

BIG SPRING

# HERALD

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 WEEKEND

TUESDAY

February 1, 2005

## WEATHER

Tonight:



TONIGHT 24°-26° TOMORROW 44°-46°

Construction spending climbs at fastest pace in eight years

WASHINGTON (AP) — Construction spending shot up 1.1 percent in December, capping a year in which building activity posted the best performance since 1996. The Commerce Department said Tuesday that last month's increase, the best showing in eight months, followed a 0.3 percent advance in November and reflected widespread strength in both private and public building projects.

For the year, building activity rose 9 percent to \$998.4 billion. It was the strongest increase since a 10.4 percent jump in 1996.

The strength last year came in housing activity as builders continued their mad dash to erect houses to meet soaring demand propelled by the lowest mortgage rates in more than four decades.

Total private residential activity rose by 14 percent to \$542.7 billion last year, a 14 percent gain.

## COMING THIS WEEKEND



As Valentine's Day approaches, our nation's rose growers are busy trying to fulfill all of the demands for the flower that says "I love you."

## INDEX

Classified	3-4B
Comics	5B
Features	5-6A
Obituaries	2A
Opinion	4A
Sports	1-2B

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Find us online at: www.bigspringherald.com

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

## Last chance for discounted tickets to chamber banquet

Contact the chamber at 215 W. Third St. or call 267-7641.

By STEVE REAGAN  
Staff Writer

Persons interested in attending the annual Chamber of Commerce Banquet have until 5 p.m. today to take advantage of reduced ticket prices.

Ticket prices for the banquet, scheduled for 6:30 p.m. next Tuesday at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum, are \$20 if purchased by 5 p.m. today, said Debbye ValVerde, executive director of the local Chamber.

After today, tickets can be purchased for \$25 through Friday, and will not be available at the door, ValVerde said.

Tickets can be purchased at the

Chamber office, 215 W. Third St.

The featured speaker this year will be David Rumbarger, president and chief executive officer of the Community Development Foundation of Tupelo, Miss.. He is expected to give a Power Point presentation on community development efforts in the Tupelo area, ValVerde said.

Rumbarger, a graduate of Auburn University, is recognized as a Certified Economic Developer by the International Economic Development Council. Prior to heading CDF, he worked in community development projects in Hattiesburg, Miss., and as director of the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs.

For more information on the banquet, contact the Chamber at 263-7641.

## Iraqi president says troops should stay

By MARIAM FAM  
Associated Press Writer

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Iraq's president said Tuesday it would be "complete nonsense" to ask foreign troops to leave the country now, although some could depart by year's end. Officials began the final vote tally from elections to produce a government to confront the insurgency.

Iraq reopened its borders Tuesday and commercial flights took off from Baghdad International Airport as authorities eased security restrictions imposed to protect last weekend's landmark voting.



al-Yawer

See TROOPS, Page 3A

## BRUSHED WITH SNOW



HERALD photo/Thomas Jenkins

The landscape at Comanche Trail Park got a dusting of snow this morning as temperatures dropped to near-freezing before noon. According to the National Weather Service more snow is expected throughout today and tonight, ending before midnight with a low expected near 28 degrees. No more than an inch of snow is expected to accumulate, with the heaviest snows falling near the Guadalupe and Davis Mountains and in the northern parts of the Permian Basin. However, the NWS in Midland has issued a hazardous weather warning for West Texas and parts of New Mexico and is discouraging travel through Wednesday, when temperatures are expected to rise to 45 degrees.

## Eagles Lodge comes to aid of Memorial

By JOHN A. MOSELEY  
Managing Editor

Members of Big Spring's Fraternal Order of the Eagles Aerie No. 3188 are currently in the midst of planning a fund-raising project that will benefit the maintenance and upkeep of the Big Spring Vietnam Memorial.

And it is a project that has members of the Big Spring Vietnam Memorial Committee already expressing their thanks.

"We're really excited about this project," said VMC President Gene Wilson. "The fact that the Eagles are wanting to do this ... to help raise money to keep the memorial the way I think we all want it to be is absolutely fantastic. We really can't thank them enough."

The local Eagles Lodge will be conducting a stew supper and dance Saturday, Feb. 19, to raise funds for the VMC.

The Eagles will be serving stew, corn bread, tea or coffee and dessert. The meal, which will be served from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m., will be \$6 per plate for adults and \$3 for children under the age of 12.

See VMC, Page 5A

**What:** Fund-raiser for Vietnam Memorial.  
**Where:** Eagles Lodge, 703 W. Third.  
**When:** Meal, 4 p.m.-7 p.m.; dance, 8:30 p.m.-1 a.m.

## Scouts gear up for drive

Annual activity slated Saturday

By THOMAS JENKINS  
Staff Writer

Scouting has been a part of Big Spring for more than 90 years and local Scouts will be celebrating that tradition this week with a food drive.

The local Boy Scouts of America will participate in the annual Good Turn for America Food Drive, which is set for Saturday, from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m.

David O'Neill, district executive for the West Texas Buffalo Trail Council of the Boy Scouts of America, said the annual food drive will begin with a few changes in 2005 designed to help reach even more possible donors in the Big Spring area.

"We'll be distributing bags inside the Big Spring Herald, as we have for several years," said



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

From left, Zane Clommer, Kyle Isaac, and Brady Weber insert plastic grocery bags into the Herald Monday afternoon as part of the local Boy Scouts' annual Good Turn for America food drive.

O'Neill. "This year, however, we're also going to go out and deliver special food drive bags to residents who may not receive the newspaper. The bags will have a note attached to them with details about the food

drive. "This year we wanted to make sure we really reach out to the people in the community and ask for their help with the food drive. It's all part of the Good Turn for America program the Boy

Scouts of America have been sponsoring for a number of years." Bag deliveries were expected to begin early this week and continue through Thursday. Donors are encouraged to place canned foods and

other non-perishable food items in the bags and leave them on their porches and curbs for Boy Scouts to pick up Saturday. "The food will be picked

See SCOUTS, Page 3A

FEBRUARY 1 2005

## Obituaries

### Tim and Madeline Vaughn

Tim Vaughn, 41, and his daughter, Madeline Shea Vaughn, 9, of Shallowater, died in a plane accident Jan. 20, 2005. Funeral Mass was Jan. 24, 2005, in St. Elizabeth's Catholic Church in Lubbock.

He was born in September of 1963 and married Toni Cline Sept. 21, 1990. He invented and marketed several semi-conductor devices through his company, Vaughn Technologies.

She was born Nov. 13, 1995, in Lubbock and attended Shallowater Intermediate School, where she was in the third grade and the gifted and talented program.

They are survived by his wife and her mother, Toni Vaughn of Shallowater; his father, K.G. Vaughn of Tullia; his siblings, Gwyn Shannon of Tullia, Janis Miller and Sharon Wilkes of Lubbock, Rex Vaughn of Spur, Bill Vaughn of Virginia Beach, Va., Beth Minchew of Wills Point and Lorin Scarborough of Albuquerque, N.M. Madeline is also survived by her grandmother, Clara Cline of Big Spring; and several aunts and uncles.

The family suggests memorials in their honor to Shallowater Intermediate School PTO, 12th Ave. North, Shallowater 79363.

### Edward Lee 'Monk' Collins

Edward Lee "Monk" Collins, of Midland died Monday, Jan. 31, 2005.

Funeral services are 1 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 2, 2005, at Ellis Funeral Home Chapel. Interment will follow in Resthaven Memorial Park.

Visitation is at Ellis Funeral Home today from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m.

Arrangements are under the direction of Ellis Funeral Home, 801 Andrews Highway, Midland.

### Dorothy Lou Miller

Dorothy Lou Miller, 72, formerly of Big Spring, died Monday, Jan. 31, 2005, in a Houston hospital. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

## Take note

□ **COLLEGE PARK CHURCH OF GOD** is having a youth fund-raising chicken fried steak dinner Friday. A double dinner is \$7.50; adult is \$5 and child's plate is \$3.50. Dine in or carry out available. The church is located at 603 Tulane. From 11 a.m. until 3 p.m., pick up orders available. From 5 p.m. until 8 p.m., free delivery is available. Call 267-8593 to place orders.

□ **DEREK CHURCHWELL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP** has been established at Howard College. Donations may be made to the Howard College Foundation in care of Jan Foresyth, 1001 Birdwell Lane. Designate the Derek Churchwell Scholarship Fund.

□ **YOUNGLIFE ROUNDUP BANQUET** is set for Feb. 28 in the Dora Roberts Community Center. Round-Up provides community members an opportunity to enjoy a catered barbecue dinner while learning about the activities that take place during YoungLife club. For more information or to contribute to YoungLife, call leader Shelly Warren at 264-1234.

□ **BIG SPRING AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BANQUET** is set for 6:30 p.m. Feb. 6 in the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. The guest speaker is David P. Rumbarger, president and CEO of Community Development Foundation of Tupelo, Miss. The program also includes the announcement of the 2004 Man and Woman of the year. Tickets are \$25 in advance and no tickets will be sold at the door. Call the chamber at 263-7641.

□ **HOWARD COUNTY CHILD WELFARE BOARD** is seeking financial donations to provide support for children in Howard County who have been removed from their home due to abuse or neglect. Contact Patti Richard at 432-559-6953 or mail donations to HCCWB P.O. Box 3101 Big Spring, 79721.

□ **LEGAL AID OF NORTHWEST TEXAS** is accepting appointments for 2 p.m. until 5 p.m. the first and third Wednesday of each month, beginning Wednesday. Individuals seeking legal advice for matters concerning family law, divorce, custody and child support issues, social security cases, employment and housing may contact the office to schedule an appointment. Criminal cases are not accepted. Anyone recently served with legal documents should call the office immediately at 800-926-5630 or 432-686-0647.

□ **HERITAGE MUSEUM** is also accepting donations of costumes to be used with the new theme party area opening in May. Call the museum at 267-8255.

□ **YELLOWDOG DARE DEVILS RELAY FOR LIFE FUND-RASIER** offers individual-sized, heart-shaped cakes with a Valentine's message for \$4. Order and prepay before Feb. 9. Call the bus barn at 264-4108.

□ **FRIENDS OF THE MARTIN COUNTY LIBRARY** have scheduled a used book sale from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. every Thursday in the new building across from the White Ford Motor Company, near the post office. The sale benefits the restoration of a library building. For more information contact Bud Lindsey at 756-2306.

□ **A FUND HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED FOR 6-WEEK-OLD MAGGIE VASQUEZ TO ASSIST WITH THE EXPENSES OF A KIDNEY TRANSPLANT.** She is the daughter of Susan Vasquez and Steve Nail of Big Spring. Maggie was born prematurely and suffers from kidney failure. She remains in Dallas Children's Hospital undergoing daily dialysis treatment until the transplant match is found and the surgery performed. The account number at the bank is 9013091. For more information, contact Parks Convenient Store at 263-4498 or Denise 816-1539.

## Police blotter

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

• **TRACI RENE MARTINEZ**, 27, of 2503 Central, was arrested Monday on three local warrants and a charge of driving while license suspended.

• **DELAND WAYNE SAVELL**, 46, of 505 S. Goliad, was arrested Monday on county warrants.

• **MICHAEL ALLEN RICHTER**, 30, of 708 Lorrilla, was arrested Monday on charges of expired motor vehicle registration, expired driver's license and no insurance.

• **DOMINGO LUGAN GALAVIV**, 43, of 1002 N. Main Street Apt. 18, was arrested Monday on a charge of public intoxication.

• **ROY DWIGHT BIDDLE**, 44, of 5203 Sterling Road, was arrested Monday on a charge of public intoxication.

• **THEFT** was reported:

- in the 200 block of FM 700.

- in the 1800 block of Gregg Street.

- in the 300 block of Owens.

- in the 1100 block of Lamesa.

• **CRIMINAL TRESPASS** was reported:

- in the 700 of Ninth Street.

- in the 200 block of FM 700.

## Sheriff's report

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

• **JERMAINE L. SAVAGE**, 33, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a charge of theft.

• **ROSS PAUL BALLANCE**, 43, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of theft.

• **SANDY SHEIKH**, 22, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the HCSO on a charge of theft by check.

• **AUDEN TERCERO**, 27, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on Ector County warrants for aggravated assault with intent to cause serious bodily injury and theft by check.

## Fire/EMS

The Big Spring Fire Department reported the following activity:

• **MEDICAL** was reported near the 181 mile marker of Interstate Highway 20 at 10:14 a.m. Monday. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 700 block of N. Gregg Street at 2:47 p.m. Monday. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **MEDICAL** was reported at Comanche Trail Park at 4:57 p.m. Monday. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 800 block of W. Eighth Street at 4:59 p.m. Monday. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **STRUCTURE FIRE** was reported in the 300 block of E. 19th Street at 7:04 p.m. Monday. The fire was extinguished.

## Support groups

### TUESDAY

□ The Multiple Sclerosis Support Group meets at 6 p.m., a new time, the last Tuesday of each month in the College Baptist Church Fellowship Hall, 1005 Birdwell Lane. Call Tracey at 263-4948 for more information.

