with a memorial of a tree. This isn't limited to any particular entity or organization. This is for everyone."

The program, which recently got its start with a nod from the Big Spring City Council, began out of the grief of a daughter who wanted to memorialize her mother with some-

thing that lasted longer than a week.

"When my mother passed away, I received a memorial for a tree in a national forest," explained McDonald. "It got me to thinking. Big Spring is in need of this type of program and we need to underplant our trees. We have so many parks that are losing trees to disease."

"May saying is to plant a tree under which you'll never sit. I'm planning and planting for 40 years from now, and that's the basic idea behind this

program. It's for our children and grand children."

McDonald said the longevity of trees appeals to her, and she believes once people see the idea in action, it will certainly catch on.

"It was very important for me because the flowers that I received when my mother passed were gone within a week," she said. "This is something in your heart that will go on for a long time, and maybe my mother's great-grandchildren will be able to know that somewhere within the

city limits of Big Spring there is a tree in her honor."

Program board members include Terrie Johansen, Jan Hansen, Public Works Director Todd Darden and Hare.

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

COLLEGE

Continued from Page 1A

of the approved changes and get the specs out for bidding," said project architect Phil Furqueron.

"After four to six weeks of taking bids, we can come back and analyze the bids and we should be able to award the contract shortly after that," he said. The board should have

an approved bid by the first week of November.

Trustees also approved: • Catalog and handbook changes concerning children in class and in the workplace. • Bids for athletic insur-

ance, athletic equipment, janitorial supply, electrical supply and office supplies.

• Articulation agreements between the college and Midwestern State University and the

University of Texas at Brownsville.

Contact Staff Writer Kendra Wiss at 263-7331 ext. 234 or by e-mail at reporter@bigspringherald.com



BECKY, THE HARDWORKING LITTLE COMPUTER

In a big office building, in a big city, there was a little computer named Becky. Now, Becky had been around that office building for a very, very long time. She knew everything there was to know about how to run an office. Whenever someone asked Becky a question, they just knew that she was going to give them the right answer. She was always there at work and was always handy to have around.

There were a lot of people working in that office, all of them counting on Becky to answer their questions. And Becky always did! One of the people was named Madeline. She asked Luis, another person in Becky's office, how to spell a big word. Luis said, "Wow, that is a big word, and I don't know how to spell it! Ask Becky!" Well, Madeline asked Becky how to spell that big word and Becky, without even thinking, gave Madeline the answer. "Thank you Becky," Madeline said.

Eileen and Myrtle were trying to add some big numbers together one day and could not get the right answer. Do you know what they did? Of course, they asked Becky! And Becky gave them the right answer!

Steve and Rebecca were trying to find out where a country was on the map, but they just could not find out where the little country was. It was so small that the maps did not know, so what did they do? They asked Becky! Do you think Becky told them where the little country was. Sure, she did!

Carolyn and Marylou wanted to know where the White House was. Do you know who lives in the White House? Do you know where the White House is? Becky told them!

Then one day, a terrible thing happened! The person who was the office boss came into the office and told everyone, "Today we are all getting new computers! Becky is getting older and we need new ones. Oh no," cried Becky, what will they do with me? I hope they don't throw me away!"

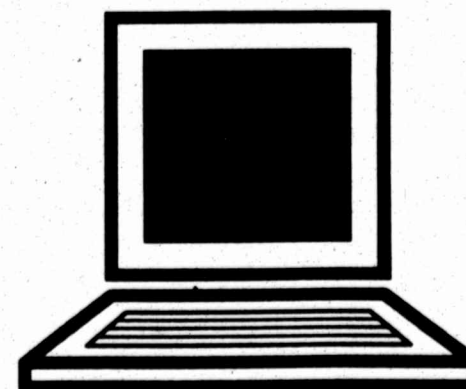
So, later on that day, all of the people in that office had brand new shiny computers, but they wanted to keep Becky because they loved her. She had been a good friend for a long, long time. So, off to the shelf in the back room went Becky! She was so sad, she felt like crying, and she did! No one wanted her anymore! Or did they?

Peggy and Barbara were working on a big problem the very next day. They wanted to send some messages to another office on the other side of the city. But the new computers were young and had not learned everything yet and could not help them. They thought to themselves, "Becky would have known and she would have been happy to help us!"

Susan and Doris were trying to find out who the first President of the United States was one day. Do you know who the first President was? Ok, who is the President right now? The new computer wasn't working that day. Everyone in that office thought the very same thing. "Let's get Becky out here and off of that shelf in the back room! We need her here!"

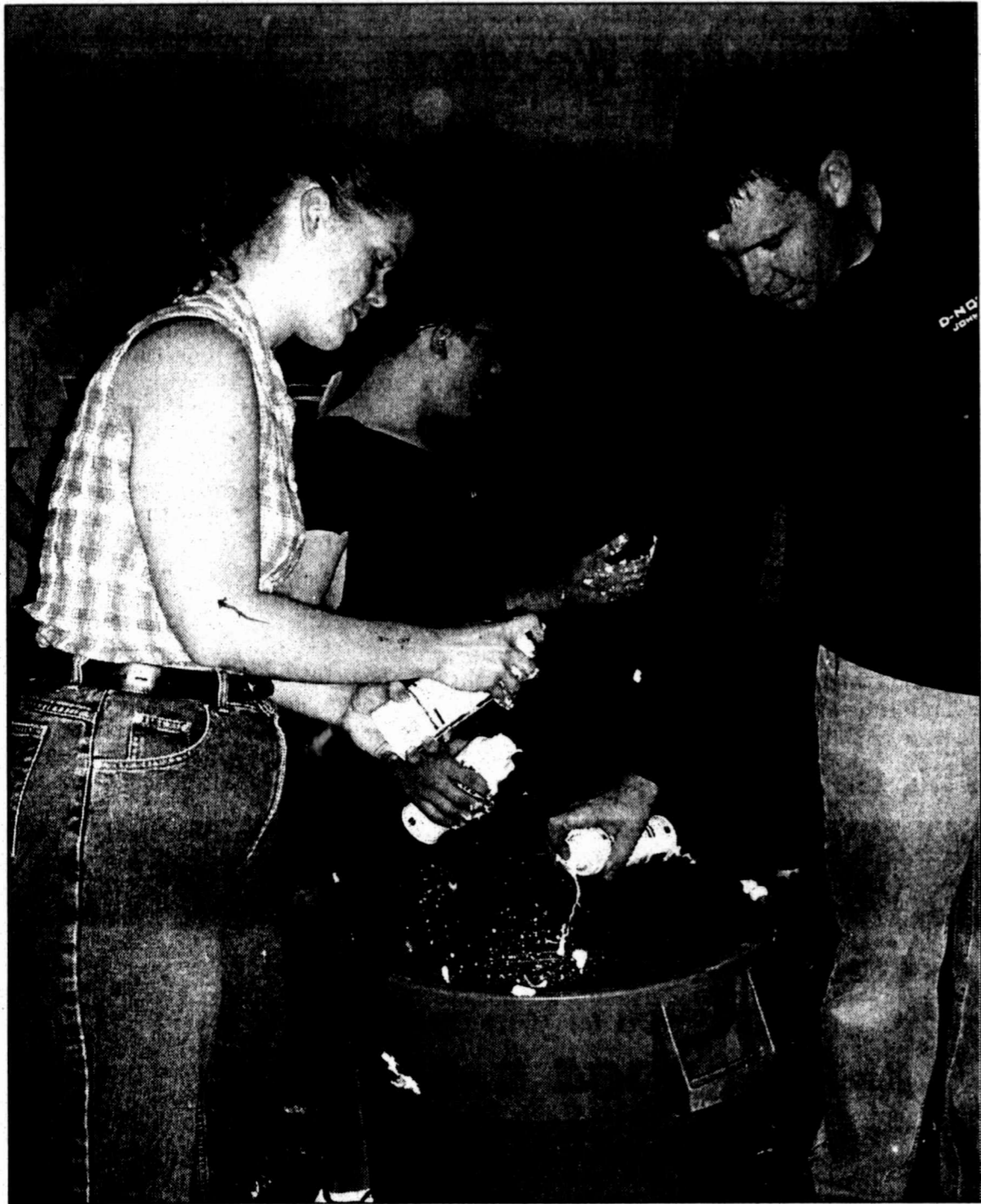
So, all of the people in that office started clearing a spot for Becky. And do you know where they put her? Right in the middle of that big old office! Now everyone could get all of their questions answered once again. They were happy. The boss was happy. But do you know who was the happiest? Tell me! Good Night!

