

**BIG  
SPRING**

# HERALD

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Big Sky — Big Heart — Big Spring

50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 WEEKEND

**MONDAY**

February 14, 2005

## WEATHER

**Tonight:**



**TONIGHT** 44°-46° **TOMORROW** 76°-78°

## INSIDE



## Happy Valentines!

To help you find a V-day date, we've come up with 52 pickup lines. Good ones. Or at least decent ones. All right, most of them are just kinda OK. You try and come up with 52 pickup lines. Heck, you can't come up with even one, which is why you're reading this.

Page 5A

## BRIEFLY

### Symphony set to perform here

The Big Spring Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Dr. Keith Graumann, presents, "An Encore Performance" at 8 p.m. Feb. 26 in the Municipal Auditorium.

Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors and \$5 for students. Tickets may be purchased at the *Big Spring Herald*, Blum's Jewelers, the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, Faye's Flowers, First Bank of West Texas, Heritage Museum, the symphony office, 808 Scurry or at the door.

For more information, visit the Web site, [www.bigspringsymphony.com](http://www.bigspringsymphony.com)

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

## Eagles to hold benefit for VMC on Saturday

By JOHN A. MOSELEY

Managing Editor

It's time to begin making plans for the weekend, according to members of Big Spring's Fraternal Order of the Eagles Aerie No. 3188, who have scheduled a stew supper and dance for Saturday to benefit Big Spring Vietnam Memorial Committee.

The Eagles Lodge will be serving stew, corn bread, tea or coffee and dessert from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday. Tickets for the meal will be \$6 per plate for

*"The fact that the Eagles are wanting to hold this fund-raiser ... 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."*



WILSON

adults and \$3 for children under the age of 12.

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 Eagles' fund-raising project has members of the Big Spring Vietnam Memorial Committee expressing considerable gratitude.

See **BENEFIT**, Page 3A

## JUST HOLDING ON



Patty Blakeney has a hard time staying atop her ride during the Coahoma PTA-sponsored donkey basketball game Saturday night at the Coahoma High School Gymnasium.

## Midland woman's Westminster entry has members of Kennel Club excited

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

It stands to reason that members of the Big Spring Kennel Club would watch the annual Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show, which has become something of a cult favorite for television viewers.

This year, however, BSKC members will have a rooting interest in the proceedings.

Club member June Moore, of Midland, will represent the BSKC at the nation's premier dog show today in New York,

when she and Nikki, her Schipperke, compete in the non-sporting division. Needless to say, the president of the local kennel club is ecstatic at this development.

"To my knowledge, this is the first time a Big Spring Kennel Club member has qualified a dog for the show," said Trellis Lucas, who herself raises and shows Schipperkes.

"The Westminster Kennel Club dog show is like the Super Bowl of dog shows," she added. "It's a very, very big deal ... Everybody is really wound up about it."

Judging in the Schipperke division was expected to be held today at noon in Madison Square Garden.

The WKC show, which proclaims itself "America's Dog Show," is this country's first and only champions-only event, and is limited to 2,500 entries. The most-represented breed is golden retriever, with 53 entries. Dachshunds, with three varieties, have 64 entrants.

All 165 breeds and varieties recognized by the American Kennel Club will be represented at the

show. Three newly-recognized breeds will be competing for the first time at Westminster: Neapolitan Mastiffs, Black Russian Terriers, and Glen of Imaal Terriers.

There are also 81 entries in Junior Showmanship, where young handlers age 10-18 compete based only on their handling abilities.

USA Network will have live coverage of the AKC show tonight from 7-10 p.m., with a repeat of Monday's telecast broadcast from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday.

## Auto thieves' favorite target remains a truck

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

A vehicle is stolen every five seconds in Texas, and the type of vehicles being snagged just might surprise some people.

The favorite target for car thieves in Texas isn't a car at all.

"Pickups are not only popular among Texas drivers, they are also the top targets for Texas vehicle thieves," said Michelle Lanham, program manager for the Texas Automobile Theft Prevention Authority. "As has been the case for several years, the Chevrolet pickup holds the No. 1 stolen vehicle position.

"Coming in a close second is the Ford pickup. In the third position the Dodge pickup also remains a popular target for Texas thieves. Honda's Accord

### 2004 Texas Top 10 Stolen Vehicles

1. Chevrolet Pickup
2. Ford Pickup
3. Dodge Pickup
4. Honda Accord
5. Honda Civic
6. GMC Pickup
7. Toyota Camry
8. Ford Taurus
9. Chevrolet Tahoe
10. Oldsmobile Cutlass

and Civic models round out the top five stolen vehicles."

"Think your car or pickup is safe because it's several years old? Lanham said think again.

"Vehicles are stolen for a variety of reasons, and contrary to popular belief, the most stolen vehicles are several years old,"

said Lanham. "Some are stolen and stripped for parts. Others are stolen and resold by the thief to another party. Many vehicles are stolen for joyriding, for use in committing other crimes, to support drug habits or to perpetrate insurance fraud. And vehicle theft costs Texans more money than any other crime — over \$782 million in 2003."

Movies such as "Gone In 60 Seconds" have painted a highly organized picture of vehicle thefts, but according to Big Spring Police Public Information Officer Sgt. Tony Everett, crimes in this area tend to follow a different logic.

"Our area isn't exactly a hotbed for car theft rings or chop shops," said Everett. "Most of the vehicle thefts in this area are of an opportunistic nature. You

have some fellow walking down the street, sees a car or truck and is just tired of walking. They're going to take whatever is around instead of looking for one particular make or model.

"Some of the car rings I've heard of actually take orders," he added. "They will actually go out and look for that make or model — even that color — of a particular vehicle."