### THURSDAY

□ Narcotics Anonymous, non-smoking discussion meeting, 8-9 p.m., at St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 1001 Goliad.

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

□ The Fibromyalgia Autoimmune Disease Support Group will meet the fourth Thursday of the month at noon in the Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center beginning in January. Call 263-8273 for more information.

□ Alzheimers Support Group meets at 2 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month at The Texas State Veterans Home, 1009 N. Hwy 87. For more information call Orand Carroll 268-8387.

### FRIDAY

□ AA open discussion meeting from noon until 1 p.m. at 605 Settles. Noon open Big Book study meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

### SATURDAY

□ Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion meeting, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. Open podium/speakers meeting 615 Settles 8-9 p.m. Open birthday night, no smoking meeting the last Saturday of each month at 8 p.m.

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## Bulletin board

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

### TODAY

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

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

• VFW Post 2013 meets at 7 p.m. in the VFW Hall, 500 Driver Road.

• Sheriff's Posse meets at 7 p.m. in the clubhouse on the Andrews Highway.

• Alzheimer's Association, the Greater West Texas Chapter meets at 2 p.m. in the Howard County Library conference room, 500 S. Main.

• Gospel Singing in the Kentwood Activity Center at 7 p.m. with special guest singers from Midland and Colorado City. Everyone is welcome.

• Concerned Citizens for Big Spring meets at 7 p.m. in the meeting room of the Howard County Library, 500 S. Main.

• Big Spring Chapter 67, Order of the Eastern Star meets at 7:30 p.m. in the Masonic Lodge, 219 Main St.

### WEDNESDAY

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

• Senior Circle meets at 11 a.m. in the Scenic Mountain Medical Center classroom for Stretch and Tone. Call 268-4721.

• Downtown Lions Club meets at noon at the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

• Line dancing begins at 1 p.m. at the Spring City Senior Citizen's Center in the Industrial Park. Call 267-6966 or 267-1628.

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

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

### THURSDAY

• Gideon International Big Spring Camp U42060 meets at 7 a.m. in Herman's Restaurant.

• Coffee Club meets at 10 a.m. in Gale's Sweet Shoppe.

• Kiwanis Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane. Call 267-6479.

• Genealogy Society of Big Spring meets at 7 p.m. in the Howard County Library, 500 S. Main.

• Masonic Lodge No. 598 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 2101 Lancaster.

### FRIDAY

• Signal Mountain Quilting Guild meets from 9 a.m. until about 3 p.m. at 1019 Nolan St. Call 267-1037 or 267-7281 for more information.

• AMBUCS meet at noon in La Posada Restaurant.

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

## Lottery

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Monday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 5-7-15-16-31.

Number matching five of five: 0.

Next Cash 5 drawing: Tuesday night.

Results of the Texas Two Step drawing Monday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 3-12-27-32. Bonus Ball: 9.

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

Estimated jackpot for Thursday night drawing:

\$450,000.

## Weather

Tonight...Cloudy with a 50 percent chance of snow.

Lows in the mid 20s. North winds around 10 mph.

Wednesday...Mostly cloudy. Highs in the mid 40s.

North winds around 10 mph.

Wednesday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 20s. North winds around 10 mph.

Thursday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 50s.

North winds around 10 mph.

Thursday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 30s.

Friday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 50s.

Friday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 30s.

Saturday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 50s.

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

Sunday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 50s.

Sunday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 30s.

Monday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 50s.

## BIG SPRING HERALD

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

The Forsan High academics meet and Seth Johnson and Emilee Tramm

## Forsan well at

Herald Staff Rej

FORSAN — T Math and Scien at the A Interscholastic winning two tr three ribbons.

Forsan proved placing first in the students ea in-sweepstakes in the 12th Johnson was f fourth in mathe

## TROOPS

Continued from Pa

In Baghdad, election worker began the second count. They tally sheets pr workers who co lots starting Sur at the 5,200 pters across the and began crur numbers into 80 terminals. Offi no figures wert to be released T

The Sunday which occurred catastrophic attacks, raised a new Iraqi go would be able greater respons security, hast day when the 1 and other fore can go home.

During a ne ence, President Yawer was ask the presence troops might the Sunni Aral encouraging attacks.

"It's only con sense to ask th leave in this this vacuum ( al-Yawer, a St said.

He said fore

Happy

Birthday

Timothy I

We Love Y

Mom, Dad, Mari



The Forsan High School Math and Science team recently competed at the Andrews UIL academics meet. Team members include, from left, first row, Eric Ellis, Jonathan Moore and Seth Johnson, and second row, Levi Johnson, Audrey Montgomery, Rachel Clinton and Emilee Trammell.

## Forsan High School team fares well at Andrews academic meet

Herald Staff Report

FORSSAN — The Forsan High School Math and Science Team competed well at the Andrews University Interscholastic League academic meet, winning two trophies, 12 medals and three ribbons.

Forsan proved tops in number sense, placing first in team competition, while the students earned FHS a third place in sweepstakes competition.

In the 12th-grade division, Levi Johnson was first in number sense, fourth in mathematics, fourth in calcu-

lator, and third in science.

In the 11th-grade division, Audrey Montgomery was first in number sense, second in mathematics, and fourth in science. Jonathan Moore was third in science.

In the 10th-grade division Eric Ellis was second in mathematics, third in calculator and third in science. Seth Johnson was fourth in mathematics and sixth in calculator. Emilee Trammell brought home a ribbon for eighth place in calculators and Rachel Clinton captured an eighth place ribbon in mathematics.

Courtesy photo

## Pentagon would give extra \$250,000 to families of troops killed since Oct. '01

By ROBERT BURNS

AP Military Writer

WASHINGTON — President Bush will propose that families of U.S. troops killed in Iraq, Afghanistan and war zones of the future receive an extra \$250,000 in government payments.

The plan, which includes retroactive payments to the spouses or surviving relatives of the more than 1,500 who have died in Iraq and Afghanistan since October 2001, will be part of the 2006 budget proposal submitted to Congress next week, the Pentagon's personnel chief said.

A tax-free "death gratuity," now \$12,420, would grow to \$100,000. The government would also pay for \$150,000 in life insurance for troops. Veterans groups and many in Congress have been pushing for such increases.

"We think the nation ought to make a larger one-time payment, quite apart from insurance, should you be killed in a combat area of operations," David Chu, the undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness, said in an interview in his Pentagon office.

"We can never in any program give someone back their loved one," he

added. "There is nothing we can do about the hurt, to make it go away. But we can make your circumstances reasonable, in terms of finances."

Chu was unveiling the administration's full proposal in congressional testimony Tuesday.

Sen. Jeff Sessions, R-Ala., who is sponsoring a bill with the same provisions, said in an interview Monday that the first-year cost of the increased benefits would be \$459 million, including more than \$280 million in retroactive payments of the higher gratuity and the extra life insurance payouts.

"The American people want to be generous to the families of service people who give their lives for their country. It's not a nickel-and-dime issue," he said.

In addition to the higher gratuity, the Pentagon would substantially increase life insurance benefits, Chu said. The current \$250,000 coverage offered to all service members at a subsidized rate under the Servicemen's Group Life Insurance program would be raised to \$400,000, and for troops in a combat zone the government would pay the premiums on the extra \$150,000 cov-

erage.

Even in the case of a service member who did not participate in the basic life insurance program, the surviving spouse would receive a \$150,000 settlement if the death happened in a designated combat zone, since the Pentagon is proposing to pay the premiums on that amount of coverage for everyone in a war zone. The spouse or other surviving family member also would get the \$100,000 gratuity.

Chu said the extra \$150,000 in life insurance and the higher death gratuity would be retroactive to Oct. 7, 2001, the date the United States launched its invasion of Afghanistan in response to the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

Some bills in Congress would make the higher gratuity retroactive but not the extra life insurance.

Under the administration's proposal, the 53 military members who were killed in the Sept. 11 attack on the Pentagon would not get the higher gratuity, a spokeswoman said.

As of Monday, 1,415 Americans had died in the Iraq war, and 156 had died in Afghanistan and other locations.

## SCOUTS

Continued from Page 1A

up by teams of Scouts and brought to our collection point, which will be set up at the Wal-Mart Supercenter's east entrance," said O'Neill. "We're changing the collection point from Scurry Street to the Wal-Mart this year in hopes people

who see us there will also make a donation, or maybe even purchase something specially for the drive while they are doing their grocery shopping."

"It just goes to show the boys are out there doing a good turn and trying to help others. Those are things they live by on a daily basis, so we want to make sure they practice that in some way. This

has been a good project for us in the past and has been sort of a tradition for the past few years, so we wanted to continue it."

For ore information on the food drive, contact O'Neill at 263-3407.

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

## TROOPS

Continued from Page 1A

In Baghdad, about 200 election workers Tuesday began the second stage of the count. They reviewed tally sheets prepared by workers who counted ballots starting Sunday night at the 5,200 polling centers across the country and began crunching the numbers into 80 computer terminals. Officials said no figures were expected to be released Tuesday.

The Sunday ballot, which occurred without catastrophic rebel attacks, raised hopes that a new Iraqi government would be able to assume greater responsibility for security, hastening the day when the 170,000 U.S. and other foreign troops can go home.

During a news conference, President Ghazi al-Yawer was asked whether the presence of foreign troops might be fueling the Sunni Arab revolt by encouraging rebel attacks.

"It's only complete nonsense to ask the troops to leave in this chaos and this vacuum of power," al-Yawer, a Sunni Arab, said.

He said foreign troops

should leave only after Iraq's security forces are built up, the country's security situation has improved and some pockets of terrorists are eliminated.

"By the end of this year, we could see the number of foreign troops decreasing," al-Yawer said.

Al-Yawer had been a strong critic of some aspects of the U.S. military's performance in Iraq, including the three-week Marine siege of the Sunni rebel city of Fallujah in April.

Al-Yawer helped negotiate an end to that siege. The city fell into the hands of insurgents and religious zealots, forcing the Marines to recapture Fallujah last November in some of the heaviest urban combat for American forces since the Vietnam war.

"There were some mis-

takes" in the occupation "but to be fair ... I think all in all it was positive, the contribution of the foreign forces in Iraq," al-Yawer said. "It was worth it."

Later Tuesday, Defense Minister Hazem Shaalan said Iraq would only ask U.S. and other forces to leave when the country's own troops were capable of taking on insurgents.

"We don't want to have foreign troops in our country, but at the same time we believe that these forces should stay for some time until we are able to control the borders and establish a new modern army and we have efficient intelligence," Shaalan told reporters. "At that time ... we'll ask them to leave."

With the election complete and the ballots safely in Baghdad, Iraqi authorities eased the

severe security measures that had been put in place to protect the voters and polling centers.

Royal Jordanian Airlines and Iraqi Airways resumed flights to and from Baghdad. Cars, trucks and buses began crossing the border between Iraq and Syria at Tanaf. However, the Yarubiya crossing point which leads to the northern Iraqi city of Mosul.

A five-mile line of trucks loaded with goods was waiting on the Syrian side to cross, the official said.

The security measures for Sunday's vote included an election day ban on most private vehicles and extended hours for the nighttime curfew. The restrictions were credited with preventing rebels from pulling off catastrophic attacks, although more than 40 people were

killed in about 100 attacks on or near polling stations.

A statement attributed to an al-Qaida affiliate dismissed Sunday's elections as "theatrics" and promised to continue waging "holy war" against the Americans and their Iraqi allies.

In Baghdad, an election official said marked ballots, which were counted at polling stations after voting ended, have been sent to Baghdad. The ballots will not be recounted unless there are challenges or discrepancies in the tally sheets, officials said.

A Shiite clerical-backed alliance was expected to win the most number of seats in the 275-member National Assembly. But the alliance is not expected to win the two-thirds majority required to name a prime minister

without support from other parties.

Prime Minister Ayad Allawi's ticket was expected to finish second among the 111 candidate lists.

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HENRY BACKES

Happy 12th  
Birthday!!

Timothy Davila

We Love You!!  
Mom, Dad, Marisol & Alicia

FEBRUARY 2005

EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Susanne Reed  
-Publisher

John A. Moseley  
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan  
News Editor

OUR VIEWS

Let's help Eagles' efforts to benefit Vietnam memorial

Good causes. We don't seem to ever run out of them in this community. And one would be hard pressed to find anyone that would not include the Big Spring Vietnam Memorial among those worthy causes.

That's certainly the case when it comes to the members of the Fraternal Order of the Eagles Aerie No. 3188. The local Eagles lodge will be conducting a stew supper and dance to raise funds for the Big Spring Vietnam Memorial Committee on Saturday, Feb. 19.

The Eagles will be serving stew, corn bread, tea or coffee and dessert. The meal, which will be served from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m., will be \$6 per plate for adults and \$3 for children under the age of 12.

The dance, set for 8:30 p.m. to 11 p.m., will feature the Nightwind Blues band's performances of country, classic rock and blues. The dance will have a \$5 per person cover charge, but those wishing tickets for both the dinner and dance can save a dollar by purchasing a package deal for \$10.