Author's Note I would like to thank Mr. Preston Hardin, and all of the students at Jenkins Middle School for their help in creating this story.



AUGUST 31 2004

Muckfest proclaimed a great success Volunteer readers needed



Herald photo/Marsha Sturdivant
YoungLife volunteers Bethany Nixson and Ken Noble prepare a shaving cream bucket for YoungLife Muckfest, which brought about 100 teen-agers Monday night to the Cotton Mize Softball Field in Comanche Trail Park. In spite of the pelting rain, the youth covered each other in shaving cream, powdered one another with flour and then mucked it up with an ooey, gooey mix that consisted of spiced bread mixes, corn meal, various types of feed and other mysterious ingredients. Muckfest is an annual event that heralds the beginning of YoungLife Club, which meets each Monday night at 7:59, coordinating with the school year, in the YoungLife building, located two blocks south of Big Spring High School on Owens Street.

Humane Society has puppies and kittens ready for good homes

Herald photo/Kendra Wiss
This puppy was available for adoption from the Big Spring Humane Society. He has now found a home, but others are waiting for a good, loving home. All canine and feline adoptions include vaccinations and come with a certificate for spaying or neutering when the animal reaches the appropriate age, for a cost \$52. To adopt an animal from the Humane Society, contact the animal shelter at 267-7823.



See what your ears don't hear

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Please join us in welcoming Big Spring native Joel Jennings. Through a new affiliation with West Texas Rehabilitation Center, appointments are available beginning September 2, 2004.

Call for a hearing screening today.
Let your eyes see what your ears are missing.



Joel Jennings, MS, CCC-A, a certified audiologist, sees patients every Thursday at Dora Roberts.

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The Retired Senior Volunteer Program and the Big Spring Independent School District are seeking volunteers passionate about literature to read to students for four hours one day per week. This program is a community effort to work with students to improve reading skills. Volunteers will read to and listen to the students. There is no teaching or discipline involved. This is an opportunity to have fun and make new friends. The only requirement for RSVP is to be 55 years old or older. RSVP

volunteers receive insurance coverage while involved with an RSVP volunteer station. To become an RSVP volunteer, call Nancy Jones at 264-2397. Nancy younger than 55 who wants to volunteer should contact the school district offices at 264-3600.

Chamber seeking vendors for Business Expo

The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce is seeking vendors for the "Crossroads Cuisine and Business Expo Featuring the Taste of Home Cooking," set for Oct. 21 in the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

"The sky is the limit for what a business chooses to promote. We invite any business that has something new or a special service they provide, whether for the holidays or not, to secure a booth and promote themselves at this event," said Debbye ValVerde, executive director of the chamber.

She added that all businesses are asked to provide special gifts to be placed into goody bags that will be distributed to every person attending

the expo. Tickets for event are \$7.

"We'll make more than 1,000 goody bags," she said.

Booths are \$40 and measure 10-foot by 10-foot and include 8-foot tall back drapes, 3-foot tall

side drapes, an 8-foot, skirted table, two chair and a booth sign that measures 7-inches by 44 inches.

Space is limited. Contact the chamber at 263-7641 to reserve a booth or to purchase a ticket.

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TECHNOLOGY NEWS **NEW DIRECTIONAL HEARING AID INCREASES USERS' SATISFACTION**

LIVINGSTON HEARING CENTERS ARE LOOKING FOR 25 PEOPLE TO PARTICIPATE IN STUDY ON NEW HEARING AID TECHNOLOGY.

HOW PRECISION DIRECTIONAL IMAGING IMPROVES HEARING IN NOISY SITUATIONS

OMNIDIRECTIONAL: Conventional hearing aids amplify sounds from all directions...

...making it more difficult to understand a conversation with someone facing you.

PRECISION DIRECTIONAL IMAGING (PDI): When activated, PDI narrows the sound reception area...

...reducing the interference of sounds and conversations from the sides and rear.

As part of a Texas research study, America's largest manufacturer of hearing aids, Starkey Laboratories, is looking for 25 people in the Big Spring area to try its new Precision Directional Imaging Microphone Technology (PDI). Livingston Hearing Centers have been selected as the local participating center in this area. There are over 35 hearing centers across Texas involved in this study.

This remarkable new DIRECTIONAL MICROPHONE Technology provides a way for you to enjoy improved hearing in more difficult listening situations. Restaurants and parties are full of sounds and conversations you don't necessarily want to hear. That's why we are proud to introduce PDI - Precision Directional Imaging - an elaborate digital processing system that narrows the hearing instruments' sound reception patterns to focus on the area directly in front of you and the conversation that's most important.

Participants who enroll and qualify for this study can save \$500 to \$1,000 during this introductory offer. To hear a demonstration of this new technology and for a no-obligation appointment, call Livingston Hearing Center today.

"I'd like to personally invite you to call for a free demonstration of the newest Directional Microphone Technology and hear the difference digital can make. Come see my friends at Livingston Hearing Centers!"
-- Kurt Kiser

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Audiology and Hearing Aid Centers

AUG 31 2004

IN BRIEF

Howard College to assist in telethon

The Howard College Athletic Department will be helping out with the Jerry Lewis Telethon at the Big Spring Mall Sept. 6. A member from every sport — men's and women's basketball, baseball, softball and rodeo — as well as cheerleaders and trainers will be answering phones and taking pledges.

C.G.A. announces monthly tournament

The Big Spring Chicano Golf Association has set up a golf tournament for Sunday, Sept. 11, at Comanche Trail Golf Course.

The tournament is the ninth annual Father Delaney tournament, which is in conjunction with Knights of Columbus. It will be a four person scramble (pick your own team) and teams must be registered by 9:45 a.m. Sunday for the 10 a.m. shotgun start.

For more information, call 267-7977.

Howard College is seeking singers

Howard College's Athletic Department is seeking National Anthem singers for the upcoming basketball seasons. Anyone interested in being a singer needs to make a tape or CD and drop it off at the athletic office with attention Tana Howard. For more information, call Howard at 264-5155.

ON THE AIR

Sports Broadcast Schedule		
Today		
Event, Time	Station	
Rangers @ Twins, 6:35 p.m.	1490	
Wednesday		
Event, Time	Station	
Rangers @ Twins, 6:35 p.m.	1490	
Thursday		
Event, Time	Station	
Texas A&M @ Utah, 5:30 p.m.	1490	
Friday		
Event, Time	Station	
Stevens vs. Permian, 6:00 p.m.	1490/95.7	

Another teen collapses at hot practice

HOUSTON (AP) — A 15-year-old high school football player died after he collapsed at the end of a two-hour afternoon practice session, a school district spokeswoman said.