"Most of the situations we see here are joy rides," said Howard County Sheriff Dale Walker. "It's incredibly rare that we have a car simply disappear. You don't see the chop-shop type of thefts like you do in some of the major cities. We see approximately three to four cases of unauthorized use of a vehicle each year,

See **THEFT**, Page 3A

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# 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  
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John A. Moseley  
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan  
News Editor

## OUR VIEWS

### Hospitalized vets deserve attention from all this week

Today marks the start of several events the Big Spring VA Medical Center will be staging to honor hospitalized veterans during its observance of National Salute to Hospitalized Veterans Week. The observance began today with Howard College athletes and cheerleaders visiting the hospital and delivering Valentine's Day cards and candy to patients. Local musician Jody Nix also visited patients, as did Dimples the Clown. A variety of events are planned through Saturday, however. On Wednesday, Coahoma High School students will prepare ice cream sundaes for the patients. And on Thursday, hospital staffers will cook a pancake breakfast. On Friday, a group of veterans will be taken on a day trip to Odessa to visit the Presidential Museum, and that evening, Lindsey Rogers, a singer-songwriter from Spur, will perform at 6. Director Lou Ann Atkins is encouraging people of all ages to take part in saluting the veterans that are currently hospitalized.

We wholeheartedly agree. All of us should schedule some time this week to let these hospitalized veterans know they are not forgotten. Remember, in serving in the United States' armed forces, each of these veterans played a role in defending our nation — and in the process, all of us. To our way of thinking, they deserve more than lip service. Indeed, they have earned a more tangible expression of our appreciation and gratitude.

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# Untying the knot for Catholics

Last week, the Vatican released 111 pages of new guidelines on how the Roman Catholic Church's tribunals should handle the annulment of marriages. Pope John Paul II already had let it be known he was unhappy with the spike in Catholic annulments, especially in America. In 1968, U.S. churches granted 338 annulments. By 2002, the number had swelled to close to 30,000. In America, the annulment has become so common that it is known as "Catholic divorce."



DEBRA SAUNDERS

My tip for the pope: Instead of 111 pages, try this simple sentence. Stop granting annulments to help cads remarry. The Catholic approach to divorce is clear: Divorce is a no-no; a union recognized by God cannot be broken. So Catholics who divorce and then remarry without a church annulment cannot take Communion — unless they vow not to have sex with their new spouses. They aren't allowed to take Communion because they plan on committing the sin of adultery, while mass murderers or pedophiles can still partake. No surprise, the church was losing parishioners because its criteria for annulment were so strict — for example, a spouse had to cite biological impediments or a spouse's failure to disclose a previous marriage — that few Catholics could remarry within the church. Then, around 1977, according to William Donohoe, president of the Catholic League for Religious and Civil Rights, the church added "the input of the behavioral sciences in a way it never had done." Then, it was Katie, bar the door. Catholics then were able to argue that one or both spouses were psychologically unprepared for the sacrament of matrimony. If

the church asked, "Would God have ordained this marriage?" and the answer was no, the church could nullify the marriage. It didn't matter how many children a marriage produced or how many years it lasted. To the church, it was as if the marriage never existed. Worse, the church has granted annulments to people who, in its view, never marry in good faith. It's like a free pass for womanizers. As someone who covers politics, I've seen the bad apples. Sheila Rauch Kennedy fought her ex-husband, former Rep. Joe Kennedy, D-Mass., when he sought an annulment because she didn't want to tell her children that they were not the product of a sanctified marriage. As she wrote in her 1997 book, "Shattered Faith," the church made many women "believe that their whole lives were in being wives and mothers," but when "their marriages fall apart, the church tells them they were never really married in the first place." Joe Kennedy won his annulment. The ex-wife of Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass., fought his bid for an annulment for the same reasons. Kerry won. On the right of the political spectrum, former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani won an annulment because his first wife was his second cousin. Now, he's married to wife No. 3. In 2002, two Republicans running for governor in California, Bill Simon and Richard Riordan, were annulment veterans. Riordan was especially embarrassing for the church. After Riordan's 23-year marriage to his first wife (mother of his five children) was annulled, he first married his second wife within the church and then moved on to a third wife outside the church. Cynics wondered if Riordan's role in procuring a helicopter for Cardinal Roger Mahoney was a factor.

Since the church won't announce annulments, the press has to engage in what is known as "wafer watch" — if a divorced Catholic politician takes Communion, that should mean he won his annulment. So the press determined Ted Kennedy's first marriage was annulled. Ditto San Jose Mayor Ron Gonzales — whose marriage to his third wife led the San Jose Mercury News to speculate that he had won an annulment of his first marriage (the second marriage was outside the church) because a local monsignor officiated. I should note that you don't have to be well connected to win an annulment. According to the Vatican, 56,000 Catholics worldwide requested annulments in 2002, and 46,000 were granted. That said, it must be frustrating to be one of those 10,000 and know that you didn't make the cut, while Ted Kennedy, Rudy Giuliani and Dick Riordan did. "It angers most Catholics," noted Donohoe. "Clearly, they're angered in Rome." But the church can't just change its mind and recognize divorce. "They can't change the written word," Donohoe explained, "so they're looking for ways to justify allowing people to remarry again." But if the church cannot rewrite Scripture on marriage, its solution cannot be to rewrite history — to claim that marriages that were, were not. "I was being asked to lie in the name of religion" is how Rauch Kennedy put it — a fine definition for a rotten procedure. E-mail Debra J. Saunders at dsaunder@sfchronicle.com. To find out more about Debra J. Saunders, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com. © 2005 CREATORS SYNDICATE, INC.

# Finding good in Bush's budget

I feel snakebite about praising any proposal by George W. Bush. Every time I write a column saying, "Look, he's done something good!" he does something else that makes it either not so good or just plain bad. He welched on his deal with Ted Kennedy in the Lots of Children Left Behind Act, now underfunded by \$12 billion. And nobody has ever seen that \$15 billion he promised to fight AIDS in Africa. The hideous Medicare prescription drug benefit, perhaps the most obscenely deformed legislation I've ever seen written, in addition to being a mother lode for the drug companies now turns out not to cost the promised \$400 billion over 10 years but a whopping \$1.2 trillion. (For those of you who are fans of the Department of Great Big Numbers, the administration is now estimating there will be "offsets" to the prescription drug fiasco that will reduce the \$1.2 trillion to a mere \$720 billion. Remember when they tried to fire that whistleblower who said it would cost at least \$530 billion? And don't count on those offsets. These folks have remarkable imaginations — they're counting as certain revenue \$1 billion from oil drilling in ANWR (Arctic National Wildlife Refuge), something Congress has rejected for the last four years.) All that said, I did find a good idea in Bush's budget — putting a lower cap on farm subsidies. Three-fourths of federal crop subsidies go to the wealthiest 10 percent of agriculture businesses. This is not a red state-blue state issue. Two-thirds of American farms — those run by families and small operators — do not qualify for subsidies at all. For years, agribusiness has successfully hidden behind the sacred shield of