The fundraiser is of paramount importance because the committee needs help in maintaining the memorial that draws visitors from all over our nation. Money is constantly needed for upkeep of the memorial. Many members put their own money into that effort, but there's no way they can shoulder all the burden.

It costs a minimum of \$3,000 per year just to pay utility bills for the memorial, and that doesn't include materials and equipment needed to keep the grounds and perform basic maintenance.

So, we encourage our readers to make plans to have supper at the Eagles Lodge on Feb. 19 and help support the Vietnam Memorial Committee.

And even if the supper and dance don't work into your plans that weekend, we here at the Herald encourage all those who can to make a tax-deductible contribution toward the memorial's upkeep simply by mailing a donation to: Vietnam Memorial Committee, P.O. Box 2854, Big Spring 79720.

Howard Countians have always done their part and we're sure you will this time.

HOW TO CONTACT US

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

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

LETTER POLICIES

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

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

With You, Lord, everything is possible.

Amen

Inside report: Bush's big passion

In contrast to the blase attitude among many Republican movers and shakers, George W. Bush is described by political associates as energized about Social Security reform to a degree not matched on any other domestic issue.

President Bush sometimes backs away from issues under fire, but adding personal accounts to the Social Security system is not one of them. He was on record in support for personal accounts preceding his tenure as governor of Texas.

In contrast, politically influential Republican lobbyists could hardly care less about Social Security — an issue that does not benefit their clients. The lobbyists are vastly more enthusiastic about tort reform on the Bush second-term agenda.

Irritation by the House Republican leadership with Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist was heightened when he decided to skip the beginning of the joint Senate-House Republican retreat at The Greenbrier resort in White Sulphur Springs, W. Va., late this past week in order to attend the annual World Economic Forum at Davos, Switzerland.

House Speaker Dennis Hastert had hoped that he and Frist could confer on legislative strategy at Greenbrier and was stunned when the Senate leader said that instead, he was off to Switzerland. The Davos diversion prevented a three-way meeting at The Greenbrier between Hastert, Frist and Bush. Frist arrived

at the resort hours after Bush finished his speech.

Three weeks ago, House Republicans were vexed with Frist because he was not around for the disputed vote affirming the 2004 presidential electoral vote, instead going to the Indian Ocean on a medical mission to care for tsunami victims.

Sen. Evan Bayh of Indiana, feared by Republicans as a dangerously moderate presidential candidate for the Democrats in 2008, surprised colleagues by joining 12 left-of-center senators in voting against confirmation of Condoleezza Rice as secretary of state.

In declaring his opposition to Rice's confirmation, Bayh told the Senate Tuesday: "I believe she has been a principal architect of policy errors that have tragically undermined our prospects for success in this endeavor [the military operation in Iraq]." Bayh's statement follows support for Bush's Iraq policy during his re-election campaign last year.

While President Bush easily carried Indiana and the state returned to Republican control of its government, Bayh won his second Senate term in a landslide. His appeal to Republican voters, however, makes him suspect to the Left. Bayh's vote against Rice could help with the liberal Democrats, whose support is needed for the party's presidential nomination.

Any chance for real bipartisan pressure to force out Donald Rumsfeld as secretary of defense vanished when Sen. Richard Lugar, chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, said on NBC's "Meet the Press" that a

change could be "disruptive."

Earlier, Chairman John Warner of the Armed Services Committee took the same position. Support from chairmen of the Senate's two national security committees outweighs senatorial calls for Rumsfeld's departure. Their backing is particularly important because both Lugar and Warner in private have expressed irritation with Rumsfeld's style.

A footnote: At last Saturday's annual dinner of The Alfalfa Club, Lugar probably ended all speculation about whether he will run for re-election in Indiana next year. His guest at the dinner was Cincinnati investment banker Mercer Reynolds, President Bush's chief fund-raiser who is raising money to elect Lugar to a sixth term.

The conservative Citizens United.org plans to greet Hollywood celebrities entering the Academy Awards Feb. 27 with posters saying: "W. still president. Thank you Hollywood."

The Hollywood figures the conservatives are "thanking" are headed by Michael Moore, the left-wing filmmaker who produced the anti-Bush "Fahrenheit 9/11." His photo is included on the poster along with pictures of Sean Penn, Chevy Chase, Barbra Streisand, Ben Affleck and Whoopi Goldberg — all supporters of John Kerry for president.

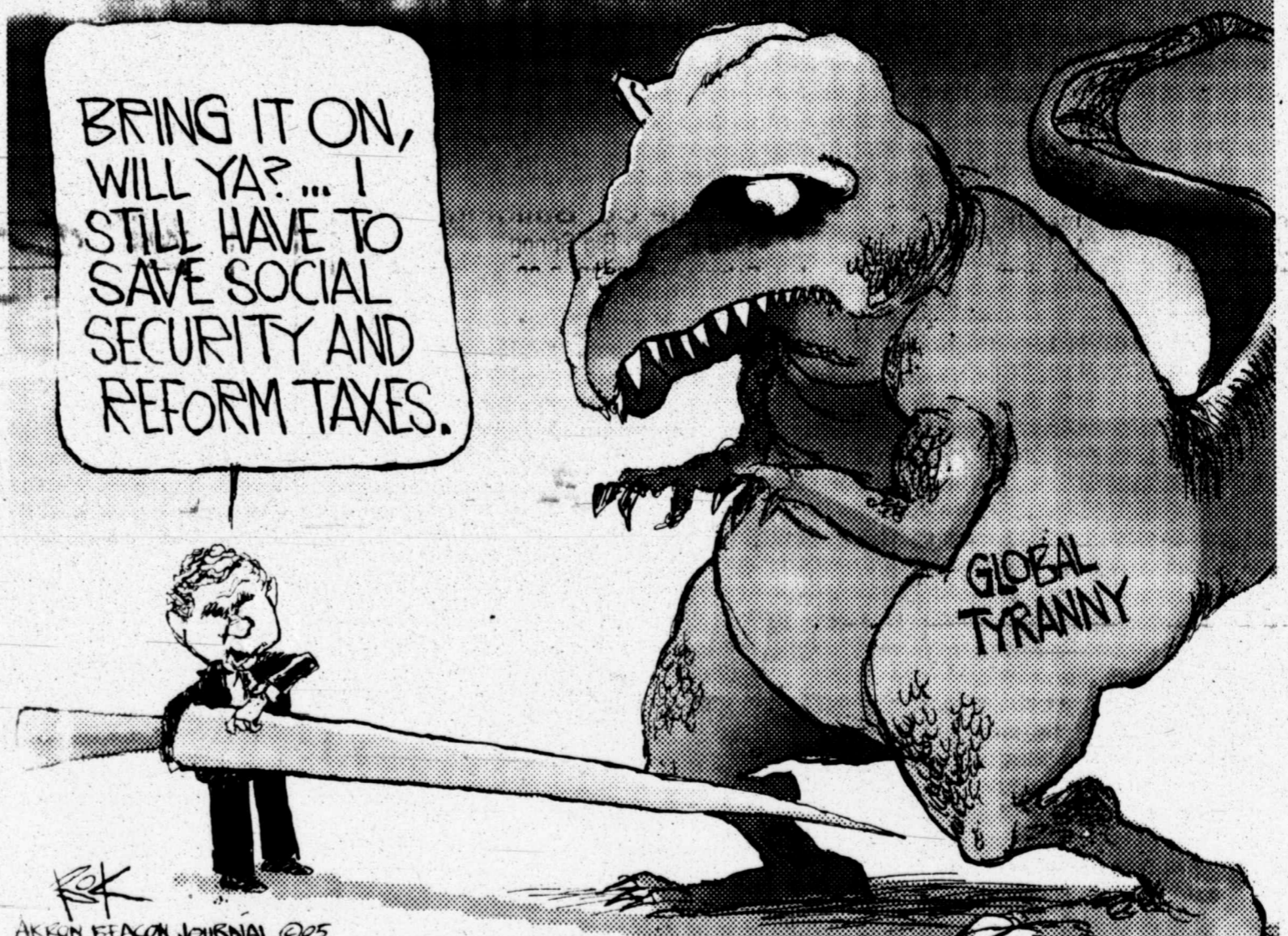
Many Republicans believe George W. Bush was really helped by opposition from Hollywood stars and Moore.

To find out more about Robert D. Novak and read his past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).

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ROBERT NOVAK



AKRON BEACON JOURNAL 2/05

Democrats: It's a comfort issue

I recently sat down with Terry McAuliffe, the outgoing chairman of the Democratic National Committee. This is part of our conversation:

Me: What is the state of the Democratic Party today?

McAuliffe: On March 10, 2004, when John Kerry won the nomination, the party was more unified and in the best financial shape we have ever been in the history of our party. Now, it took four years to get there. When I came in this job, as you know, we were \$18 million in debt, we had a dilapidated headquarters, we were spending millions of dollars a year leasing space around town, we had no data file, no voter file. We're not like that today. We are now an institution that this year will raise \$100 million. We will raise \$75 million through small donors. And we have no debt — not an ounce of debt. We have state-of-the-art technology, radio facilities, television facilities. We now have the tools. But money doesn't win the elec-



ROGER SIMON

tions.

Me: So what do the Democrats have to do to win elections?

McAuliffe: We need to go in with very specific messages, into the churches, into those Red States, and talk to people. We need to talk to military families about military pay. We need to go in and talk about an immigration policy that the Democratic Party stands for. We need to do this in traditional Republican areas, so they understand where we are on these issues. There are Republican women who are pro-choice, and we've got to go in with a message and talk to these people on the issue of choice.

Me: Didn't the Democrats do that in 2004?

McAuliffe: We need to go neighbor-to-neighbor. We can't hire people to go into these states. We can't do that anymore. We've got to have coffees in homes and bring people in.

Me: Why do you think Kerry lost?

McAuliffe: We can't over-analyze this election. I think there's a tendency to always do that. Ninety percent of it was the war on terrorism. After 9-11, when those planes went into those buildings, the die was cast. It made it very

difficult (for Kerry to win).

Me: What were some things the Kerry campaign should have done differently?

McAuliffe: At the convention, there was not enough of an attack on Bush. I mean, every reference to George Bush was taken out of my speech.

Me: Do you have anything positive to say about President Bush?

McAuliffe: I congratulate George Bush. He won the election. I said that to him when I saw him at the Clinton Library.

Me: Wasn't there some reason he won besides Sept. 11?

McAuliffe: Obviously, a huge piece of electability is connectivity to the voters. They've got to like you; they've got to feel comfortable with you — and they liked George Bush. They liked him! People have got to feel comfortable with you. They want to be able to say, you know, "He's a nice guy."

To find out more about Roger Simon, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).

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NEWS BRIEFS

Mother who drowned children found insane

LAMAR, Colo. (AP) — A woman who told investigators she drowned her two children after receiving a sign from a spider was found not guilty by reason of insanity Monday and ordered to be committed to the state mental hospital for an indeterminate period.

Two defense psychiatrists and another testifying on behalf of prosecutors told a judge during an eight-hour hearing that Rebekah Amaya was insane at the time of the October 2003 drownings.

Amaya, who was charged with two counts of first-degree murder in the deaths of Grace Headlee, 4, and Gabriel Amaya, 5 months, had pleaded not guilty by reason of insanity.

After several evaluations, psychiatrists had found her competent to stand trial but insane at the time of the slayings. Prosecutors said they were unable to prove otherwise.

Amaya, who did not speak during the hearing, can request a release after 180 days.

David Johnson of Colorado Mental Health Institute at Pueblo and Karen Fukutaki of Denver Health Medical Center testified on behalf of Amaya's defense.

The psychiatrists said Amaya said she thought there were evil spirits in the house and in her children and that killing them would set them free.

She also told psychiatrists that Gabriel told her to kill him saying, "Go ahead and do it mommy, get it done, get it done."

Mother jailed over son's fees

ANGLETON (AP) — A Houston-area mother who spent time in detention with a daughter over tardiness has landed in jail over one of her son's unpaid fines.

Susan Manis of Pearland was surprised Friday night at her home by two Brazoria County deputies with a warrant for her arrest.

"I'm wondering what's going to happen next," she said Monday. "I'm 42 years old, and I've never had anything more serious than a traffic ticket."

The arrest warrant for Manis, who has four children and two stepchildren, was issued after she failed to make a monthly payment on fees and fines levied against one of her sons when he was a juvenile.

Because Manis' son, now 19, does not have a steady job, she had agreed to send the court \$50 a month to pay off about \$10,000 in fines, fees and court costs he owes from three different convictions of offenses as a juvenile. Manis said she was unable to make last month's payment.

"I accepted responsibility for them," she said. Manis said she was handcuffed, put in a patrol car and taken to a Brazoria County jail holding cell.

"I just cried at first," she said of her jail stay. Manis was in court Monday and agreed to make a payment by Thursday.

Her husband, Steve Manis, had contacted a judge, who called the jail and ordered her release.

The couple earlier spent an hour in school detention with their 13-year-old daughter, who was late for class six times when the family's van wouldn't start.