Ivan Okafor, a member of Alief Taylor High School's junior varsity team, was walking off the field at the end of practice Monday when he complained he didn't feel well, Alief Independent School District spokeswoman Paula Smith said. He was taken by golf cart to a field house and lost consciousness while attempts were made to cool him off with ice, Smith said in Tuesday's edition of the Houston Chronicle.

Paramedics were called to the school, and Okafor was flown to Memorial Hermann Hospital, where he died, Smith said. The cause of death had not been determined.

Smith said the players had just finished a light practice and were not wearing their full protective padding. There had been three scheduled water breaks, and trainers were on hand.

Philadelphia picked as early NFC East favorite

By DAVE GOLDBERG

AP Football Writer
Joe Gibbs and Bill Parcells have five Super Bowl wins between them. Tom Coughlin took an expansion franchise in Jacksonville and had it in the AFC championship game in its second year.

The NFC East, however, belongs to Andy Reid.

Reid took over the Eagles in 1999, went 5-11 with Donovan McNabb as a rookie and is 46-18 since, not counting the playoffs. The only stain on his record is three straight losses in NFC title games and even that is a dubious blemish — give him credit for getting back there every year.

With the addition of Terrell Owens and Jevon Kearse, the Eagles have more than a decent shot at doing it again, although it would be considered another disaster in Philly if they stop there. Never mind winning the NFC East — that

seems easy. Reid, his players and the city will be satisfied with nothing less than its first NFL title in 44 years.

First things first. The Eagles are clearly the class of the NFC East, winners of the last three division titles and probably up against weaker opposition than last season. Dallas, which finished 10-6 and made the playoffs in Parcells' first season, could take a step back; Washington, 5-11, has a long way to go, even under Gibbs; and the Giants are rebuilding under Coughlin.

So Philadelphia it is, with Owens giving McNabb the first premier receiver he's had.

"I feel very comfortable back there with T.O.," McNabb said of his new receiver whose tempestuous behavior got him run out of San Francisco. "We are doing some different things now. I think that we've been able to understand exactly what we are

doing and know what we are seeing out there."

There are two negatives in Philadelphia.

One is the loss of cornerbacks Troy Vincent and Bobby Taylor to free agency, especially Vincent, a leader in the locker room whose influence was the exact opposite of Owens' in San Francisco. The second is injuries: Defensive end N.D. Kalu and running back Correll Buckhalter already are lost for the season and a dozen others are banged up.

But Kearse can be a devastating pass rusher when healthy (and he has been this summer) and Owens is the one thing the Eagles have lacked — a No. 1 receiver for McNabb. The load at running back now falls on Brian Westbrook, who is more suited for spot duty.

The main defensive problem will be at cornerback, where youngsters Lito Sheppard and Sheldon Brown step in for

Taylor and Vincent. It doesn't help that Brian Dawkins, one of the game's best safeties and the leader of the secondary, has been a training camp casualty.

The rest of the division can bask in the glory of its coaches.

Among them, Reid, Gibbs, Parcells and Coughlin are 427-274-1, with those five Super Bowl wins, seven Super Bowl appearances and 13 championship game appearances. And their record would be even better if they hadn't struggled in their first seasons, Parcells with the Giants and Patriots, Reid in 1999, and Coughlin with a first-year expansion team.

Gibbs also started poorly, 0-5 in 1981 before finishing 8-8 that year and winning the Super Bowl the next.

So Washington fans have made a savior out of Gibbs, who won three Super Bowls in his first tenure with the Redskins (1981-92). This year, his presence alone should improve the team, although past spending sprees by owner Daniel Snyder have come to nothing under Norv Turner, Marty Schottenheimer and Steve Spurrier.

Gibbs has some weapons, with the biggest upgrade at running back with Clinton Portis, who in two years in Denver rushed for 3,099 yards. But Portis came at a steep price when the Redskins surrendered Champ Bailey, one of the league's best cornerbacks.

Bailey will be replaced by another free agent, Shawn Springs. But the key to the defense will be linebacker LaVar Arrington, whom Gibbs and his new/old assistants plan to turn loose to rush the passer.

Another offseason acquisition, Mark Brunell, won the starting quarterback job from incumbent Patrick Ramsey. Laveranues Coles is a first-rate wide receiver, but the offense could be hurt because of a season-ending Achilles' tendon injury to right tackle Jon Jansen, probably the Skins' best offensive lineman.

Dallas will begin the season with 40-year-old Vinny Testaverde at quarterback after Parcells cut Quincy Carter, last year's starter, reportedly for failing a drug test. Behind Testaverde is Drew

Henson, who is promising but spent the last three seasons playing baseball and has never taken a snap in the NFL.

Two other old-timers will play big roles in the offense: running back Eddie George, signed after being cut by Tennessee, and wide receiver Keyshawn Johnson, benched in Tampa Bay and obtained in a trade for Joey Galloway. Johnson played for Parcells with the Jets and may still be effective, but George, who turns 31 next month, is on the downside of his career — he's averaged 342 carries per season in eight years and just 3.3 yards per carry the last three seasons.

As with any Parcells team, the defense is solid, although safety Darren Woodson, the last player from the team that won three Super Bowls in the '90s, is out after back surgery.

The Giants entered last season with Super Bowl hopes and finished 4-12, thanks in large part to a horrible offensive line and a spate of injuries. Coughlin was brought in to replace Jim Fassel and instill discipline in a team that finished 0-8 and clearly quit.

There are more than 20 new players, including six new starters in the defensive front seven, but the offensive line doesn't seem markedly better.