MOLLY IVINS

"the family farmer," who is still getting screwed. It's a monumental rip-off, made worse by a loophole that has allowed some huge agribusiness firms to collect millions of dollars a year by disguising themselves as several corporations. Farm conservation programs make much more sense and do benefit family farmers. And that said, what a sham, what a rotten, phony, fake document this 2006 budget is. In the first place, they're trying to fool you into thinking the deficit is less than it is by using a fake number from the previous year — an early deficit estimate set way high so they could claim the deficit had been "dramatically reduced." Last year's actual deficit was \$412 billion, the largest ever, and under Bush's budget this year, it will be \$427 billion. The actual deficit, with war spending included, would balloon to \$1.4 trillion by 2010 under this plan. In the second place, the budget contains none of the expenses for the war in Iraq or Bush's plan for Social Security, presumably in place by then. Third, the values reflected in this budget are deformed. The cuts take away from schools in need, child-care assistance, environmental programs (a whopping 10.4 percent cut there), students (he lied about Pell Grants), veterans, Medicaid, food stamps — basically the weakest and the poorest Americans. The money goes overwhelmingly to the richest Americans, who would get the permanent tax cuts, and to the Department of Defense, the monster. According to this budget, Defense gets a 4.8 percent increase, bad enough (again, this is without counting Iraq). But as William Saleton explains in an article on Slate.com, what Secretary Donald Rumsfeld has done is to hide at least \$40 billion in normal defense expenditures in the supplementary appropriation that will have to be passed for the war in Iraq.

When he asked if he was hiding regular spending in the emergency wartime bill, Rumsfeld said: "That would be wrong, and we wouldn't do that. It's all right out in the open." Whereupon the press laughed merrily. Saleton estimates it's a 10 percent increase, without Iraq. Others put it even higher. Ha, ha, ha. Hubert Humphrey said, "The moral test of government is how that government treats those who are in the dawn of life, the children; those who are in the twilight of life, the elderly; and those who are in the shadows of life — the sick, the needy, the handicapped." Bush seems to think they're all targets. I'm a great believer in put up or shut up, so here's where I'd get the money to pay for those programs. Don't make the tax cuts permanent — they do go disproportionately to the very richest people in this country, it's gross. And stop the two new tax cuts that go only to the very, very rich. Don't put another nickel, not to mention another \$9.7 billion, into that ridiculous boondoggle, Star Wars. Track down the \$8.8 billion the inspector general for Iraq reconstruction now says is effectively unaccounted for because of "severe inefficiencies and poor management." The scathing report also says lack of oversight opened the funds to corruption. Oh, and if Congress would like to retain the power of the purse, I suggest it look very closely at the fine print in this doozy. It proposes biennial budgeting and appropriations (of course, not in election years), automatic appropriations, a presidential veto on the joint budget resolution (Congress' planning document for appropriations) and much, much more. To find out more about Molly Ivins and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at www.creators.com. © 2005 CREATORS SYNDICATE, INC.

OK, so Valentine's has arrived we're too late to help. Go ahead and begin practicing next year. us. You ne

By MALCOLM M Knight Ridder Nev It's either die you or depressing the red heart on zon: Valentine's Now, if you've one in your whom you will sl 14, flip to the n this is not a story Matter of fact, y probably get yel your significant reading it. And for those up their noses those who sim Val Day was a day, this piece w no good.

This is a stor person — guys p but gals can join too — for Valentine's Day night of watchi dating shows an ing to th "Everyone else i up — why can't Maybe you ca we think and can. Some of us all, know what be alone, to n eral children at us, to not h mortgage, to n second of free hmmm, so w problem with b again? Anyway, to find a V-day d come up with lines. Good on least decent right, most of just kinda OK and come up wi up lines. Heck, come up with which is why y ing this. Good luck.

NICE GUYS F FIRST Maybe they v use one of the lines, most of w courtesy of si sultant Melissa former match author of the "Dating 101: T Cure for Roma 1. You get pre

Pork Sirlo Beef Chuc Beef Bött Beef New Iceberg L Sunny De Shurfine H Wesson C Kraft Assc Post Honc Peter Pan Coca-Cola

Ad G WE ACCEPT THE LONESTAR CARD, MASTERCARD, VISA AND DISCOVER



# Researcher says cancers and other illnesses stem from structures that provide cells energy

By MAYRAV SAAR

Orange County Register

SANTA ANA, Calif. — Doug Wallace's pants are too big. They're held up by suspenders that peek out from beneath his oversized jacket. His hair is too long, falling on top of his too-big glasses. He is not a large man, but his gestures are so grand, his charisma so great, he seems to fill the big space he's created.

What he's saying right now is pretty odd, pretty fringe. But Wallace is used to being fringe. He's made a career out of the fringe.

If he's right, Wallace could change the way we understand, prevent and treat cancer. His work has the potential to slow or stop Alzheimer's disease and Parkinson's.

If he's wrong, Wallace would have spent 30 years studying tiny structures at the outer edges of cells that do little more than serve as the catering service to the nucleus.

But he's pretty sure he's right.

"I think the world is on the wrong track," said Wallace, 58, a self-described missionary of mitochondrial DNA research.

The room full of scientists and students at UC San Diego consider him with genuine interest. But if this is Wallace's revival tent, it's not clear how many converts he has.

For nearly two hours, the UC Irvine professor tells the crowd that the genes inside a mitochondrion are the real predictors of disease, as opposed to the nuclear DNA that most researchers evaluate. Whether a person is predisposed to develop Alzheimer's disease or Parkinson's or other age-related ailments, as long as that mitochondria is healthy, we'll stay healthy.

Hands shoot up after his lecture. The assembled scientists and medical students at UCSD want to know the particulars about what the small man with the big ideas has been talking about.