SBC to acquire AT&T for \$16 billion

NEW YORK (AP) — The purchase of AT&T Corp. by SBC Communications Inc. saves "Ma Bell" from a nosedive into irrelevance in the industry it created more than a century ago. It also gives SBC the name and the network to fulfill its goal of being viewed as a truly national player rather than just a local telephone company.

The \$16 billion marriage of long-bitter rivals, which may take until mid-2006 to clear intense regulatory scrutiny, would add long distance and business services to the list of markets where SBC holds a dominant role. It is already the first or second largest U.S. provider of local calling, wireless and Internet services.

The deal announced Monday also sparks immediate speculation as to whether two other largely regional powers, Verizon Communications Inc. and BellSouth Corp., will need to keep pace by purchasing MCI Corp. for its national network infrastructure and roster of corporate clients.

While both SBC and Verizon are by now far larger than Bedminster, N.J.-based AT&T on many fronts, the business customers served by AT&T and MCI include far more major corporations with national communications needs. Many of those customers are hesitant to switch providers for a lifeline as vital as communications, making it hard for the Bells to lure away AT&T's clients.

For that reason, SBC made clear that the globally recognized AT&T brand name would not disappear as a result of the deal.

VMC

Continued from Page 1A

The dance, set for 8:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. will feature the Nightwind Blues band.

Nightwind Blues performs a variety of music, ranging from country to classic rock and blues. The dance will have a \$5 per person cover charge, but those wishing tickets for both the dinner and dance can save a dollar by purchasing a package deal for \$10 per person.

The fund-raiser is of paramount importance because the committee needs help in maintaining the memorial that draws visitors from all over our nation.

"We're constantly needing funds just to keep the memorial kept up," explained VMC member Jerry Groves. "A lot of the members of the committee put a bunch of

their own money into maintaining the memorial, but there's no way we can do this by ourselves. We need help from the community. Luckily, the community has always responded.

"It costs us a minimum of \$3,000 per year just to pay our utility bills," he added. "And that doesn't include materials and equipment needed to keep

the grounds and do essential maintenance."

All proceeds from the dinner and dance will be used by the committee to maintain the memorial's grounds.

Both Wilson and Groves also lauded Eagles Lodge members' interest in helping the committee, noting that the supper and dance still allows the VMC to have the two fund-raising

events the committee is allowed to hold each year by law.

"Our tax-exempt status limits the number of fund-raisers we can have

each year, so we're doubly appreciative that the Eagles are taking on this project," Wilson said.

Wilson added that anyone wishing to make a

tax-deductible contribution toward the memorial's upkeep can mail them to: Vietnam Memorial Committee, P.O. Box 2854, Big Spring 79720.

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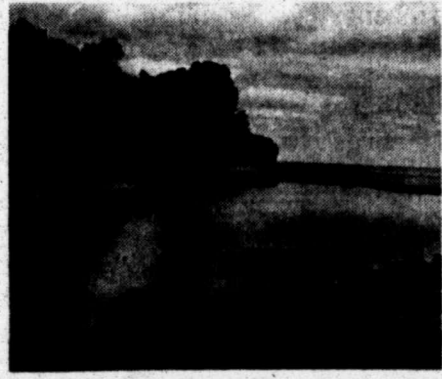
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Bedtime Stories

DOBIE, GABBY, AND THE DEEP BLUE SEA

All you could hear that day was the roar of the ocean as it came to meet the shore. It seemed to be wanting to



shake hands with the palm trees and the sea oats that lived there. They seemed to be standing guard over the ocean, not letting anything bother the water as it rushed up to meet the sand.

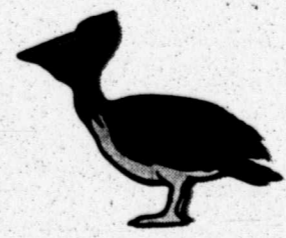
And then, a loud noise came from the seaside. It was a seagull that had been standing there, listening to the calming sounds of the ocean. He had his food for the day in a big bag that he had laid down on top of a big sand dune. The wind had taken his food and blown it into the

ocean! Have you ever been to the ocean? I'll bet you have! Then you know that the wind is always blowing very hard there, don't you?

The seagull's name was Gabby. Gabby didn't know what he was going to do about getting his food back. You see, it was a very big bag and he could-

then! Gabby's friend Dobie, was an old pelican that had lived near the ocean all of his life. He had seen many strange things happen in his life, but this was one of the strangest. He chuckled each time he watched Gabby dive for that big bag and try to grab it with his mouth. The only problem was that Gabby's mouth was just a seagull mouth and it was too small to pick up that bag!

But old Dobie had a big mouth! Have you ever seen a



"Oh, would you, please," Gabby cried, "I will never be able to carry it and I am getting really hungry!"

So off Dobie went, flying way up into the air, and then he dove straight down towards the bag. He caught it on the first try. Pelicans are really good at that. He had opened his big old mouth and the bag just fell in. Old Dobie still had room in his mouth for two more bags. What a big mouth! Then he carried that bag back to the seashore where Gabby was waiting.

"Oh thank you, Dobie," Gabby shouted, "If there is ever anything that I can do for you, just let me know and

I will be happy to return the favor that you just gave to me!" "You are welcome Gabby, for I am your friend and I was really happy that I could help you," Dobie replied.

Dobie went home that night, feeling very good about being able to help his friend. But he did think to himself, "How could Gabby ever be able to help me with that small mouth that he has? But, it was very nice of him to offer to help me one day!"

As the years went by, Dobie never had to help Gabby again. Gabby learned that he must never try to carry a big bag in his little mouth. But he did return that favor to Dobie, thirty-six times!!

But that's another story! Dobie and Gabby said to tell you that it's time to say—

Good Night!

**Pizza Inn.**  
1702 GREGG  
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**The Medicine Shoppe**  
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n't carry it. Will he ever get his food back? This is a bedtime story and bedtime stories must have a happy ending. Or must they? Do you want this story to have a happy ending? Ok, it will,

pelican? Do you like pelicans? They do have big mouths, don't they? Old Dobie watched Gabby trying to get his food for a long time and then decided to go over to help. "Gabby, would you



**Pointers For Parents**

**Creepy crawlers capture kids attention on the Web**

A new Web site educates kids about the difference between curious critters and just plain pests.

Children looking to learn more about creepy crawlers and furry critters have a new resource on the Web. The National Pest Management Association's new children's Web site, [www.pestworldforkids.org](http://www.pestworldforkids.org), blends fun and education in an online portal into the pest world.

Comprised of five sections, Amazing Pests, Threats and Prevention, For Teachers, Learning Games and Pestcards, the site lets children discover fun facts about their favorite insects, research pest-transmitted diseases and play a variety of engaging, educational games.

According to National Pest Management Association Public Affairs Director Cindy Mannes, "We have had so much positive feedback on this site, from children, parents and teachers."

Children who have visited the site made the following comments:

"I wondered why you would want to learn about bugs, but it teaches you all these things about bugs, and how you can prevent them."

"I thought it'd be gross, but I liked how it was animated — that made it more fun and less gross."

Adds Mannes, "Families exploring the site together have a great opportunity to learn about and discuss the dangers of pest-spread illness and important preventative steps, as well as develop a better appreciation for the role pest control professionals play as protectors of



public health and property."

The Amazing Pests section differentiates between a "critter" and a "pest," highlights little-known interesting pest facts such as "the total weight of all termites in the world is greater than the total weight of all people in the world," and offers an interactive quiz on pest tidbits showcased throughout the site.

Threats & Prevention provides a look at pest-related health and property threats using language that is easily understood by children. By offering maps, pictures and simple definitions, the site helps to make abstract pest threats, such as Hanta-virus, comprehensible for children.

"Pestworldforkids.org was designed by an educational Web design firm. The company integrated educational theories, curriculum standards and National Science Foundation requirements in all of the site components," commented Mannes.

The site also includes two interactive Learning Games: Pest Detective and Name that Pest.

For more information about the site or to learn more about the benefits of professional pest control, visit [www.pestworld.org](http://www.pestworld.org).

North American Prects Syndicate Inc.

**February blood drives scheduled**

Blood drives are scheduled in February. From 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. Thursday, a blood drive will take place in the Rip Griffin Truck and Travel Center. From 8 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. Feb. 17 a blood drive is set at the VA

Medical Center. And the last opportunity to donate blood in February is from 11 a.m. until 4 p.m. at Wal-Mart Feb. 21. For more information, contact Peggy Hards at 432-569-5531.

**Better ways to find stuff and to find something fast**

Finding an old friend or knowing where to go for a good meal in a new city is now a lot easier.

Need to find something fast?

Follow these tips to connect to information, people and places easier than ever before.

Find a long-lost pal

World War II veterans Sig Alman and Ned Bishop had been trying to reconnect for 58 years before finding each other using Verizon SuperPages.com, a nationwide online directory service. Thanks to tools like these, most people don't have to wait decades to get back in touch.

Online directory services such as SuperPages.com, FindWhat.com and MSN provide a nationwide database of names, phone numbers and addresses. You can search by name, state or city and get results within 15 miles of the city you're searching.

Check specialist directories available through Classmates.com, college alumni associations and professional organizations if you know the background of the person you're looking for.

Register with change of e-mail address services like switchemail.com, emailchange.com or fresh address.com so people can always find you. Best of all, registration is usually free.

Search for a local business

Whether you're looking for a florist, a dog walker or a dentist, finding the right one doesn't have to take much time with these tools.

Internet Yellow Pages such as SuperPages.com let you search for local businesses by keyword, business name or category, city, state or zip code. Look for business profiles, one-click access to Web sites and e-mail addresses and even maps and driving directions.

Chamber of Commerce groups provide references of companies that are involved in the local business community and the Better Business Bureau can give background on a company and any history of complaints.

Know where to vote This November, voters will want to know the most convenient place to cast their ballots or where to register if they're new in town.

The blue government pages in the front of most phone

directories like Verizon Yellow Pages provide voter registration information. Look under the county listings for contact numbers in your area.

For state election and voter registration information, check the elections division of your state's Web site, which is maintained by the Secretary of State.

Want to get your teen-agers involved? Send them to RockTheVote.com for the latest scoop on how to register, where to vote and how to get e-mail updates on campaign issues.

Know where to go out of town

Turn to these expert sources to supplement your friends' advice on where to go for food, shopping and entertainment in a new city.

Most of today's hotel concierge services act more like personal assistants. They can recommend places to eat and shop, make reservations and provide directions. Some hotels even host walking tours to point out the sights.

Mobile directory services like SuperPages On the Go make excellent travel companions, with national phone listings, movie show times,

restaurant, hotel and movie reviews, weather forecasts, maps, and driving directions, all of your cell phone.

Planning a trip?



Photo/North American Prects Syndicate Inc.  
World War II veterans Sig Alman and Ned Bishop had been trying to reconnect for 58 years before finding each other. Web sites may assist other U.S. veterans searching for friends.

For in-depth local information such as local parks, weather or historical destinations, visit sites such as Orbitz.com.

For international travel, Frommers.com or Virtualtourist.com offers a wealth of travelers' advice on hotels and traveler's tips.

Following these tips can help you quickly and easily find the information, people or places you need.

North American Prects Syndicate Inc.