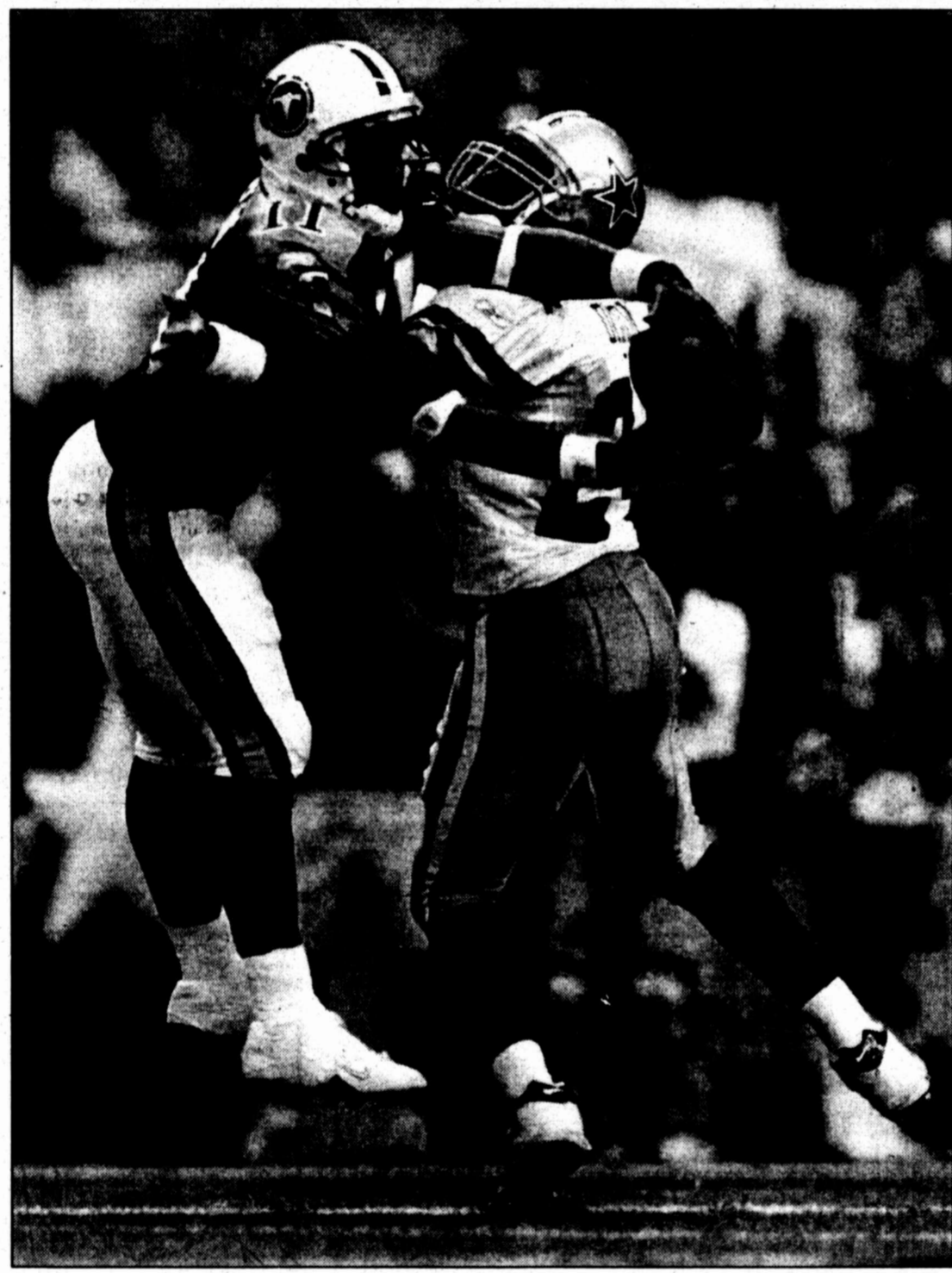
The center of attention has been quarterback, where the Giants traded for Eli Manning, the top pick in the draft, and brought in two-time MVP Kurt Warner to break him in. Warner's experience and Manning's inexperience were painfully evident in an exhibition against the blitzing Jets, and Warner was chosen to start the season.

The best news of the preseason has been the re-emergence of Ron Dayne, kept inactive by Fassel all of last season. So far, he's averaged over 7 yards a carry and could be a major help for the over-worked Tiki Barber and for Warner.

"It's the choice that is in the best interest of the New York Giants," Coughlin said when he anointed the veteran.

Not very far from the looks of it.

Predictions: Philadelphia 12-4; Washington 9-7; Dallas 7-9; New York 5-11.



KRT photo/Jeffrey Washington, Fort Worth Star-Telegram
Tramon Douglas of the Tennessee Titans makes the catch over the shoulder of Dallas Cowboys' Tony Dixon (24) in the second quarter of their preseason game. The Cowboys defeated the Titans, 20-17, at Texas Stadium in Irving Monday.

Testaverde leads Cowboys to win over Titans

By STEPHEN HAWKINS

AP Sports Writer

IRVING — Bill Parcells was more interested in the Dallas Cowboys' passing game with his old Jets players than giving Eddie George much of a chance against his old team.

While George ran for just 3 yards on four carries against his former teammates, Vinny Testaverde threw for 240 yards — with eight completions to Keyshawn Johnson for 81 yards — in Dallas' 20-17 exhibition victory over Tennessee on Monday night.

"It was a little bit of emotion to see some of my teammates, coaches and trainers I was friends with," said George, the Titans' franchise rushing leader with 10,009 yards the past eight seasons. "I think our passing attack

carried us pretty well."

George was stuffed for 1-yard losses on his first and last carries, all coming in the first quarter.

"It was kind of weird," Titans defensive lineman Kevin Carter said. "Eddie happens to be in a different uniform. When you get past it, it's the same game."

It was the best game so far for Testaverde and Johnson, who reunited with Parcells during the offseason. They were all in New York in 1998 when the Jets went to the AFC title game.

Parcells told Testaverde just before the game he was planning to be more aggressive.

Testaverde, the 40-year-old quarterback who became the starter when Quincy Carter was cut the first week of camp,

completed 17 of 24 passes and threw his first touchdown pass of the preseason. Johnson had four catches for 32 yards before George's last carry.

"We started hitting early and often, things just starting coming together," Testaverde said.

Testaverde and Johnson didn't play in the second half, when RaShard Lee scored the go-ahead touchdown for the Cowboys (2-1) with a 6-yard run with 19 seconds left in the third quarter.

The Titans (2-1) got TD runs from Chris Brown and Antowain Smith.

Smith, signed by Tennessee the day after George was released in a salary dispute just before camp, scored on a 1-yard run.

Brown had eight carries

for 35 yards, including a nifty 18-yard run to end the Titans' opening drive. After hitting a wall on the right side, Brown reversed field and found an open gap. He had to get by only one player, knocking down Pro Bowl safety Roy Williams with a stiff arm.

"That's Chris. That's his style," said quarterback Steve McNair, 7-of-10 for 85 yards in his four series. "I wanted to block somebody, but he turned it up and scored before I even got a chance."

Brown has averaged 5.9 yards per carry, gaining 142 yards on 24 carries during the preseason. McNair has completed 20 of 27 passes for 232 yards with two touchdowns.

After Eric Ogbogu blocked Joe Nedney's 46-yard field-goal attempt,

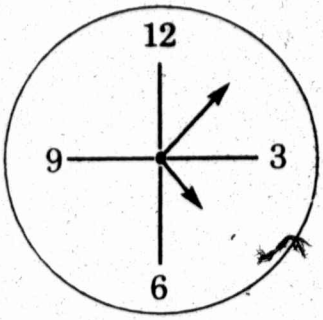
Testaverde — intercepted by Keith Bulluck near the goal line the previous drive — needed just three plays to move the Cowboys 66 yards against a defense primarily consisting of second-teamers.

Testaverde completed passes of 11 and 38 yards to Terry Glenn before finding Dan Campbell for a 10-7 lead.

Billy Volek then replaced McNair, completing a 62-yard pass to Tramon Douglas, who reached across safety Tony Dixon to grab the ball. Smith scored two plays later with 1:13 left before halftime.

Aided by Testaverde's four completions and a 35-yard pass-interference penalty against Mike Echols, the Cowboys set up Billy Cundiff's second field goal.

It's



to

Fish

ALAN HENRY: Water lightly stained; 77 degrees; 1.7-foot low. Black bass are good on watermelon and albino soft plastics along structure and white spinnerbaits. Crappie are good on minnows and jigs.

ARROWHEAD: Water stained in upper 1/2 of lake; 78 degrees; 7.5-foot low. Black bass are slow on shallow running crankbaits at 5- to 10-foot depths near rocky areas. Crappie are good on jigs and minnows suspended 14- to 16-feet near dericks. White bass are good on shallow flats 3- to 8-feet on shad-imitation crankbaits and jigs with inline spinners. Blue and channel catfish are good on cut shad and prepared baits in the upper lake. The State park boat ramps are now open.

COLORADO CITY: Water clear; 85 degrees; 6.25-foot low. Black bass are slow. Crappie are slow. White bass are slow. Redfish are slow. Catfish are slow.