Does mitochondrial damage accumulate in human eggs? Is each generation getting sicker? How does this play out in a clinical setting?

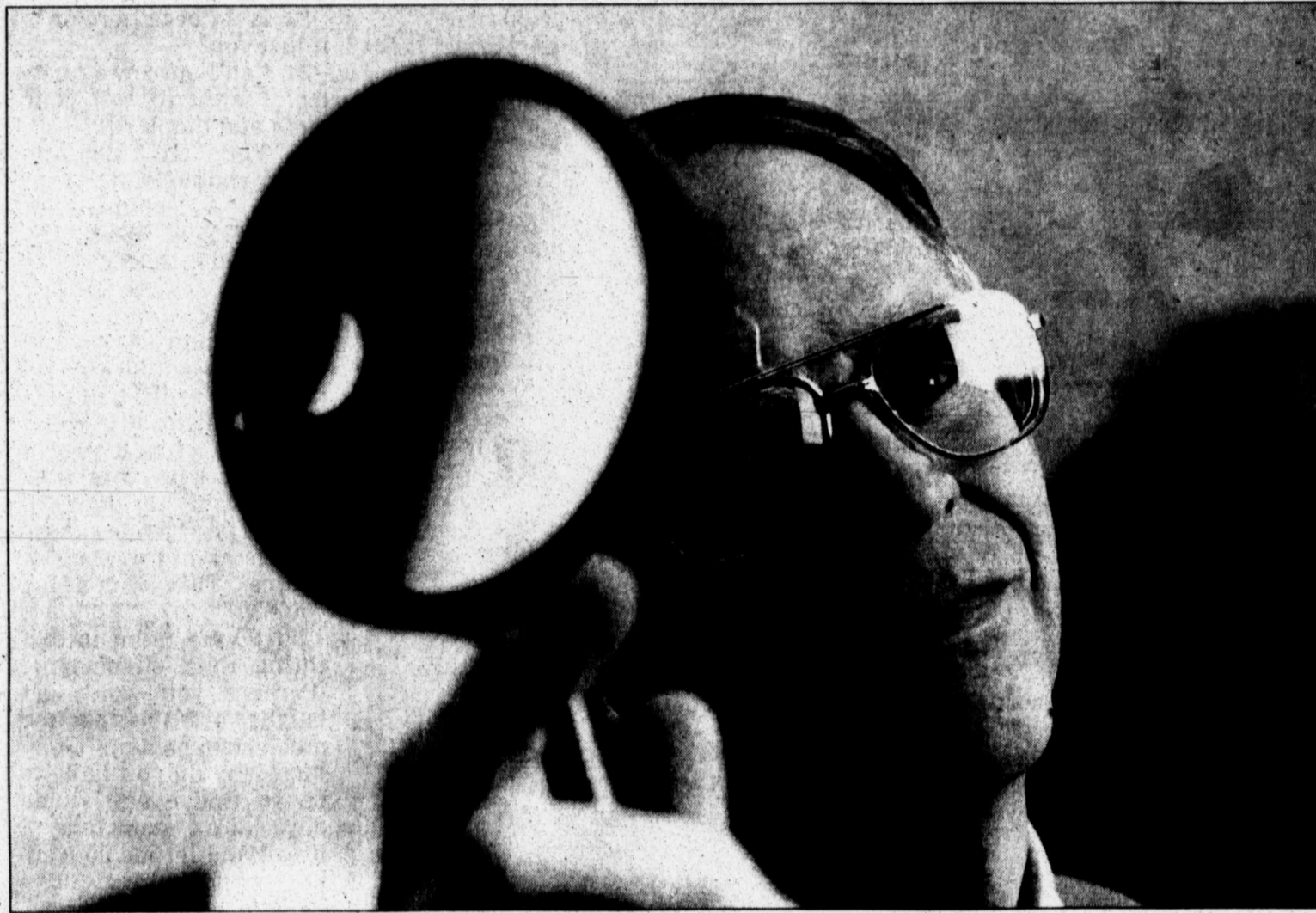
After a handful of questions, Immo Scheffler takes the stage. Scheffler, a professor of biology at UC San Diego who has also studied mitochondrial mutations, invited Wallace to speak. He'll say later that the lecture was interesting, but not entirely convincing. Now, though, he tells the crowd that Wallace can only take only one more question before being whisked off to prepare for a second lecture later that evening.

"Oh! I love it!" Wallace says, like a kid begging to stay longer at a friend's house. "Anytime I can proselytize about the mitochondria, I'll do it!"

And he does do it. In disease research, in biological evolution, in anthropology. There are few places Wallace hasn't been able to find the magic of the mitochondria.

In each of these fields Wallace is regarded like the mitochondria he studies: A powerhouse whose work is either inordinately important or not much more than interesting, depending on whom you ask.

There are, after all, only



Doug Wallace, director of UCI's Center for Molecular and Mitochondrial Medicine and Genetics, has published a study linking prostate cancer and mutations in the structures that power cells. He's using that discovery to test treatments on mice.

37 genes in the mitochondria, which isn't much. The nucleus has 20,000 genes. That's 20,000 genes that could mutate and cause a cell to die or run amok with cancer.

If the nucleus has 20,000 genes, it's where scientists should be looking to find the causes - and it is hoped cures - to every human disease.

Except it's not. Or, at least, it's not to Wallace.

It's quite obvious to Wallace: The mitochondria work like power plants. The nucleus might be the center of the city, but the power plants, operating outside, allow the city to run. If the blueprints are sound and the contractors built them well, all will be fine.

But if the contractors were lazy or sloppy, the power plants would spew smoke into the air, sputter and fail. The city would go dark, and all would collapse into chaos.

Wallace gives this analogy, speaking with such certainty you come away believing he's either completely right or completely crazy. He knows that he gives off those two impressions. But, again, he's pretty sure he's right.

And if the majority never sees it his way? Well, Wallace and his wife, Betty, 57, are Unitarians, so Betty says they're used to being on the fringe. Their son, David, has high-functioning autism. And when their daughter, Lisa, was found to have a slight learning disability, Betty said she and Doug comforted her by saying, "If you were mainstream, we'd have to do a DNA test to make sure you were ours."