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**February 2005**

<p><b>February 1 • Tuesday</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mall Walking - 8:00 am</li> <li>Coffee @ Parkplace - 10:00 am</li> <li>American Heart Association - Board Meeting Brew Pub - 12 Noon</li> <li>Supper Club "Furr's" - 5:30 pm</li> <li>Relay For Life Kentwood Senior Center 5:30 pm</li> </ul>	<p><b>February 14 • Monday</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sit &amp; Be Fit - 4:00 pm</li> <li>VALENTINE'S Pot Luck &amp; Bingo - 11:30 am</li> </ul>
<p><b>February 2 • Wednesday</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sr. Appreciation Day - 11:30 am</li> </ul>	<p><b>February 15 • Tuesday</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mall Walking - 8:00 am</li> <li>Supper Club "Wendy's" - 5:30 pm</li> <li>Health Fair Meeting @ Chamber Noon</li> <li>RSVP Office Board Meeting</li> <li>RSVP Office - 3:00 pm</li> </ul>
<p><b>February 3 • Thursday</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mall Walking - 8:00 am</li> <li>Coffee @ Gale's - 10:00 am</li> </ul>	<p><b>February 16 • Wednesday</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sr. Appreciation Day - 11:30 am</li> </ul>
<p><b>February 4 • Friday</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New Mexico Casino Trip - 10:00 am</li> </ul>	<p><b>February 17 • Thursday</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mall Walking - 8:00 am</li> <li>Coffee @ Gale's - 10:00 am</li> </ul>
<p><b>February 5 • Saturday</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Open</li> </ul>	<p><b>February 18 • Friday</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Open</li> </ul>
<p><b>February 6 • Sunday</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Open</li> </ul>	<p><b>February 19 • Saturday</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>OPEN</li> </ul>
<p><b>February 7 • Monday</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sit &amp; Be Fit - 4:00 pm</li> </ul>	<p><b>February 20 • Sunday</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Midland Community theater "PETER PAN" - 1:00 pm (Musical)</li> </ul>
<p><b>February 8 • Tuesday</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mall Walking - 8:00 am</li> <li>American Cancer Society Meeting SMMC - 12 Noon</li> <li>Dinner &amp; A Movie "KC Steakhouse" - 5:30 pm</li> </ul>	<p><b>February 21 • Monday</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sit &amp; Be Fit - 4:00 pm</li> </ul>
<p><b>February 9 • Wednesday</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sr. Appreciation Day - 11:30 am</li> </ul>	<p><b>February 22 • Tuesday</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mall Walking - 8:00 am</li> <li>Supper Club "Cowboy's" - 5:30 pm</li> </ul>
<p><b>February 10 • Thursday</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mall Walking - 8:00 am</li> <li>Coffee @ Gale's - 10:00 am</li> </ul>	<p><b>February 23 • Wednesday</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Senior Appreciation Day - 11:30 am</li> </ul>
<p><b>February 11 • Friday</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lunch Bunch &amp; Birthdays "Alberto's" - 11:30 am</li> </ul>	<p><b>February 24 • Thursday</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mall Walking - 8:00 am</li> <li>Coffee @ Gale's - 10:00 am</li> <li>Lunch-N-Learn - 11:30 am Hangar 25 Air Museum</li> </ul>
<p><b>February 12 • Saturday</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Child Birth Classes (2nd Floor Hospital) - 9:00-3:00 pm</li> <li>Laurie Burks, Instructor</li> <li>Pot Luck &amp; Bingo - 11:30 a.m.-2:00 pm</li> </ul>	<p><b>February 25 • Friday</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Open</li> </ul>
<p><b>February 13 • Sunday</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Open</li> </ul>	<p><b>February 26 • Saturday</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>OPEN</li> </ul>
<p><b>February 14 • Monday</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Games - 2:00 pm</li> <li>Sit &amp; Be Fit - 4:00 pm</li> </ul>	<p><b>February 27 • Sunday</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>OPEN</li> </ul>

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# Sports

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Page 1B  
Tuesday, February 1, 2005

## Defense key in Howard's road rout over Odessa

By TROY HYDE

**Sports Editor**  
ODESSA — The nation's No. 1 defense gave up more points than expected Monday on the road at Odessa, but the Howard men's basketball team found the offensive touch in an 82-64 rout of Western Junior College Athletic Conference rival Odessa at the OC Sports Center.

"To learn how to win on the road is big for this team," said Howard coach Mark Adams Monday after the game.

The Hawks led from start to finish and recorded their 18th win of the season. Howard also improved to 4-1 in WJCAC play.

The Hawks set the tone early with their stifling defense. They built a 21-7 lead with 10:44 to play in the first half after freshman Rashad Mintz converted a layup off a steal. Odessa turned the ball over four times in the first five minutes.

Then, three straight baskets by freshman forward James Barrett pushed the Hawk lead to 15 at 29-14.

Freshman center Brandon Sampay's slam late in the first half put Howard up 38-20 before the Hawks closed down the first 20 minutes with a 41-20 advantage.

"We played an almost flawless first half, but

then got a little passive in the second half and allowed them to get back in the game," said Adams. "The team is very young. We are going to watch the film and see if we can figure out how to close out games."

Howard (18-3, 4-1) led by 20 on six different occasions in the second half. Odessa (8-12, 1-4) got within 12 points twice with under six minutes to play, but the Hawks were able to capture the win by 18.

Charles Burgess led five Howard players in double figures with 21 points. Barrett and Sampay added 17 and 16, respectively.

Sophomore Muniir Shakir added 15 points, while Mintz turned in 11.

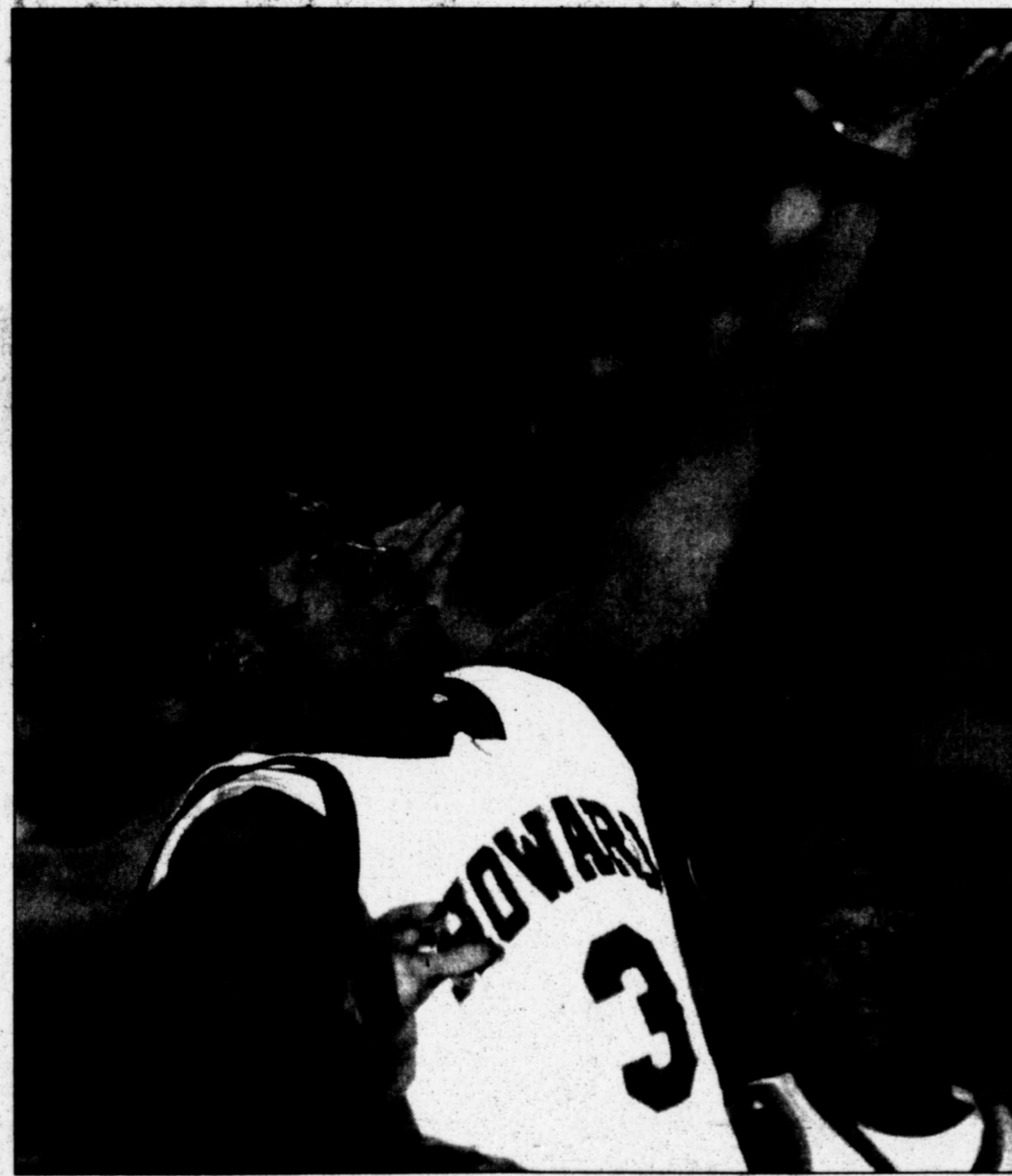
Howard will host South Plains Thursday at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum in what promises to be an entertaining ballgame. South Plains enters with a 16-5 overall record and 3-2 WJCAC record.

Freshman Louis Rodgers missed his second consecutive game Monday due to an injury. He is expected to miss three to four weeks and could be back in time for the Region V Tournament if Howard secures a berth.

The Howard-South Plains contest will follow the women's game at 7:50 p.m.



Howard College freshman Charles Burgess takes a swipe at the ball against New Mexico Military Institute Thursday at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. Burgess led the Hawks in scoring Monday as Howard recorded a conference victory against Odessa College at the OC Sports Center.



Howard College freshman Rashad Mintz takes the ball strong to the hole against conference rival New Mexico Military Institute last Thursday. The Hawks defeated Odessa College at the OC Sports Center Monday as Mintz was one of five Hawk players in double figures.

## Hawk women stay in hunt early, OC pulls away in second half

• Turnovers again plague Howard as women fall to 0-4 in WJCAC Conference



By TROY HYDE

**Sports Editor**  
ODESSA — The Odessa women's basketball team defeated Howard earlier this season by 27 points, but that didn't stop the Hawk women from being competitive. At least for a half.



**Howard DIDDLE**  
The Hawks College women's basketball team hung in with the Lady Wranglers for the first 20 minutes before being outscored 32-15 in the second half as Odessa captured the Western Junior College Athletic Conference win, 66-43.

"I thought we got off to a great start," said Howard coach Earl Diddle after the game Monday. "However, we have to take care of the ball if we want to win in this league."

The Hawks led by 10 points early in the first half, but turnovers allowed Odessa to get back in the game and eventually take it over. At one point, Howard turned the ball over on four straight possessions, which helped the Wrangler women go on a 14-0 run. The run would extend to 20-3 a few minutes later. The Hawks finished with 15 first half turnovers.

"We don't maintain composure very well when teams come after us," said Diddle. "This team can't commit

turnovers and give up second chance shots. It seems like when our offense isn't playing well our defense doesn't play well either."

Odessa took its first lead with 6:30 to play in the first half and never trailed again. They led by as many as 11 points, but Howard ended the first 20 minutes with five straight points and cut its margin to six points at halftime.

The Hawks went nearly the opening five minutes without a basket as Odessa pushed its lead to 42-28. Howard (11-10, 0-4) trailed by double digits for more than 17 minutes in the second half.

"Odessa did a great job with its interior post defense and you have to credit them for that," said Diddle. "We aren't a very good passing team, but the girls are working on it and getting better."

Freshman Latoya Fairley finished with 12 points and eight rebounds to lead the Hawks, while sophomore Ciara Tidwell added 12 points and four rebounds.

Freshman Jennifer Pena scored 10 points, grabbed four rebounds and dished out three assists.

The win improves Odessa College to 12-8 overall and 2-3 in WJCAC action.

Howard returns home to play host to South Plains Thursday at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum beginning at 5:50 p.m. South Plains defeated Clarendon 71-45 Monday. They will enter Thursday with a 19-2 record.

### Tonight's area high school basketball schedule

Frenship @Big Spring (District 4-4A)  
girl's: 6 p.m. (senior night)  
boy's: 7:30 p.m.

Coahoma @Stanton (District 4-2A)  
girl's: 6:30 p.m.  
boy's 8 p.m.

Sands @Garden City (District 7-A)  
girl's: 6:30 p.m.  
boy's: 8 p.m.

Forsan @McCamey (District 8-A)  
girl's: 6:30 p.m.  
8 p.m.

# Vrabel, Brown prepare for offense, defense Sunday

• Versatile Patriots prepare for Eagles as 'Super' Sunday nears

By MARK LONG

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (AP) — Mike Vrabel has the football neatly displayed back home in Ohio. He carries the memory with him everywhere.

The New England linebacker caught a touchdown pass late in the fourth quarter that helped the Patriots beat Carolina in the Super Bowl last year. Vrabel also had six tackles, two sacks and a forced fumble — playing the game of his life on sports' biggest stage.

Now he wants a repeat performance.

"If I was lucky enough to go in there and get another one and help us win, then that would top it," Vrabel said Monday.

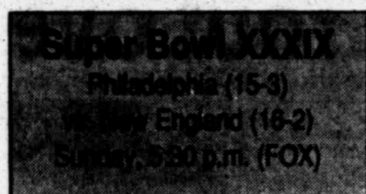
It could happen. Vrabel has two touchdown catches this season, including one in the regular-season finale against San Francisco.

Although receiver-turned-cornerback Troy Brown gets more attention for playing both ways, Vrabel might still be the team's most versatile player. After all, he makes tackles, covers receivers, rushes quarterbacks and lines up as a tight end in goal-line situations.

"He is very adaptable," coach Bill Belichick said.

A defensive end in college at Ohio State who moved to linebacker in the NFL, Vrabel is making plans for another transition.

He returned to college last summer to complete his degree in exercise



physiology. He finished school because he wants to become a coach after his playing days are over. "It's tough to recruit kids to come play for you and talk to their parents and say, 'I'm going to make sure your son goes to class and I'm going to make sure he graduates' when you don't have a degree yourself," Vrabel said. "It's tough to tell kids to go to class when they're looking at a coach who hasn't graduated."

Vrabel, who began college as a premed student but switched majors because of the demands of football, graduated in June after completing a Biochemistry course.

"I was in there with a bunch of nursing students," he said. "There were like 12 girls and me, which wasn't bad. Don't get me wrong. I didn't have to take a whole lot of notes."

Vrabel said his former classmates still keep in touch, writing letters and watching most of his games.

They have high expectations for the Super Bowl, and so does Vrabel.

That's a big change from earlier in his career.