FT. PHANTOM HILL: Water clear; 86 degrees; 10-foot low. Black bass are fair. Crappie are fair on minnows and jigs. White bass are fair. Catfish are fair.

HUBBARD CREEK: Water lightly stained; 85 degrees; 16.8-foot low. Black bass are good on shad-colored crankbaits and soft plastics in watermelon or black neon around structure. Crappie are good on minnows and jigs. White bass and hybrid striper are fair. Catfish are good on live and prepared baits.

NASWORTHY: Water lightly stained; 82 degrees. Black bass are fair on dark jigs and live bait. Crappie are fair on minnows and jigs. Redfish are fair. White bass and striped bass are fair on live bait and shad-colored crankbaits. Catfish are fair on live baits.

OAK CREEK: Water lightly stained; 85 degrees; 27.5-foot low. Black bass are slow. Crappie are fair on jigs and minnows. Catfish are fair. No boat ramps open. 4x4 vehicles can unload on the dirt road near the dam.

O.H. IVIE: Water lightly stained; 84 degrees; 28.5-foot low. Black bass are fair on white spinnerbaits, green pumpkin or black neon soft plastics. Crappie are good on minnows and jigs. White bass are fair on live bait. Smallmouth bass are fair. Channel catfish are good on live baits.

POSSUM KINGDOM: Water clear; 79 degrees; .75-foot low. Black bass are fair at 5- to 10-foot depth along old vegetation lines. Crappie are fair. White bass are fair. Striped bass are fair on live shad or sunfish around Stump Patch and Hell's Gate areas in early morning. Channel and blue catfish are good in river just above reservoir on trotlines.

SPENCE: Water lightly stained; 84 degrees; 61.5-foot low. Black bass are slow. Crappie are slow. White bass are fair. Striped bass and hybrid striper are slow. Catfish are slow.

STAMFORD: Water lightly stained; 86 degrees; 4.6-foot low. Black bass are fair on live bait. Crappie are fair on minnows and jigs. White and striped bass are fair. Catfish are good on live bait.

SWEETWATER: Water lightly stained; 86 degrees; 30.7-foot low. Black bass are fair. Crappie are good on minnows and jigs. White bass are fair on live baits. Catfish are fair.

WHITE RIVER: Water lightly stained; 82 degrees; 22.3-foot low. Black bass are fair. Crappie are good on jigs and minnows. Walleye are fair on live baits and jerkbaits. Channel catfish are fair on prepared baits.

WICHITA: Water clearing; 77 degrees. Black bass are slow. Crappie are slow. White bass and Hybrid stripers are fair on minnows and white Roadrunner jigs along dam early and late in day. Channel catfish are fair on trotlines and rod and reel baited using shrimp or punch bait.

Berkman powers Houston past Reds

CINCINNATI (AP) — The Houston Astros are hitting their way into the NL wild-card race.

Brad Ausmus hit a tiebreaking three-run homer in the sixth inning as the surging Astros reached double figures in runs for the third time in the last four games in an 11-3 victory over the Cincinnati Reds on Monday night.

Lance Berkman homered twice and drove in four runs for the Astros, who have scored a combined 43 runs in their last four games and won for the seventh time in eight games.

"We're taking the pressure off of our pitchers," said Berkman, who had the 13th multihomer

game of his career and fifth against Cincinnati. "Hopefully, we're getting on a roll at the right time. We had a period of time when things weren't going well, and it was all gloom and doom. Now, it's going the other way."

Houston remained just four games behind Chicago, which leads the NL wild-card race. The Astros won the last three of their four-game series against the Cubs over the weekend before beating the Reds.

"You know how many runs they scored in the Chicago series," Reds manager Dave Miley said. "They're hitting the ball well."

Pete Munro (3-5) went five-plus innings to win

for the first time in seven starts since July 25. He gave up three runs and eight hits, and struck out a season-high six.

Adam Dunn hit his 40th homer for the Reds, and Felipe López added a two-run shot.

"It's just not good timing for us right now," Dunn said. "We're playing as bad as we've played in a while, and it doesn't help to be playing teams that are really hot."

With the game tied at 3, Jeff Kent reached on a leadoff infield single, Mike Lamb grounded into fielder's choice, Jose Vizcaino singled and Ausmus homered to center on a 3-0 pitch from Phil Norton (1-5).

It was Ausmus' first

homer in 59 at-bats since July 25.

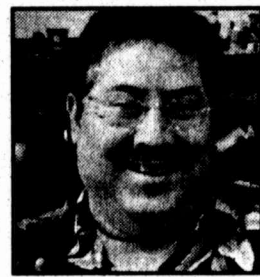
"We've been getting timely hitting, just not usually from me," Ausmus said. "I was looking for a fastball up and out over the plate, and I was lucky enough to get one."

Houston broke it open with a four-run seventh, including Berkman's two-run double and Ausmus's run-scoring single. Berkman scored when Dunn failed to catch Kent's drive to the warning track in left for a two-base error.

Berkman made it 3-0 with his 22nd homer, and second in two days, in the third off Luke Hudson.

Hudson allowed three runs four innings.

Pigskin PickFootball Contest



Mike Abusaab

Sonic Drive In

1. Big Spring
2. Coahoma
3. Stanton
4. Forsan
5. Sands
6. Grady
7. Garden City
8. Westbrook
9. Iowa
10. Miami



Randal Gonzalez

Aaron's

1. Big Spring
2. Coahoma
3. Stanton
4. Forsan
5. Sands
6. Grady
7. Ira
8. Westbrook
9. Iowa
10. Miami



Don Bowles

Howard County Feed & Supply

1. Big Spring
2. Coahoma
3. Stanton
4. Forsan
5. Sands
6. Grady
7. Garden City
8. Klondike
9. Iowa
10. Miami



Greg Brooks

Blum's Jewelers

1. Big Spring
2. Coahoma
3. Stanton
4. Forsan
5. Sands
6. Grady
7. Garden City
8. Westbrook
9. Iowa
10. Miami



Dora Hernandez

Sugg's Hallmark

1. Big Spring
2. Coahoma
3. Stanton
4. Forsan
5. Sands
6. Grady
7. Garden City
8. Klondike
9. Kentucky St.
10. Miami

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Rules: Find this week's games in the merchants' ads on this page. Choose the teams you think will win. Clip and fill in the official entry blank on this page with your team choice. The entry with the most correct picks will win \$75. You must be 18 to enter. Only official entry forms accepted. In the event of a tie, the tie breaker will determine the winner. Guess the winner and the combined scores for the total points. Decisions of the judges are final. Employees and families of employees of The Big Spring Herald are ineligible. All entries must be received at one of the participating merchants by 1 p.m. Friday of the week played. Winners will be announced in the Big Spring Herald the Tuesday following the games.