Dr. Sue Bryant, dean of UC Irvine's school of biological sciences, who helped recruit Wallace to UCI from Emory University in 2002, describes him as "one of a kind."

"We're just coming out of that place where everything is focused on the structure of DNA. It's all been focused on the nucleus and on nuclear genes," she said. "So it's so interesting that he didn't follow that paradigm."

Wallace began studying the mitochondria in 1970, when, as a graduate student at Yale, he realized nuclear DNA was terrifically boring stuff. Who cares about mapping a

gene on a chromosome? He wanted to study something that actually did something.

He figured the mitochondria were a good bet: Anything that produced 90 percent of the body's energy and contained complicated genes had to be significant.

Right? At the time virtually no one studied the impor-

tance of mitochondrial DNA mutations.

Now, 30 years later, after Wallace and his colleagues found mitochondrial DNA can mutate, after he found those mutations can cause diabetes and heart disease, after tracing mitochondria's thumbprints all over tissue cancers ... virtually no one studies the impor-

tance of mitochondrial DNA mutations.

Wallace chalks up the spotty interest to mitochondrial DNA being more complicated to study than the much-longer DNA chains of the nucleus.

Other researchers, though, say their colleague is simply overstating the significance of his work.

"Doug rubs some people the wrong way by claim-

ing to have found the solutions when really there are more questions out there we need to solve," Scheffler said. "Until 10 years ago, people definitely ignored mitochondrial DNA in human health and disease."

"Now they realize that paying attention to that small DNA is important, but the fact that we should pay so much more attention to it is something I don't agree with."

This could change.

When UCI hired Wallace, it started the Center for Molecular and Mitochondrial Medicine and Genetics and named him director. His research is cited in fields as far-flung as anthropology and evolutionary biology.

A recent study of his, published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences last month, shows a link between mitochondrial DNA mutations and prostate cancer.

He's using that link now to test non-toxic drugs to kill prostate cancer in mice.

"People generally agree that he is a world leader in mitochondrial DNA issues," said Bill Parker, dean of graduate studies at UCI. "Should that field at some point, be considered for a Nobel Prize, he'll be right in the center of it."

The center? What an odd place for Wallace to be.

## Happy Valentine's Day

 Happy Valentine's Day to our sweetheart <b>Courtney</b> Love Grandma & Pawpaw	 Happy Valentine's Day <b>Owen Presley!</b> Love Mom, Ricky, Grandma, Grandpa and Tito.	 Happy Valentine's Day <b>Tucker Layne Thixton</b> We Love You! Grandpa T. & Nana	 Happy Valentine's Day <b>Koby John Nichols</b> We Love You! Grandpa T. & Nana
 Happy Valentine's Day <b>Chase Lindsey &amp; Isabella Arellano</b> Love You! Grandma Lupe	 Happy Valentine's Day <b>Jose, Cristina, Alessia &amp; Victoria</b> Love Great-Grandpa & Grandma	 Happy 1st Birthday to our Valentine's!! Love, Daddy & Mommy	
 Happy Valentine's Day <b>Princess &amp; Prince</b> We Love You Mommy & Nana	 Happy Valentine's Day <b>Ryan!</b> Love Mommy & Daddy	 Happy 1st Birthday & Valentine's Day We Love You Nana & Aunt Liz	 Happy Valentine's Day <b>Matthew Brylea &amp; Kailee</b> Love Mamoo & Papoo

**IN BR**

**2005 Little League to hold signu**  
Sign-ups for Big Spring League season take place through Feb. 14. Big Spring M... Registration place from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Monday, Friday and 10:30 to 5:30 p.m. Saturday. The league is for one ages five to 16 that live within Big Spring limits. Registration required even if you have played in the past. At least one parent/guardian must be present and an official state-certified child's birth certificate is required. For more information, contact Rosenbaum at 264-7118.

**Class of 2004 host fund-raiser**  
The Big Spring Class of 2004 will host a softball fund-raiser at Cotton Mills on March 11 and 12. The entry fee is \$125 and prizes awarded to second and third teams. The first team to enter the tournament will be Marcel. For more information, contact Landin at 264-7118.

**Lady Steer Booster Club meets**  
The Lady Steer Booster Club will meet Monday, Feb. 14, at 6 p.m. All parents involved in basketball, track and other sports are encouraged to attend. For more information, contact Abner at 264-7118.

**Lady Steer Booster meets**  
The Lady Steer Booster Club will meet Monday, Feb. 14, at 6 p.m. All parents involved in basketball, track and other sports are encouraged to attend. For more information, contact Abner at 264-7118.

**Softball uniforms needed for**  
Anyone interested in becoming an umpire for the upcoming season can obtain information from Ramirez at 264-7118.

**C.G.A. sets tourney of**  
The C.G.A. Association first tournament year — the ship drive for Sunday, Comanche Course. The tournament begins with start at 11:30 a.m. all participants be registered. This tournament originally for Feb. 13, but has been moved. For more information, call B at 264-7118.

### IN BRIEF

#### 2005 Little League to hold signups

Sign-ups for the 2005 Big Spring Little League season will take place Feb. 19 through Feb. 26 at the Big Spring Mall.

Registration will take place from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Saturday.

The league is for anyone ages five through 16 that live within the Big Spring little league boundaries. Registration is required even if player has played before, at least one parent or guardian must be present and an original or state-certified copy of child's birth certificate is required.

For more information, contact Chuck Rosenbaum at 263-1792.

#### Class of 2005 to host fund-raiser

The Big Spring class of 2005 will be holding a softball fund-raiser at Cotton Mize Field March 11 and 12.

The entry fee will be \$125 and prizes will be awarded to the first, second and third place teams. The final day to enter the tournament will be March 9.

For more information, contact J.R. Landin at 264-1736 or Able Rios at 213-2115.

#### Lady Steer Booster Club meeting set

The Lady Steers Booster Club will meet Monday, Feb. 21, in the ATC at 6 p.m.

All parents of players involved in volleyball, basketball, cheerleading, track and training are encouraged to attend.

For more information, contact Janet Abner at 264-0023 or Kerry Rodriguez at 263-6100.