He spent four years as a backup with Pittsburgh because the team had so much depth at linebacker. Stuck behind Jason Gildon, Levon Kirkland, Greg Lloyd and Joey Porter, Vrabel appeared in 51 games with no starts from 1997 to 2000.

But everything changed after he signed with the

Pats. Under the direction of Belichick, Vrabel has developed into one of New England's most productive players.

He had a career-high 76 tackles and 5 1/2 sacks this season. He has 279 tackles and 22 1/2 sacks in four years in New England, much more production that he had in four years in Pittsburgh, where he had 43 tackles and seven sacks.

"Mike has been very consistent for us for the last four years," Belichick said. "He does everything well that you want an outside linebacker to do. He's strong. He's physical in the running game. He can rush the passer. He pursues well. He's smart."

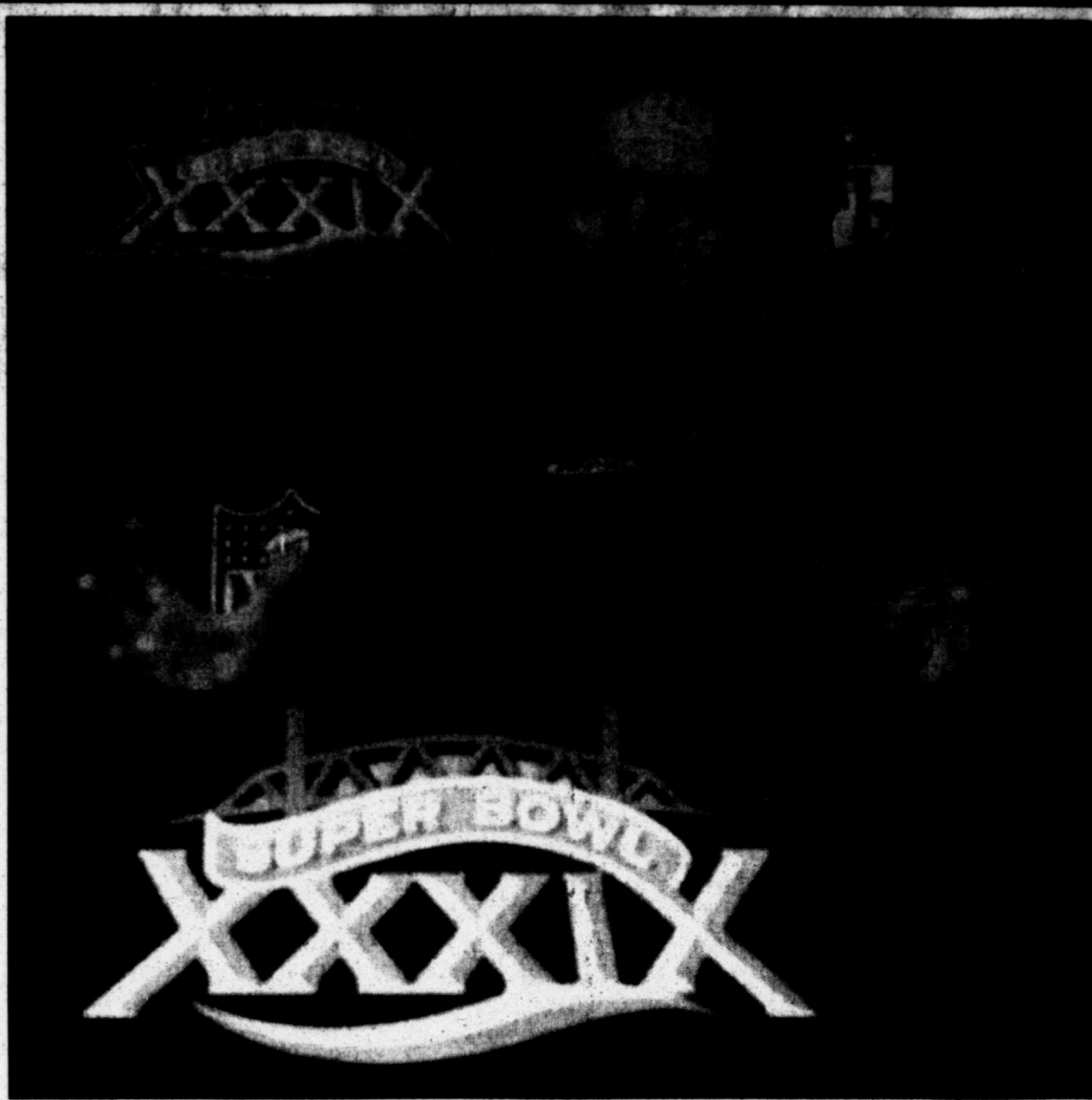
"He makes adjustments easily and quickly on the field. There are a lot of moving parts in that spot, and Mike handles those very easily really."

All Vrabel needed was an opportunity to play full time.

"He's probably the most intelligent guy on our football team," safety Rodney Harrison said. "The guy is smart. He knows the defense inside and out. Tedy Bruschi is the most instinctive, but Vrabel is the most intelligent."

Maybe that's why he went back to college and why the Pats had no reservations about using him on offense — evidenced by his game ball from last year's Super Bowl.

"I feel like I've been given a great opportunity. I've been able to make the most of a great opportunity. That's really what it comes down to."



New England head coach Bill Belichick speaks to the media at the Prime F. Osborn III Convention Center in Jacksonville, Fla., Monday. The Patriots will take on Philadelphia Sunday in Super Bowl XXXIX.

## Kansas avoids conference letdown

By DOUG TUCKER

AP Sports Writer

LAWRENCE, Kan. (AP) — There might not be many Missouri fans who think the school made the right decision six years ago when it hired Quin Snyder over Bill Self.

By all accounts, Self — then head coach at Tulsa — was the No. 2 choice when the Tigers chose Snyder, a former Duke point guard who'd never been in charge of a program.

After No. 3 Kansas' come-from-behind 73-61 victory over Missouri Monday night, Snyder fell to 3-10 against the Jayhawks — and 0-7 against Self.

Snyder refused to discuss the growing criticism he is drawing from Missouri fans who are impatient with a team that has never finished higher than fifth in the Big 12 since he arrived.

"For me to be concerned about myself is not the answer," Snyder said. "Ultimately, I am accountable. But I have to focus on the team."

After quickly falling behind by 10 points against the heavily favored Jayhawks (17-1, 7-0 Big 12), the Tigers were up first half on a 20-4 spree and seized a stunning 36-28 lead.

But Kansas rallied behind Aaron Miles' 14

points and 10 assists, all but one in the second half.

"We played so bad in the first half, it was miserable," said Self, who's 41-10 in less than two seasons at Kansas. "We made some serious mistakes and had about 10 turnovers. At halftime, it was like we just flipped a switch."

Two picture-perfect one-handed lobs by Miles set up easy buckets by Christian Moody and J.R. Giddens, keying a 7-1 run that seemed to deflate Missouri (10-11, 2-6) in the second half.

Wayne Simien led Kansas with 22 points and eight rebounds.

## Philadelphia tries to relish underdog role

By ROB MAADDI

AP Sports Writer

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — The Philadelphia Eagles haven't lost their swagger.

Despite being seven-point underdogs against the New England Patriots on Sunday, the Eagles are walking around as though they're favored to win the Super Bowl.

"We're not just happy to be here, we're here to win the game," center Hank Fraley said Monday.

This is Philadelphia's first trip to the Super Bowl in 24 years, and just five players — defensive end Jevon Kearse and right tackle Jon Runyan are the only starters — have played in the big game.

The Eagles haven't won a championship since 1960, while the Patriots are seeking their third title in four years.

Still, this is a confident, even cocky, bunch.

"They think they're as good as any team in the NFL," Eagles coach Andy Reid said. "They understand that you have to prove that each and every Sunday. I think that's how they're approaching this."

The Eagles (15-3) dominated the NFC this season, winning nine games by double-digit margins, including five by at least 21 points. Even without injured All-Pro receiver Terrell Owens, they outscored Minnesota and Atlanta 54-24 in the playoffs.

But the Patriots (16-2) are the defending champions, and they shut down Peyton Manning and the

rest of the Indianapolis Colts in the playoffs and knocked off the Steelers in Pittsburgh in the AFC championship.

"When you play this game, somebody has to be an underdog. At times, the underdogs are the ones that shock you," quarterback Donovan McNabb said. "It's an exciting time for us. We're going to go out there and do our job and have fun."

Plenty of underdogs have won the Super Bowl, including the Patriots. New England was nearly a two-touchdown underdog against St. Louis when it won its first championship three years ago.

The point spread makes little difference to the Eagles.

"I don't think you need to use that as motivation in a game as big as the Super Bowl," Fraley said. "People aren't expecting us to win this game, so I guess you could use being a seven-point underdog as motivation, but it's the biggest game of the year and it's what you play for all year so that's motivation enough."

While the Eagles insist they're not overwhelmed by the magnitude of this game, they certainly acted as if they haven't been here before.

On the flight down, players captured each other's every move with camcorders, making sure to savor their trip. The Patriots were more businesslike, hardly flinching at the sight of all those cameras and microphones.

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<p><b>HOME IMPROVEMENT</b> <b>Home Works</b> Full Service Building Contractor New • Remodel • Additions • Repair Residential • Commercial Please Call For A Free Estimate Jimmy Hopper • 432-517-6658 Affordable Quality With Attention to Detail</p>	<p><b>LAWN SERVICE</b> <b>MOWING • WEED EATING TILLING • TRASH HAULING TREE TRIMMING</b> CALL 432-267-5460 LEAVE MESSAGE 816-6150</p>	<p><b>RENTALS</b> <b>VENTURA COMPANY</b> 432-267-2655 Houses • Duplexes 1, 2, 3 Bedrooms For rent/sale 709 E. 12TH 802 E. 12TH 1204 BENTON 1102 E. 5TH</p>	<p><b>ROOFING</b> <b>PALACIOS ROOFING &amp; HOME IMPROVEMENT</b> Roofs, Room Additions, Ceramic Tile, Fences, Painting Insured &amp; Bonded Home Phone# 432-263-5430 Cell# 432-213-0363</p>	<p><b>ROOFING</b> <b>JOHNNY FLORES ROOFING</b> Shingles, Hot Tar &amp; Gravel. All type of repairs! Work Guaranteed. Specializing in Hot Tar Roofs and Doctor of Repairs! Free Estimates!! Big Spring &amp; Surrounding Areas. 267-1110</p>	<p><b>TREE TRIMMING</b> <b>LUPE'S TREE TRIMMING</b> More than 20 years of experience. Stump grinder available. For Tree Trimming and removal. Call Lupe 432-267-8317 432-268-6406</p>
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**Retail Sales Representative**  
Big Spring, Tx.  
\$40,000-plus Yearly Earning Potential

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Most Utilities Paid,  
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1 or 2 Baths  
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263-5000

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1400 Sycamore- 3/1 bath. \$475. month \$250. deposit 407 1/2 East 8th- 1/1 bath. \$275. month \$150. deposit Both have CH/A. Call (432)267-2296.

1407-1/2 SETTLES. Clean two bedroom, fenced yard. Stove & refrigerator furnished. \$225.00 month, \$150.00 deposit. Call (432)267-1543.

2604 ENT. 3 Bedroom 2 bath, New paint/ carpet. References. \$400. month, \$250. deposit. HUD accepted. Call (432)267-7449.

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Possible 4 bedrooms, 2 bath Stove & Refrigerator furnished Washer/ Dryer connections Fenced backyard  
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Leave message.

**900 SCURRY.** 3/1 Apartment. CH/A, washer, dryer hookups. Appliances furnished. \$386.00 month, \$200.00 deposit. No HUD. Call (432)213-2681

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Month of February  
Move in for  
\$199.00 or \$299.00.

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Near SWCID, Scanic Mt. & Cornell Facilities  
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**20 ACRES** on Hwy 176. Set up for Doublewide. 45K, \$6,500.00 Down, assume \$270.00 monthly @ 7.4% for 30 years. No Credit Check. Call (817)312-6322.

**4 BEDROOM,** 3 bath house on 40 acres for Sale, w/barn and work shop, in Coahoma School District. \$224,000.00 For appointment call (432)263-0658 or 816-9565.

**FOR SALE:** Good 4 bedroom, 2 bath- Near College-\$5000.00. 4 Bedroom, 2 bath- Older- \$3000.00. 2 Bedroom- Brick- \$3000.00. 1 Bedroom- Cheap. Call (432)264-0510.

**NO DOWN** Payment on 2 thru 6 Bedroom Brick Homes. Owner Financing. Bad Credit OK. We can adjust your monthly payments to fit your Budget. Call Maria (432)263-3461.

**RENT TO OWN.** 4 Bedroom, 1 bath. Washer and Dryer Connection with fenced yard. 1516 Wood. \$1500. down, \$289. month. Call (432)264-6611.

**USE YOUR TAX REFUND.** 2405 Main Street. 2/1.5/1 New carpet and plumbing. Newly remodeled bath. CH/A. \$1400.00 Down, \$321.00 month for 30 years. FHA. Owner pays closing. Call (432)264-7969.