Pigskin Picks Entry Form

Team

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

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AUG. 31

	WFAA (2)	KMID (3)	UNI (4)	KPEJ (5)	KOSA (7)	KTLE (8)	KWES (9)	WTBS (11)	KMLM (12)	KOCV (13)	DISC (20)	AMC (21)	SPICE (22)	TNT (23)	BET (26)	DISN (27)	ESPN2 (28)	ESPN (29)	TMC (250)
	Dallas	Midland	Spanish	Odeasa	Odeasa	Telemundo	Midland	Atlanta	Odeasa	Odeasa	Discovery	Classics	Spice TV	Atlanta	Black Ent.	Disney	Sports	Sports	Premium
6:30	News (CC)	News Wheel-Fortune	La Mujer de Madera	King of the Hill Raymond	News Ent. Tonight	Pasion de Gavilanes	News Seinfeld (CC)	Seinfeld (CC) Friends (CC)	Booker John Hagee	News-Letters	Navy SEALs Training		Wildcat Police Videos	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Live BET com	Sister, Sister That's-Raven	Hockey: World Cup -	ESPN25: The Headlines	
7:30	Extreme Makeover: Home	Extreme Makeover: Home	Mariana de la Noche	Trading Spouses	Big Brother 5 (CC)	Prisionera	Last Comic Standing	Seinfeld (CC) Friends (CC)	Update/Israel N. McBride	Republican National Convention	The FBI Files	Movie: The War of the Worlds	Wildcat Police Videos	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	The Parkers	Movie: Pixel Perfect (CC)	Canada vs. United States	ESPN25: Who's No. 1	Movie: Bowling
8:30	According to Jim (CC)	According to Jim (CC)	Amarte es Mi Pecado	Trading Spouses	The Amazing Race 5 (CC)	Gitanas	Father of Pride Scrubs (CC)	Friends (CC) Friends (CC)	Light of the Southwest		Big	Worlds	Movie: Major League (CC) (DVS)	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Blueprint Access		Baseball	2004 World Series of Poker	
9:30	Republican Convention	Republican Convention	Casos de la Vida Real	70s Show Dharma-Greg	Republican Convention	Te Voy a Enseñar a Querer	Republican Convention	Sex and-City Sex and-City			MythBusters	Movie: The Terminator		Charmed (CC)	Club Comic View	Lizzie McGuire Sister, Sister	Tonight (CC)	2004 World Series of Poker	Movie: Double Whammy
10:30	News (CC) Nightline	News Nightline	Primer Impacto Noticiero Univ.	70s Show Raymond	News Late Show	Noticias Laura	News The Tonight Show (CC)	Baggage (CC)	The Hour of Healing	Charlie Rose (CC)	The FBI Files		MXC MXC	Angel (CC)	Nightly News Grown Folks	Even Stevens Boy World	Streetball Streetball	SportsCenter (CC)	35 Movie:
11:30	Ent. Tonight Jimmy Kimmel	Extra (CC) Jimmy Kimmel	En las Mejores Familias	Becker (CC) Spin City	(CC)	Al Rop Vivo	Show (CC) Late Night	Joe McGee Rabbi Richman		Sign Off	Big	Movie: Conan the Destroyer	Wildcat Police Videos	The X-Files (CC)	Midnight Love	Proud Family That's-Raven	Streetball Streetball	Outside-Lines Baseball (CC)	100 Women (CC)
12:30	Live (CC) Oprah Winfrey	Live (CC) Paid Program	Mujeres Enganadas	Blind Date Blind Date	The Late Late Show (CC)	Maria Celeste Corte-Familia	Fraser (CC)	12:05 Movie: Ferris Bueller's Booker			MythBusters		Blind Date Blind Date	The X-Files (CC)	Club Comic View	Km Possible Lizzie McGuire	ESPN25: Who's No. 1	SportsCenter (CC)	12:10 Movie: Instinct to Kill

DENNIS THE MENACE



"I GIVE YOU A DOZEN ROSES, AND HE GETS THE SAME REACTION WITH A FISTFUL OF DANDELIONS... FROM OUR YARD."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"I'll let you know when your hair needs combing, PJ."

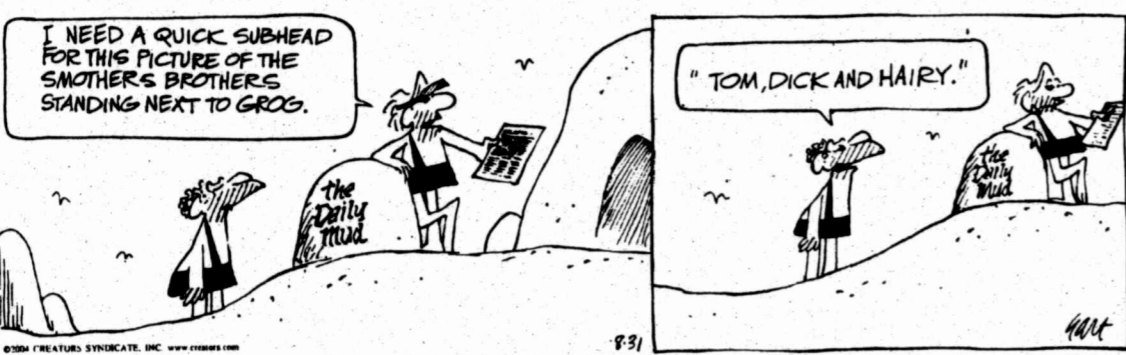
HAGAR



BLONDIE



BC



WIZARD OF ID



AGNES



HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEEBLE BAILEY



This Date In History

By The Associated Press

Today is Tuesday, Aug. 31, the 244th day of 2004. There are 122 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

Fifty years ago, on Aug. 31, 1954, Hurricane Carol hit the northeastern Atlantic states. Connecticut, Rhode Island and part of Massachusetts bore the brunt of the storm, which resulted in nearly 70 deaths.

On this date:

In 1886, an earthquake rocked Charleston, S.C., killing up to 110 people.

In 1887, Thomas A. Edison received a patent for his kinoscope, a device that produced moving pictures.

In 1888, Mary Ann Nicholls was found murdered in London's East End in what is generally regard-

ed as the first slaying committed by Jack the Ripper.

In 1935, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed an act prohibiting the export of U.S. arms to belligerents.

In 1962, the Caribbean nation of Trinidad and Tobago became independent within the British Commonwealth.

In 1969, boxer Rocky Marciano died in a light airplane crash in Iowa, a day before his 46th birthday.

In 1980, Poland's Solidarity labor movement was born with an agreement signed in Gdansk that ended a 17-day-old strike.

In 1985, Richard Ramirez, later convicted of California's Night Stalker killings, was captured by residents of an East Los Angeles neighborhood.

In 1986, 82 people were killed when an Aeromexico jetliner and a small private plane collided over Cerritos, Calif.

In 1988, 14 people were killed when a Delta Boeing 727 crashed during takeoff from Dallas-Fort Worth Airport.

Today's Birthdays: Broadcast journalist Daniel Schorr is 88. Baseball Hall-of-Famer Frank Robinson is 69. Actor Warren Berlinger is 67. Rock musician Jerry Allison (Buddy Holly and the Crickets) is 65. Actor Jack Thompson is 64. Violinist Itzhak Perlman is 59. Singer Van Morrison is 59. Rock musician Rudolf Schenker (The Scorpions) is 56. Actor Richard Gere is 55. Rock singer Glenn Tilbrook (Squeeze) is 47. Rock musician Gina Schock (The Go-Go's) is 47. Singer Tony DeFranco (The DeFranco Family) is 45.