#### Lady Steer Softball Booster meeting set

The Lady Steers Softball Booster Club will meet Monday, Feb. 21, in the ATC at 7:30 p.m.

All parents of girls involved with the softball program are encouraged to attend.

For more information, contact Janet Abner at 264-0023.

#### Softball umpires needed for season

Anyone interested in becoming an ASA certified umpire for the upcoming softball season can obtain information from Francisco Ramirez at 466-3670.

#### C.G.A. sets first tourney of new year

The Chicano Golf Association has set its first tournament of the year — the membership drive tourney — for Sunday, Feb. 20, at Comanche Trail Golf Course.

The tournament will begin with a shotgun start at 11:30 a.m. and all participants must be registered by 11 a.m.

This tournament was originally scheduled for Feb. 13, but the date has been moved up.

For more information, call Billy Pineda at 264-7116.

## Hughey, boys' relay team advance to state

By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor LUBBOCK — Jessica Hughey earned her third trip to the state swimming meet Saturday after winning the girl's 100 breaststroke at the Region 1-4A swim meet in Lubbock, while the boy's 4x400 meter relay team came out of nowhere to



HUGHEY

advance, as well.

Hughey's first place finish was recorded at 1:12.30, while the 4x400 relay team of junior Daniel Pike, sophomore Ryan Hughey, senior Scott Thomas and senior Todd Seber — who all advanced to state for the first time — took first at regionals, too, with a time of 3:34.66.

"Jessica just smoked everyone in the breaststroke," said Pacheco. "And Scott was our savior in the relay. He swam his best split time of the year

Friday and then came back to break that time Saturday. He really helped us out in getting the team to state.

"The relay team was an exciting race. Us and Andrews were neck and neck the whole time and both school's fans went absolutely crazy during the race."

The top-four finishing teams in the relay were separated by just more than one second as Big Spring's foursome became the first relay in school history to win first

place at regionals, said Pacheco. Jessica Hughey, a senior, defeated the second-best breaststroke finisher by more than two seconds.

First place finishers at state receive automatic bids and the next eight fastest times also advance.

"My seniors really stepped it up," said Big

Spring Coach Casey Pacheco.

Hughey entered the day with a top-two seed in both the 100 breaststroke and the 200 freestyle, but was only able to qualify for state in one event. Her time in the 200 freestyle, which some would say is her best event, was 2:10.03 as she finished second.

The boy's state representatives also participated, but did not qualify, in a few other events.

Pike swam individually

See REGIONALS, Page 2B



HERALD photo/Troy Hyde

Big Spring junior Tommy Billalba attempts a putt on the ninth hole at the Comanche Trail Golf Course Friday morning first round action at the Big Spring Invitational. Billalba entered round two in second and maintained that position in the end after shooting a second round 75. He finished with a two-round total of 147, which was two strokes behind Bryston Jimenez of district rival Plainview.

## Billalba takes second place at Invitational

• Cain disqualified in round two as Big Spring's "gold" team takes 11th overall



By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor

Big Spring's Tommy Billalba maintained second place Saturday at the Big Spring Golf Invitational as the junior shot a second round 75 at the Big Spring Country Club.

Billalba's two day total — after shooting a first round 72 at Comanche Trail Golf Course Friday — was 147, which put him two strokes behind Plainview's Bryston Jimenez.

That second place finish also helped the Big Spring "Gold" team finish in 11th place. The team's No. 1 golfer — Chance Cain — was disqualified Saturday, however, after shooting a first round 76 Friday. Midland Lee won the tournament by 21 strokes, while Big Spring district rivals Frenship and Andrews came in second and third, respectively.

Collin Carroll shot a second round 94 and finished with a two-day total of 185, while Taylor Parks, who shot an 87 in round one, struggled Saturday, shooting a 100 and finishing with a 187 between the two rounds.

Seve Watson was Big Spring's fifth place finish-

er as his two round total was 203.

Brian Hale led the Big Spring "black" team with a two-day total of 200, while the Big Spring "white" team was led by Sam Smith's 243.

The other boy's medalist was Tyler Sheppard of Midland Lee, who finished one shot behind Billalba with a two-day total of 148.

Senior Rachel Gee led the Big Spring girl's "gold" team. She shot a 90 in round one, but improved her stroke in the second round, finishing with an 85. Her two-day total equalled 175, which was good enough for a top-10 finish.

Megan McCormick tallied 196 shots in her two days on the course, while Cassie Gwinn shot a two-day total of 198. Amber Miller struggled in round one with a 107, but her 97 in round two was good enough to finish fourth on the team with a 204, while Kim Paredes finished in fifth after shooting a 205.

Kelsey Battle led the Big Spring "black" team with a second round 93 and fin-

See STEERS, Page 2B

## Rain puts damper on tourney

By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor RAIN dominated the Big Spring Invitational Saturday as many tennis matches were delayed and eventually cancelled.

The Steers did manage to get in a few matches before the cancellation, which occurred at about 2 p.m. Saturday.

"We were forced to make a decision at that point because we had several teams which had four and five hour drives ahead of them and due to the delays we still had five hours of tennis left," said Big Spring coach Sarah Corse. "We didn't want the teams to have to travel all night."

The only Big Spring teams to play three matches were the doubles teams.

Seniors Nick Rivera and Nick Paredes won their first round match, but struggled against a tough team from Levelland in round two. They began, but did not finish their match in round three. Rivera and Paredes lost the first set of the match 6-7, but led the second set 5-4 against a good Lubbock Coronado team before the match was eventually called.

Senior Jason Vela and sophomore Bryan Juan did not play a third match, but after losing in round one, were able to pull out a victory in the second round.

The junior tandem of Natasha Neighbors and Jamie Jordan and the team of senior Alex Garipey and Reinilde Robinson went 1-1 Friday before dropping their third match Saturday. Garipey and Robinson lost their third round match 3-6, 5-7 as the contest was interrupted by a 30-minute rain delay.

Big Spring's No. 1s in the singles competition got in two matches over the weekend. Senior Veronica Villarreal took care of business in rounds one and two Friday, but did not get a chance to play Saturday. She won her second round match 6-0, 6-1. Sophomore Roshan Shroff won his first round match but lost his second round.