**BUY-SELL-TRADE**  
In the  
Big Spring Herald Classifieds  
263-7331

Tomorrow's Horoscope

**BY HOLIDAY** MATHIS Jupiter in Libra (since Sept. 24) has been fabulously lucky for partnerships of all kinds, but that luck takes on a different tone now, as Big Daddy Jupiter stations to prepare for a retrograde transit. Partnerships have more to offer than you thought. A keen awareness will reveal where you should mine for more relationship gold.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19). A creative project brings you immense joy and possibly a good deal of money, too! Stand back and admire your own handiwork. Luck is with you if you're looking for love - an encounter with your soul mate is very possible.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). A situation involving a parent is amicably resolved to your satisfaction. This is particularly true of matters pertaining to elderly care. You're in the right place at the right time. Home provides much-needed peace and solace.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). You're invigorated, charged up and ready to tackle whatever comes your way! People in your neighborhood seem especially attracted to your charisma. Even your most sullen sibling looks favorably upon you.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22). Watch for money in your mailbox. A financial situation that's been in the works for weeks - possibly months - is likely to wrap up, and your efforts could bear golden fruit! It's best to remain humble and keep that hungry attitude.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). A huge personal breakthrough is on the agenda for you, lucky lion! This marks the culmination of one phase of your life and the beginning of a whole new and glorious adventure. Whatever you do today has major staying power.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Something that's been buried in your subconscious may rise to the surface and poke you between the eyes, forcing you out of your comfort zone. It could be the answer to a question you've been puzzling over. Pay attention.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You feel like partying! Whether you're the host or the guest, you're sure to benefit from socializing with friends and likeminded individuals. A trip across town or across the globe brings you insights into a moral dilemma.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). A career matter reaches its grand finale, bringing with it potential for profit. From this point on, you may be playing in a whole different ball league, one in which you're calling all the shots! A confident Aquarius is favored for love.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). There's a lull in the action. Use this opportunity to search your soul. Re-evaluate your priorities and your values to make sure they're not outdated. Take the time to adjust as necessary.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You're in prime position to take advantage of other people's money. Someone with deep pockets could very well offer to fund your pet project. Be sure to buy a lottery ticket or two. You can't win unless you play.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Marriage is in the air. If you're in a committed relationship, your beloved could pop the question or accept your proposal! If single, you could meet your future spouse. A business partner makes a significant and enticing offer.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20). Those long hours you've been keeping and the stress you've been under do not a happy body make. Slow down the pace. Take a hot bath. Rest up. An ounce of prevention now will save you from illness later.

**CELEBRITY PROFILES:** Minnie Driver is back with a new CD, "Everything I've Got in My Pocket" - and she wrote almost all of the music, too! She also appears in the movie version of "Phantom of the Opera" as the diva Carlotta. New friendships are all around her now, as her career makes a big change. Aquarius people make fast friends and must carefully prioritize, or social doings take over their lives!  
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**'04 Freestar Vans**  
**\$6000 Available**  
**Rebates**  
**Bob Brock Ford**  
500 W. 11th 267-7121  
**2001 HONDA** Odyssey, Certified used car. Under warranty. New brakes. \$15,900.00. Call (432)354-2680.  
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OWNER FINANCING  
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2-3-4-5 & 6 Bedroom Brick Homes  
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Lead Field Tech responsible for all aspects of design, installation and maintenance of field automation equipment. Strong knowledge of PLC programming, installation and troubleshooting end devices, radios, pneumatic instrumentation, and installation and maintenance of production equipment required. Please send resume to: [atech@umcautomation.com](mailto:atech@umcautomation.com)

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Prepare quotations, estimate material and labor cost, and delivery time for Vapor Recovery Units and Compressor Packages. Calculate compressor and horsepower requirements for each project based on customer specifications. Supervise drafting department and oversee design of mechanical, electrical, and structural design of various types of compressor packages. Prepare Bills of materials for purchasing and fabrication. Work with customers and engineers to insure proper design and fabrication of equipment. Please send resume to: [appeng@umcautomation.com](mailto:appeng@umcautomation.com)

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Lamesa, Texas

TUESDAY

	WFAA	KMID	UNI	KPEJ	KOSA	KTLE	KWES	WTBS	KMLM	KOCV	DISC	AMC	SPIKE	TNT	BET	DISN	ESPN2	ESPN	SCIFI
	Dallas	Midland	Spanish	Odessa	Odessa	Telemundo	Midland	Atlanta	Odessa	Odessa	Discovery	Classics	Spike TV	Atlanta	Black Ent.	Disney	Sports	Sports	Science Fic.
6 PM	News (CC)	News Wheel	La Mujer de Madera	Malcolm-Mid Raymond	News Ent. Tonight	Anita No Te Rajas	News Beinfeld (CC)	Raymond Raymond	Booker John Haggas	News-Lahrer	American Chopper	Classics	C&I: Crime Scene	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Live BET Style	That's Raven That's Raven	NFL Live Basketball	College Basketball	Movie: Waterworld
7 PM	My Wife-Kids George	My Wife-Kids George	Rubi	American Idol	NCIS (CC)	La Mujer en el	Moments in Live TV	Friends (CC)	Updates/Israel Biblical Israel	News (CC) (DVS)	Pomplii: The Last Day	Movie: Death Wish II	C&I: Crime Scene	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	The Parkers	The Color of Friendship	College Basketball	Illinois at Michigan	
8 PM	Accord- Jim	Accord- Jim	Amor Real	House (CC)	The Amazing Race 6 (CC)	Gitanas	Scrubs (CC)	Sex and-City	Light of the Southwest	Frontline (CC)	Movie: Death Wish 3	Movie: Death Wish 3	Movie: Deuces	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Soul Food (CC)	Proud Family	Florida at Miss	Winter X-Games (CC)	
9 PM	NYPD Blue (CC)	NYPD Blue (CC)	Jugando al Amor	Malcolm in the	Judging Amy (CC)	To Vey a Ensenar a	Law & Order: SVU	Divine	:15 Movie: Sisterhood	Independent Lens (CC)	Biker Build-Off	Movie: The Last Day	Movie: The Last Day	Movie: MXC	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Highly News BET Style	Sister, Sister Even Stevens	NBA Nation (CC)	
10 PM	News (CC) Nightline	News (CC) Nightline	Primer Impacto	7th Show Raymond	News Late Show	Noticias Launa	News Tonight	Of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood	The Hour of Healing	Charlie Rose (CC)	Pomplii: The Last Day	Movie: Wildcat	Movie: Wildcat	Movie: The X-Files (CC)	Highly News BET Style	That's Raven That's Raven	Gamenight NBA	Rome-Burning	Shining (CC)
11 PM	Ent. Tonight Jimmy	Ent. Tonight Jimmy	La Hora Darbez	Becker (CC)	Becker (CC)	Let'sman Late Late	Al Rojo Vivo	Late Night	:45 Movie: Rabbil	Sign Off	Movie: Biker Build-Off	Movie: Biker Build-Off	Movie: Blind Date Shipmates	Movie: The X-Files (CC)	Club Comic View	Boy World Lizzie	NFL Live NBA	SportsCenter (CC)	The Twilight Zone (CC)
12 AM	Live (CC) News (CC)	Live (CC) News (CC)	Alma Rebelde	Spin City (Dharma-Greg)	Show The Insider	María Celeste Caso Cervada	Conan O'Brien	Three Men and	Updates/Israel Biblical Israel										

DENNIS THE MENACE



"JOEY GOT HIT BY 'FRIENDLY FIRE'. I WAS AIMING AT MARGARET."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"At what point does the new year get old?"

HAGAR



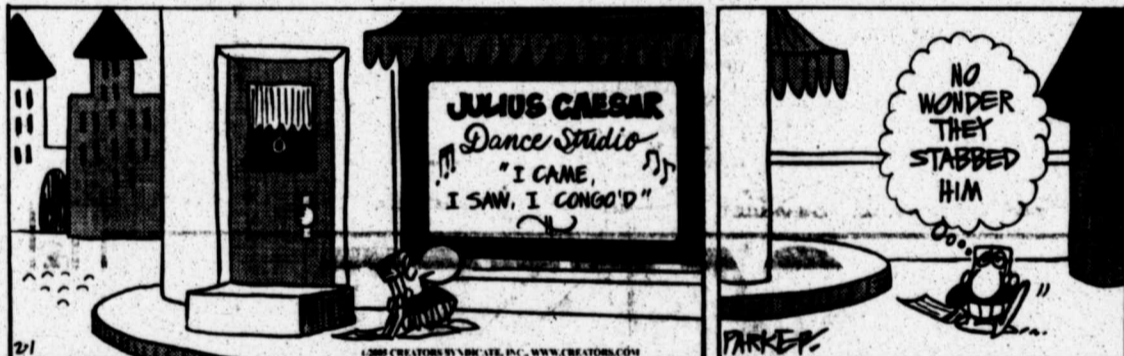
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HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

By The Associated Press

Today is Tuesday, Feb. 1, the 32nd day of 2005. There are 333 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 1, 2003, the space shuttle Columbia broke up during re-entry, killing all seven of its crew members: commander Rick Husband; pilot William McCool; payload commander Michael Anderson; engineer Kalpana Chawla; David Brown; Laurel Clark; and Ilan Ramon, the first Israeli in space.

On this date:

In 1861, Texas voted to secede from the Union.

In 1893, inventor Thomas A. Edison completed work on the world's first motion picture studio, his "Black Maria," in West Orange, N.J.

In 1920, the Royal

Canadian Mounted Police came into existence.

In 1943, one of America's most highly decorated military units of World War II, the 442nd Central Postal Directory, was authorized.

In 1946, Norwegian statesman Trygve Lie was chosen to be the first secretary-general of the United Nations.

In 1960, four black college students began a sit-in protest at a lunch counter in Greensboro, N.C., where they'd been refused service.

In 1968, during the Vietnam War, Saigon's police chief (Nguyen Ngoc Loan) executed a Viet Cong officer with a pistol shot to the head in a scene captured in a famous news photograph.

In 1979, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini received a tumultuous welcome in Tehran as he ended nearly 15 years of exile.

In 1979, newspaper heiress Patricia Hearst, whose prison sentence for bank robbery had been commuted by President

Carter, left a federal prison near San Francisco.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Stuart Whitman is 77. Former Russian President Boris N. Yeltsin is 74. Singer Don Everly is 68. Actor Garrett Morris is 68. Singer Ray Sawyer (Dr. Hook and the Medicine Show) is 68. Actor Sherman Helmsley is 67. Bluegrass singer Del McCoury is 66. Jazz musician Joe Sample is 66. Comedian Terry Jones is 63. Actor-writer-producer Bill Mummy is 51. Rock musician Mike Campbell (Tom Petty & the Heartbreakers) is 51. Rock singer Exene Cervenka is 49.

Answer to previous puzzle

LOTS	MELAS	HOOT
EARP	OPINE	URGE
ASTA	TINGE	MARE
DISC	JOCKEY	ALLES
SHEAR	RAIN	
MEAL	GRIDS	
RASH	DRAW	BLAVES
ELLIS	LIKE	SCAMT
AMIGO	DEMT	LENDP
PATHS	STOP	
HOCK	DOTS	
BILLO	SOUNDTRACK	
ODOR	GAMAL	IRAN
ROSE	ALIVE	MOLE
ELSE	RATER	GYEW

Newsday Crossword

BEASTLY BUNCHES by Shirley Soloway

- Edited by Stanley Newman  
www.stanxwords.com
- ACROSS**
- 1 Letter between phi and psi
  - 4 School grps.
  - 8 Canvas cover
  - 12 Fictional Finn
  - 14 Jeansmaker Strauss
  - 15 Salad veggie
  - 17 Exile isle
  - 18 Iowa city
  - 19 AM/FM device
  - 20 Clan self-respect
  - 23 Linguistic suffix
  - 24 Jimmy of The West Wing
  - 25 Shoe parts
  - 27 Not in school
  - 30 Got up
  - 31 Computer shortcut
  - 32 Climbing plant
  - 34 Weaponry
  - 37 German "I"
  - 38 Green Bay footballers
  - 41 Batman and Robin, e.g.
  - 42 Opportunity, slangily
  - 44 Comic Carey
  - 45 Some harness races
  - 47 Desert spots
  - 49 Taken care of
  - 50 Pacific Ocean discoverer
  - 52 Extended an invitation to
  - 54 Pirate's quaff
  - 55 Form a crowd
  - 60 Adjust to a situation
  - 62 Keep (persist)
  - 63 Fencing blade

- DOWN**
- 1 Food Network figure
  - 2 Luau dance
  - 3 Military weapon: Abbr.
  - 4 Again, Sam
  - 5 Entice
  - 6 States as fact
  - 7 Strong Spanish assent
  - 8 Matador
  - 9 Santa CA
  - 10 Supervise closely
  - 11 Self-assurance
  - 13 German emperor of old
  - 16 Votes against
  - 21 Pre-Q queue
  - 22 One with nerve
  - 26 Civil War side: Abbr.
  - 27 French friends and Brahms
  - 28 Beethoven
  - 29 Frontier teacher
  - 30 From the top
  - 32 TV attachments
  - 33 Adlai's opponent
  - 35 Mongrel
  - 36 Not very good
  - 39 Let's Make (game-show oldie)
  - 40 Take the helm
  - 43 Bar bill
  - 46 Makes over
  - 48 Less harsh
  - 49 Takes to the ice
  - 50 Thin nail
  - 51 Video partner
  - 52 Intermission follower
  - 53 "Mini" or "maxi" clothing
  - 56 Witness' affirmation
  - 57 Second word in a fairy tale
  - 58 Nautilus captain
  - 59 Proof of ownership
  - 61 Tiger Woods' org.