Answer to previous puzzle

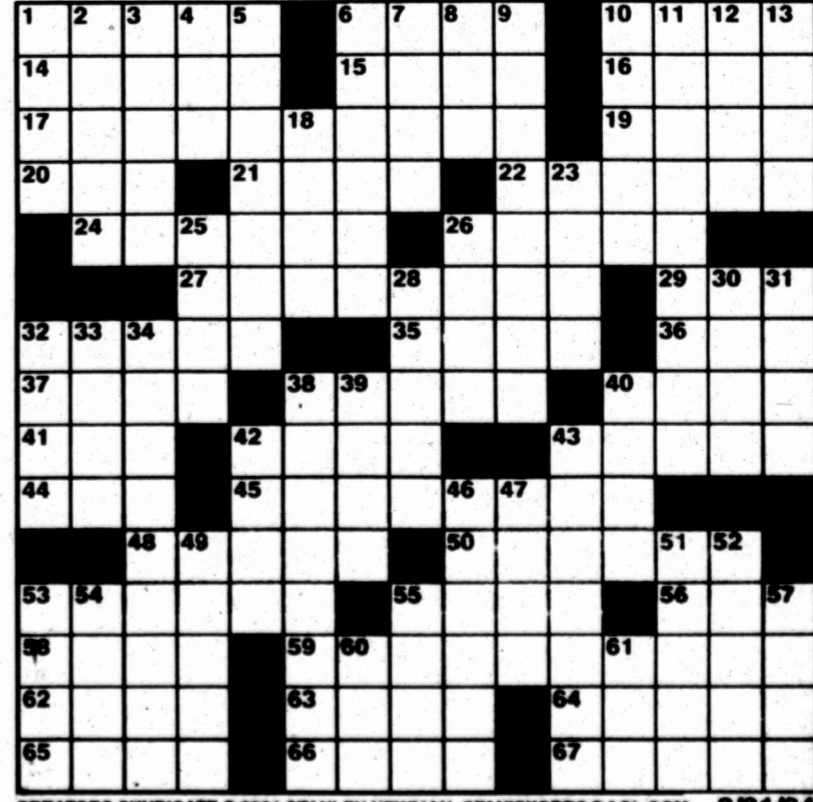
PENS	BABA	SHINE
ALOT	USES	TOMER
TIRE	LENS	OUTER
HOME	PLATE	PRODS
STAPLE	TWIG	
OTIS	ATLAST	
SAPPY	CALL	AUTO
ALAI	DEVIL	SNAG
KEPT	IDES	ASTRO
EXACTA	STIR	
HAZE	ROOSTS	
REEFS	LOVING	CUP
ALLOT	ODES	DANE
FLARE	PORE	ELIA
TALKS	ERAS	NECK

Newsday Crossword

NOBLE NAMES by Gail Grabowski

Edited by Stanley Newman

- ACROSS**
- 1 Coffee-shop purchase
 - 6 Fencing blade
 - 10 Jai
 - 14 Senator Hatch
 - 15 Dice toss
 - 16 Frying medium
 - 17 Legendary jazz bandleader
 - 19 Sandwich cookie
 - 20 Thoughtful sound
 - 21 Got up
 - 22 "Men" or "women"
 - 24 Each
 - 26 Like a tree-lined trail
 - 27 Hats or helmets
 - 29 Boxing stats
 - 32 Choir section
 - 35 Corporal or captain
 - 36 Oath taker's words
 - 37 Ooze
 - 38 Point of view
 - 40 Oklahoma city
 - 41 Minuscule amount
 - 42 Supplements, with "out"
 - 43 Carta
 - 44 Pose a question
 - 45 Puts in a showcase
 - 48 Carpenter's fasteners
 - 50 Bee or beetle
 - 53 Sculptor's tool
 - 55 Borscht ingredient
 - 56 Bowl over
 - 58 Fireplace filters
- DOWN**
- 1 Ness monster
 - 2 Pleasant scent
 - 3 Declaration in bridge
 - 4 Anchovy container
 - 5 Menu items
 - 6 Wiped clean
 - 7 Sit for a portrait
 - 8 Actor Wallach
 - 9 Circus animal
 - 10 Vocally
 - 11 CNN talk host
 - 12 Vicinity
 - 13 Rock star, to teens
 - 18 Raton, FL
 - 23 Merry escapade
 - 25 Denny's competitor
 - 26 Connery of film
 - 28 Clutch
 - 30 Norse god of war
 - 31 Soft drink
 - 32 Hammett hound
 - 33 Meadows
 - 34 Mary Tyler Moore Show star
 - 38 Frying pans
 - 39 Not as much
 - 40 Soothe
 - 42 Singer Adams
 - 43 "Good heavens!"
 - 46 Stay out of sight
 - 47 Over again
 - 49 Beasts of burden
 - 51 Trucker's load
 - 52 Bird sound
 - 53 Chowder ingredient
 - 54 Garden accessory
 - 55 French cheese
 - 57 Football linemen
 - 60 Singer Garfunkel
 - 61 MTV genre



AUG 31 2004



By BETTY DEBNAM

Back-to-School

Homework Help

Most students begin heading back to school in August or September. During the long summer vacation, your study skills may have gotten a bit rusty.

The Mini Page offers some tips to help you with your homework.

Why is there homework?

Teachers assign homework in order to:

- reinforce what you are taught in school. That way the knowledge stays in your mind better.
- exercise the brain.
- teach responsibility.

• give a review of things you have already learned. This way the skills stay fresh.

Homework is usually related to what you've been learning in school. For example, if you learned long division in class, then your homework will probably be to practice long division. If you learned spelling words in class, then your homework might be to study those words.

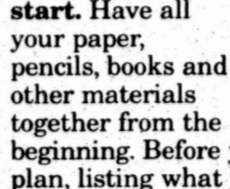


This student has picked a good spot to do his homework. It has plenty of light and study aids (books, ruler, calculator, pens and pencils). Discover what works best for you - you may even want a dog for company!

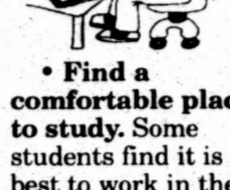
Here are some tips to make doing your homework as rewarding as possible.

- Take a short break after school. Get a snack and relax a bit. But do not let yourself get so interested in doing other activities that it is hard to begin your homework.

• Gather everything you need before you start. Have all your paper, pencils, books and other materials together from the beginning. Before you start, make a plan, listing what you need.



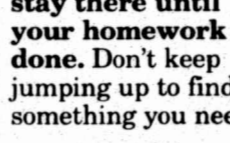
• Set up a study pattern that works for you, then stick to it.



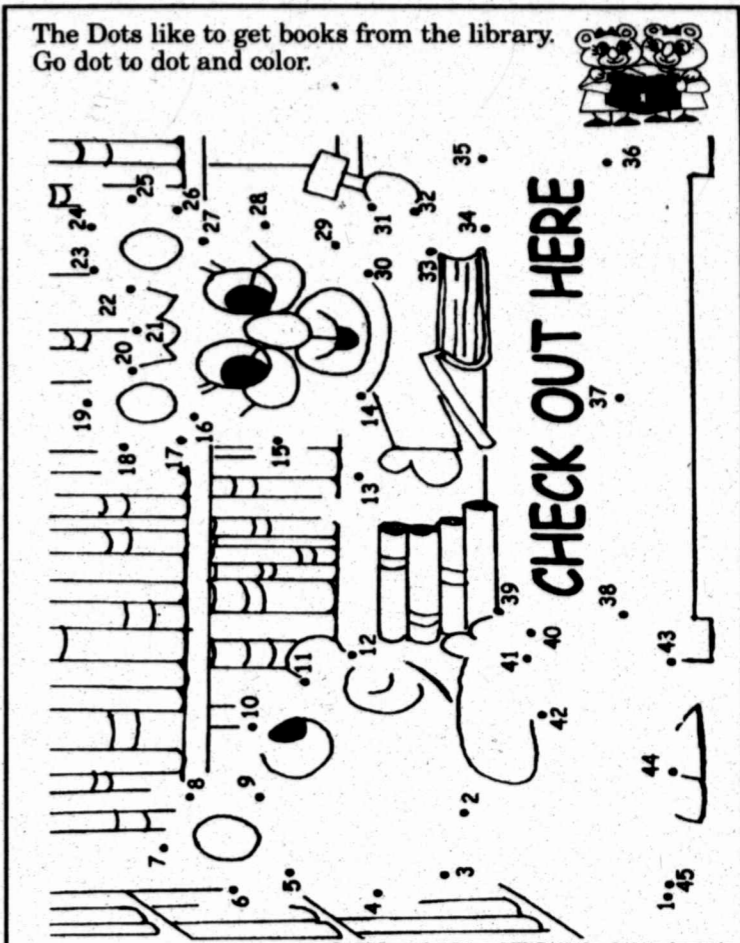
• Find a comfortable place to study. Some students find it is best to work in the same place each day. But others go wherever they feel the best at the time.