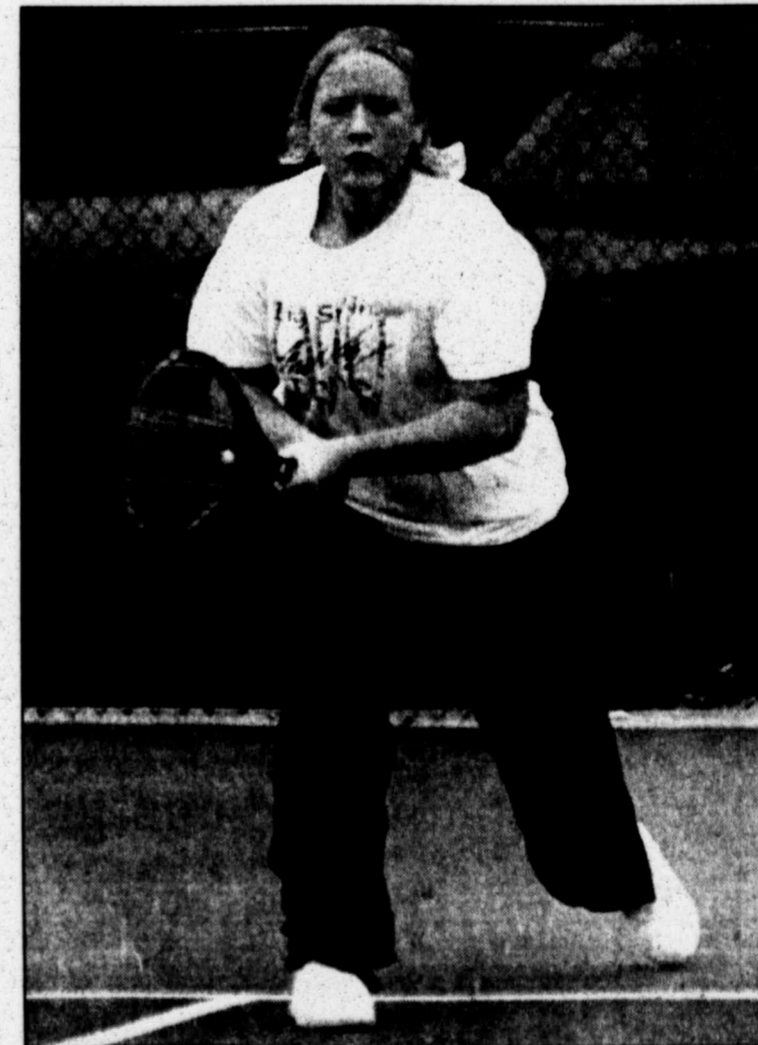
The other singles players this spring season are freshman Allison Ward and Ainhann Nghiem. Ward won in the first round and lost her second round match Friday. Nghiem lost his first round match before winning his match in round two Friday.

"We were doing good, but were unable to finish the tournament," said Corse. "We would have loved to finish the tourney though."

Big Spring travels to Odessa Friday and Saturday to take part in the Permian Invitational.



ROBINSON



HERALD photo/Troy Hyde

Big Spring junior Jamie Jordan sends the ball back over the net Friday morning at the Figure 7 Tennis Center at Comanche Trail Park during the Big Spring Invitational. Jordan and teammate Natasha Neighbors won their first round match, but lost their second and third matches.

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**DQ of COAHOMA** looking for bright, friendly customer services leaders for day and night shifts. Starting at \$7.00 an hour for qualified help. Full and part time positions available. Vacation and holiday pay. Drug test required. Apply in person today with Manager, Shavae Rose.  
**FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC**  
 The City of Big Spring is conducting a civil service entrance exam for the position of Fire-fighter/Paramedic on Saturday March 12, 2005. Qualified applicants must be at least 18 but under 36 years of age and must have a High School Diploma or Equivalent. To apply and obtain further information contact The Personnel Department at 310 Nolan St., Big Spring, Tx 79720 or call (432)264-2346. Applications will be accepted until 5:00 pm Wednesday March 9, 2005. Preference will be given to applicants certifiable in Fire/EMS. The City of Big Spring is an Equal Opportunity Employer.  
**HOWARD COUNTY Sheriff's Office**  
 accepting applications until February 25, 2005 for deputy. Street experience and bi-lingual preferred. Applications can be picked up at the Sheriff's Office, 300 S. Main, Big Spring, TX between 8:00-5:00, M-F.

**Items for Sale**  
**TWO SEPARATE Whirlpool**  
 built-in ovens: 24 inch, self cleaning, fully automatic with coordinating ceramic cooktop. Excellent condition. \$1,000. Call (432)393-5309.  
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**FOUND LADIES** gold ring in a glove about a year ago. Call (432)393-5309 to describe.  
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**1999 SOLITARE** mobile home. 18x76, 3/2, vinyl siding. Below retail, will pay up to \$2,000. for moving. Call (432)263-4517.

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 in an accident? Have a lawsuit? Need immediate \$\$\$CASH\$\$\$ now before a settlement or for a structured settlement? We'll help! CALL CASH NOW 1-800-268-3259.  
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 Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**CLASSIFIED AD**

Write one word on each line:  
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**Up to 25 words:** Sunday Only \$19.50 One weekday only \$12.25 Two Consecutive Days \$16.50 Three Consecutive days \$20.25 Four Consecutive Days \$23.50 Five Consecutive Days \$25.75 Six Consecutive Days \$27.00 Two weeks \$51.00 Three Weeks \$64.50 Four weeks \$75.00 Garage Sales (3 days) \$16.75 Each add'l word 20-cents per word per day.  
**Enhancements** Price per word for entire run: Bolding \$1.00 Centering \$1.00 Italics \$1.00 Price for entire run: Blind Box \$10 Photo \$4.00 Graphics \$1.00 Logos \$1.00  
 Prices include placement on internet at www.bigspringherald.com  
 Start Date \_\_\_\_\_ Classification: \_\_\_\_\_

**DEADLINES:**  
 12 noon Fri. for Sunday; 4:15 Fri. for Monday; 12 noon Mon. for Tues; 12 noon Tues. for Wed.; 12 noon Wed. for Thurs.; 12 noon Thurs. for Fri.