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Especially for kids and their families  
**The Mini Page**

By BETTY DEBNAM

Animal Pairs in the Wild

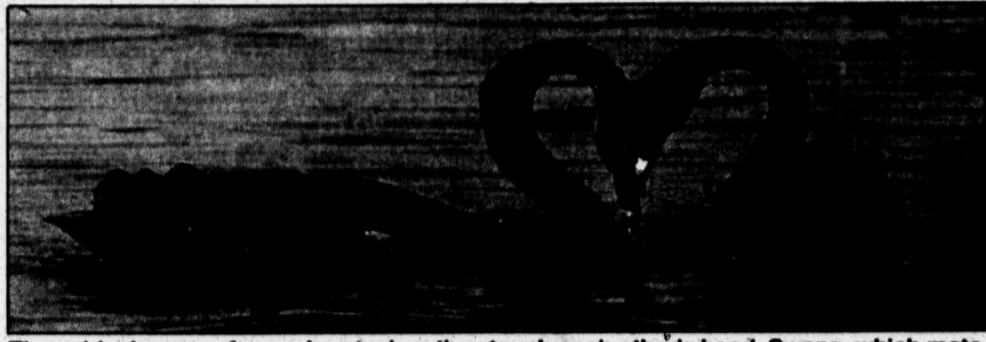
**Mates for Life**

In celebration of Valentine's Day, this Mini Page is about some animal couples that mate for life. While most animals do not have lifelong mates, some do. Many of the animals that pair up for life do not need large groups to help protect their young. These animals, such as wolves, might stay in a small group, a kind of extended family. Most of these adult animals have few predators. Their only major enemies are humans.



**Trumpeter swans**

Trumpeter swans usually build their nests in wetlands in the northern part of North America. Alaska is one of their main breeding areas. They are such large birds that they need a lot of food and space. A pair will claim one pond or marsh for their family and chase all other swans away.



These black swans form a heart when they touch each other's head. Swans, which mate for life, are often seen as symbols of true love.

**Nesting**

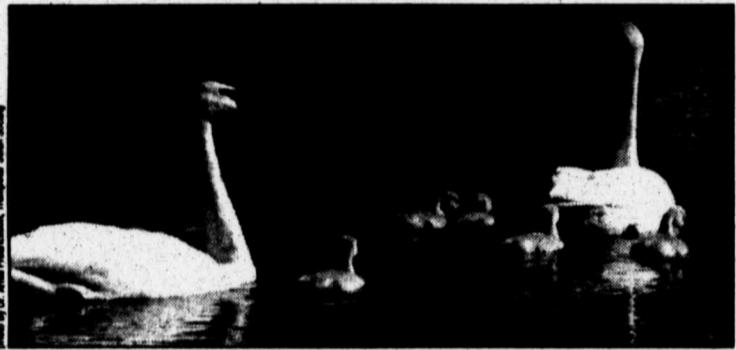
Adult swans are very strong, with powerful wings. Adult swans have even chased away grizzly bears. The female sits on the eggs, while the male patrols the area, protecting his family.



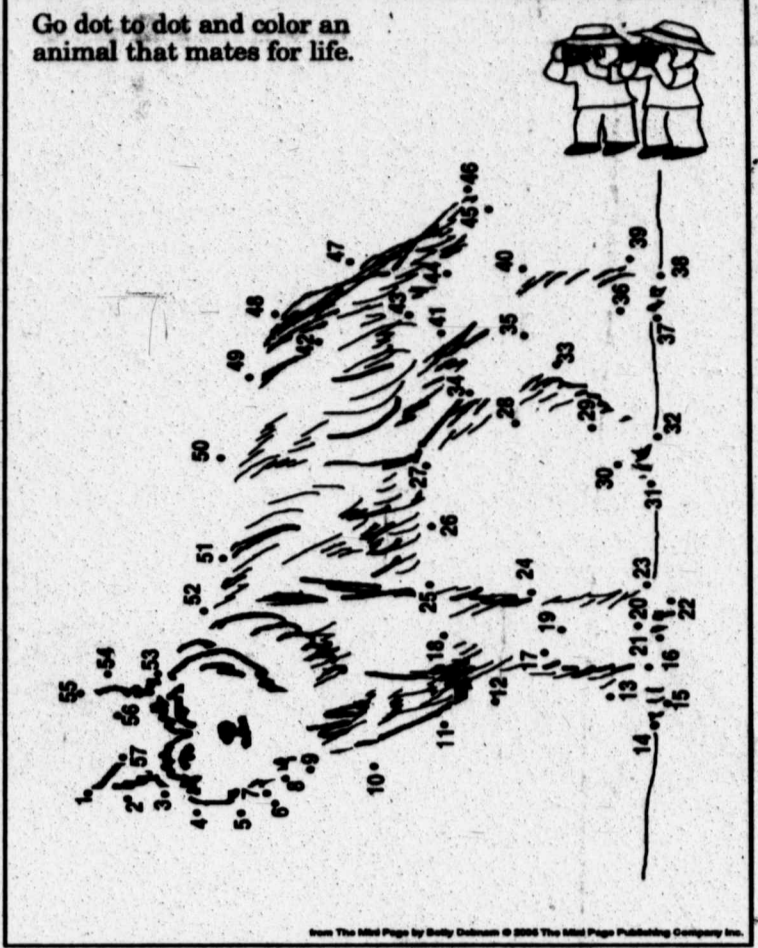
**Leaving the nest**

The young usually hatch in late May or early June. A young swan is called a cygnet (SIG-net). The next March, when the cygnets are about 9 months old, the parents chase them away and start getting ready for their new brood. The 9-month-old swans then leave their parents' territory and hang out with other young birds. When they are about 3 years old, they start pairing up. By the time they are about 4 years old, swans start nesting and having their own broods. They can live into their 20s, staying together with the same partner the whole time. If a swan dies, the surviving mate usually finds a new partner.

The Mini Page thanks Madeleine Linck, The Trumpeter Swan Society, for help with this story.



This trumpeter swan pair swim with their cygnets. During the warm months, families stay together and away from other swans. They are very territorial. The cygnets stay with their parents through the first winter, migrating south with them. In the winter, swans come together in flocks.



**Rookie Cookie's Recipe**  
**Microwave Croutons**

You'll need:

- 2 tablespoons butter
- 1/2 teaspoon parsley flakes
- 1/8 teaspoon paprika
- 1/8 teaspoon garlic salt
- 1/8 teaspoon pepper
- 2 slices bread, cut in 1/2-inch cubes

What to do:

- Put butter in a medium baking dish.
- In a microwave oven, cook butter on high for about 25 seconds until melted.
- Stir in the parsley, paprika, garlic salt and pepper. Then add the bread.
- Stir until bread cubes are coated.
- Microwave uncovered for 3 minutes until bread is golden and crisp.
- Sprinkle over a tossed salad. Makes 2 servings.

Note: Stir the cubes once every minute.

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**Goodsport's Report**  
Supersports: Alex Bogomolov Jr. & Ashley Harkleroad

Birthdate: 4-23-83 Birthdate: 5-2-85  
Residence for both: Miami

In tennis lingo, a zero score is referred to as "love." But for professional players Alex Bogomolov and Ashley Harkleroad, the word has another definition. They found true love and got married in December. Bogomolov, a native of Russia and son of a teaching pro, is a budding star on the men's tour. Since turning pro in 2001, his world ranking has improved from 705 to about 100. And he has climbed to No. 10 in the United States. "Bogie" moved to Miami with his family in 1992 and won two national juniors titles in the 16- and 18-age divisions before joining the pro circuit. With her great baseline game, Ashley, from Rossville, Ga., once held a top-50 ranking. Alex and Ashley were a couple on the court when they played mixed doubles in 2003.

**Meet Pleasant Rowland**

Pleasant Rowland is the creator of American Girl®, a company that makes dolls, costumes and books based on history. Pleasant graduated from Wells College in New York in 1962. She has been a schoolteacher, TV news reporter and anchor, and the vice president of an educational research company. She has also written several books. She started The American Girls Collection® in 1985 after a trip to Colonial Williamsburg. The first store, American Girl Place®, opened in Chicago in 1998. She is also the publisher of American Girl® magazine. Pleasant has received many awards. In 1990 she was noted as one of the 12 outstanding entrepreneurs in the nation by the Institute of American Entrepreneurs. Pleasant enjoys interior design, reading and creative writing. She has given much of her time and money to children's charities. She and her husband currently live in Madison, Wis.

**MIGHTY FUNNY'S Mini Jokes**  
All the following jokes have something in common. Can you guess the common theme or category?

Glenn: Why are playing cards like wolves?  
Oscar: Because they come in packs!

Allison: Did you hear the joke about the wolf?  
Judy: Yes, and it made me howl!

Duncan: What do you call a bad dream in which a wolf attacks you?  
Leona: A bite-mare!

**More Animal Pairs**

**Gray wolves**

Each February the alpha male and alpha female begin courting each other again. They stay close to each other, rub each other's head and grab each other's snout.

**Bald eagles**

This pair, Liberty and Justice, live at the American Eagle Foundation's Eagle Mountain Sanctuary in Pigeon Forge, Tenn.

**Gibbons**

This female (left) and male are Gabriela's crested gibbons. Gibbons live high in the treetops in jungles of Asia.

**Leaders of the pack**

Wolves live in groups, or packs, that usually have between five and 15 members. One wolf couple rules the pack. This couple is made up of the most powerful wolves. Scientists call the pack leaders the alpha male and the alpha female. The alpha male and female usually stay together for life. Once in a while, a lower-ranking wolf may challenge one of the alphas. If the lower-ranking wolf wins, he or she becomes the alpha. The alpha wolves are usually the only wolves in the pack that have young. They prevent the lower-ranking wolves from mating.

**The search**

Young bald eagles leave their nests for good when they are about 3 or 4 months old. They then roam all over America, exploring for years until they are ready to settle down. When bald eagles are about 4 or 5 years old, the feathers on their heads and tails turn white. This is a sign they are ready to mate. During their travels, two young eagles eventually find each other. One will bring its new mate back to the place it first learned to fly. Sometimes the male goes to the female's home territory, and sometimes the female goes to the male's home territory.

**Finding a mate**

As young gibbons grow up, they begin to explore farther and farther from their parents' territory. They meet other young gibbons. When a gibbon is about 4 or 5 years old, it is ready to find a mate. The female chooses her mate from the males courting her. She may even help her chosen mate fight off the other males. Once a male and female gibbon choose each other, they stay together as long as they are both alive. They may live until they are in their 20s.

**Caring for pups**

The mother wolf stays with the newborn pups in the den, keeping them warm. All members of the pack help care for the young. When they are between 1 and 3 years old, young wolves that want to have their own pups leave the pack and seek out their own territory.

**Caring for the young**

Both the male and female help build the nest. Each year they will add on to their home. After several years, the eagle pair's nest may weigh up to 2 tons. Both parents take turns sitting on the eggs. After the eaglets hatch, both the male and female help feed and protect them.

**Hiding in the jungle**

Gibbons can disappear into the thick jungle if they sense danger. The jungle hides them from other gibbons, too. They have a loud call that can be heard through the trees. Gibbons are the smallest members of the ape family.

The Mini Page thanks Al Louis Cecere, president, American Eagle Foundation, for help with this story.  
Sites to see: www.trumpeterswansociety.org; www.wolf.org; www.sandiegozoo.org

The Mini Page thanks Karen Kilmer, associate curator of mammals, San Diego Zoo, for help with this story.  
Next week, The Mini Page is all about Abraham Lincoln.

**Animal Pairs TRY 'N FIND**

Words and names that remind us of animal pairs are hidden in the block below. Some words are hidden backward or diagonally. See if you can find: WILD, VALENTINES, LIFE, PACK, YOUNG, PROTECT, PREDATORS, SWANS, NESTS, PUP, WETLANDS, EGG, CYGNET, WOLVES, EAGLES, GIBBONS, MALE, FEMALE, TERRITORY, JUNGLE, PARENTS.

HAVE YOU SEEN AN ANIMAL PAIR?

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

**Mini Spy ...**

Mini Spy and Basset Brown are looking at wolf tracks in the snow. See if you can find: • man in the moon • question mark

- dog
- umbrella
- cardinal
- cat
- sailboat
- safety pin
- funny face
- frog • star
- flower
- bird • fish
- word MINI
- shark
- peanut
- heart

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Jane Armstrong