• Comfort does matter. Be sure you are not too hot or too cold. Choose a comfortable place to sit, or lie on the floor or your bed. Find what works for you.



• Once you choose your study place, stay there until your homework is done. Don't keep jumping up to find something you need.



Rookie Cookie's Recipe Pizza Popovers

You'll need:

- 1 (16-ounce) can refrigerated buttermilk biscuits
- 1 (14-ounce) jar pizza sauce
- 1 (3-ounce) package pepperoni slices, chopped
- 1 (8-ounce) package sharp cheddar cheese, finely shredded

What to do:

1. Take each biscuit and separate to make two halves.
2. Layer each half with 1/2 tablespoon of sauce, 1/2 tablespoon pepperoni and 1/2 tablespoon cheese.
3. Fold and seal by pressing with a fork around edges.
4. Bake in a preheated 375-degree oven for 10 minutes. Makes 16.

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

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:
1) Step-by-step directions
2) Measuring tips
3) Utensil guide
4) Cooking terms
5) How to set a table
6) Table manners guide

Encourages kids to read and follow directions!

To order, send \$9.95 plus \$3.25 postage and handling for each copy. Send check or money order (P.S. funds only) payable to: Andrews McMeel Universal, P.O. Box 6814, Leawood, KS 66206 or call toll-free 1-800-591-7097. Please send 4 copies of The Mini Page Rookie Cookie Cookbook (item #4216-8) at \$12.50 each, including postage and handling. (Bulk discount information available upon request.) www.minipagepublishing.com

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

Gus Goodsport's Report Supersport: David Pollack

Height: 6-3 Birthdate: 6-19-82
Weight: 276 Homestead: Snellville, Ga.

Beware of "Dog." David Pollack is the kind of football player that opposing ball carriers like to avoid. That's because the Georgia Bulldogs' two-time All-American knocks the bejabbers out of 'em. A strong, aggressive defensive end, Pollack has recorded 194 tackles in the past two years and helped the 'Dogs' compile a 32-8 record in the last three seasons. Georgia is a national title contender this year. And Pollack could become just the second player in school history to make the All-America team three times. While a hard hitter on the field, the history major is a helper off the field. He was selected to college football's "Good Works Team" for his contributions in the community.

Meet Renee Zellweger

Renee Zellweger found out she really liked acting when she took a drama class in high school in Katy, Texas. Then during college, she took an acting class and discovered she had real talent. That's when she knew she wanted to become an actress. Renee was not ready for the challenges of Hollywood, so she stayed in Texas and got some parts in movies. After a great performance in one of the films, she moved to Los Angeles. There her big chance to shine came when she starred in the movie "Jerry Maguire" with actor Tom Cruise. Recently she played a voice-over part as a fish named Angie in the upcoming animated movie "Shark Tale." Although Renee, 35, is from Texas, her mother was born in Norway and her dad in Switzerland. She was listed in People magazine in 2001 as one of the 50 most beautiful people in the world.

MIGHTY FUNNY'S Mini Jokes

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

Simon: What happened when the rain dancers formed a chorus?
Charles: They sang up a storm!

Vince: What goes up when the rain comes down?
Ned: Umbrellas!

Kelly: If April showers bring May flowers, what do May flowers bring?
Sylvia: Pilgrims!

Basset Brown The News Hound's HOMEWORK TRY 'N FIND

Words and names that remind us of homework are hidden in the block below. Some words are hidden backward or diagonally. See if you can find: STUDY, ASSIGNMENT, TEACHER, SKILLS, CLASS, MATH, LIGHT, COMFORTABLE, PAPER, PENCIL, ATTENTION, BUDDY, INTERNET, PLAN, DAY, SUBJECTS, HELP, LESSONS, UNDERSTAND.

SCATTER ION PLEH
ULL UNDERSTANDSP
B M I A G I S N O S S E L T A
J A L G S T E N R E T N I U P
E T O I H S S L L I K S V D E
C H D A Y T M L I C N E P Y R
T B U D D Y N K R E H C A E T
S C O M F O R T A B L E O V V
M T N E M N G I S S A N A L P

HOMEWORK IS EASIER WITH A PLAN!

Mini Spy ...

Mini Spy is doing her homework. See if you can find:

- ice-cream cone
- question mark
- word MINI
- carrot
- key
- arrow
- sailboat
- steak
- letter D
- letter Z
- safety pin
- lima bean
- book
- bell
- tin can
- letter C

Study

Here are some more ideas for making your homework easier and more worthwhile.

- Turn off the TV. For most kids, television is a big distraction. Don't watch it until your homework is finished.
- Background music is not a problem for many students. You will need to learn for yourself whether you can work well with music playing. Some students work better with music, but others cannot concentrate if there is any noise. The key is to find out what works for you.
- Music with a loud beat or with distracting words is probably a bad idea, no matter what. If you are paying attention to the music instead of your studies, turn it off.
- Give yourself this test. Try doing your homework without music playing. Do this for a couple of weeks. Does your homework still take as long to do? Are you still doing as well in school? If you answered "yes" to those questions, then the music has probably not been bothering you. But if you are doing your homework more quickly, or if you start doing better in school, then you have learned something about yourself. You probably should not listen to music while studying.

Tips

It is important to make a study plan. Make a section for each day. Write down the name of each subject. Then, every day, write out the assignments for those subjects. For example, if you have math homework on Monday, go to the Monday section. Then write down the page and numbers of the problems you need to do.

- Make sure there is enough light. Can you read easily without straining your eyes? If you cannot, you might need a brighter lamp.
- Ask your teacher, a friend or family member for help if you need it. It will make your life easier. If you don't learn the lesson when it is being taught, you might fall behind. Many people decide to just skip something if they don't understand it. But if you do this, everything that comes after will be harder.
- Get a study buddy. Having a classmate you can call on could help you a lot. You will probably not actually be studying with your classmate. But if you have someone you can call or e-mail, you can help each other figure out how to do something. Or you can help each other remember assignments.
- Have a system. As soon as you finish your homework, put it inside a special folder or binder. Then put that in your backpack. This way you will never forget to take your homework to school.
- Know how to use the Internet for the best homework help. There are good sites that offer homework aids. A parent or teacher should supervise your Internet use unless you are on an approved site. There are Internet sites with a list of approved sites for homework help. One site to see is: www.ed.gov/free/index.html

The Mini Page thanks Dr. Patricia Anderson, Department of Curriculum and Instruction, College of Education, East Carolina University, for help with this issue.

Next week, The Mini Page is about how we have voted through the years.

The Mini Page is created and edited by Betty Debnam

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

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Jimmy Newsom

BIG SPRING REFINERY

1929 2004

75
YEARS