**CLASSIFICATIONS:**  
 Announcements; Business Opportunity; Cemetery Lots; Financial; Garage Sales; Help Wanted; Instruction; Items for Sale; Jobs Wanted; Lost and Found; Miscellaneous.; Mobile Homes; National Ads; On the Farm; Pets; Public Notice; Real Estate for Rent; Real Estate for Sale; Services Offered; Vehicles; Legals

Enclosed is \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Cash \_\_\_\_\_ Money Order \_\_\_\_\_ Check \_\_\_\_\_  
 Credit Card# \_\_\_\_\_  
 Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ Vcode# \_\_\_\_\_  
 Are you a subscriber: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_





MONDAY

FEB. 14

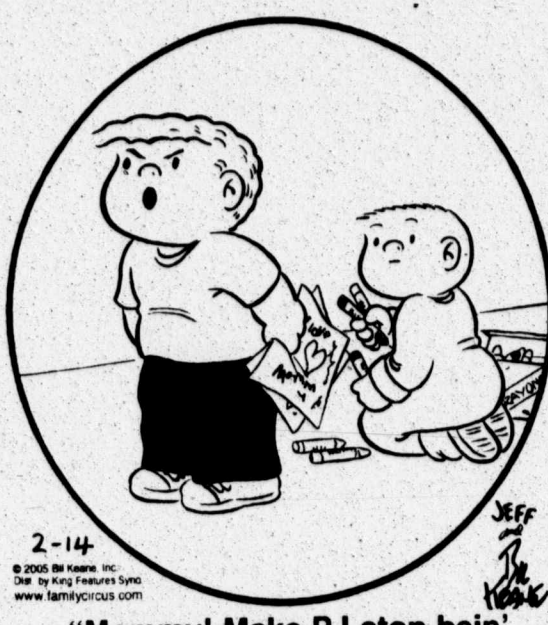
Table with 21 columns (WFAA, KMID, UNI, KPEJ, KOSA, KTLE, KWES, WTBS, KMLM, KOCV, DISC, AMC, SPIKE, TNT, BET, DISN, ESPN2, ESPN, TMC) and 12 rows of program listings.

DENNIS THE MENACE



"I THINK I COULD HAVE A VALENTINE'S DAY HUG?" "SURE... IF WE CAN FIND SOMEONE WHO'S WILLING."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"Mommy! Make PJ stop bein' helpfull!"

HAGAR



"DID YOU TELL THE CHEF THAT THIS STEAK WAS TOUGH AND OVERCOOKED AND NOT FIT TO EAT?!" "I DECIDED NOT TO, SIR..." "... HE POUTS WHEN HE HEARS STUFF LIKE THAT!"

BLONDIE



"BUY SOME PRETTY ROSES FOR YOUR PRETTY WIFE?" "AH... OKAY, I GUESS I'LL TAKE ONE" "ONE ROSE! SURE, IF YOU THINK THAT'S ALL SHE'S WORTH ON VALENTINE'S DAY" "I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU FALL FOR THAT EVERY TIME!" "I CAN'T EITHER!"

BC



"SPROING" "WHAT ARE YOU DOING? IT'S FEBRUARY!" "IT'S DESTINY!" "DESTINY?" "PICK" "OK... CALL IT CHANCE."

WIZARD OF ID



"YOU WILL MISS ALL OF HIS GOOD TRAITS FOR A WHILE" "NOT REALLY..." "HIS ONLY GOOD TRAIT WAS PUTTING THE TOILET SEAT BACK DOWN"

AGNES



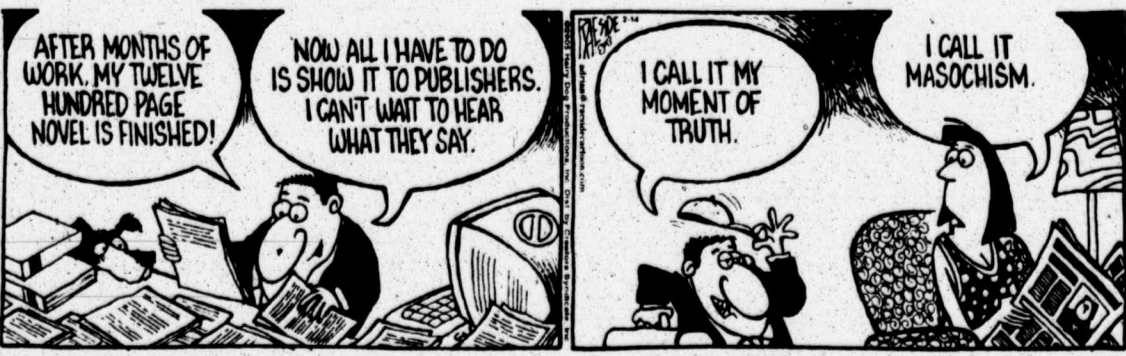
"EXCUSE ME, BUT HAVE YOU SEEN A GIRL PASS HERE? DARK HAIR... GLASSES... ELEGANT, LONG FEET?" "QUIET! YOU'RE INTERRUPTING MY MATH MUSINGS!" "I WANTED HER TO HAVE THIS VALENTINE" "IMPOSSIBLE! SHE WAS LATE FOR CLASS! WE SENT HER TO A MAXIMUM SECURITY SCHOOL FOR BAD, BAD, TARDY GIRLS!! VERY BAD! VERY TARDY! POOF!" "I MADE IT MYSELF" "YOU CHEAP PILE OF JELLO."

HI AND LOIS



"WHY DID YOU GET ME A BOX OF CHOCOLATES? YOU KNOW I'M ON A DIET." "BECAUSE IT'S VALENTINE'S DAY, I LOVE YOU..." "... AND WE CAN WORK OFF THE CALORIES LATER"

THE OTHER COAST



"AFTER MONTHS OF WORK, MY TWELVE HUNDRED PAGE NOVEL IS FINISHED!" "NOW ALL I HAVE TO DO IS SHOW IT TO PUBLISHERS. I CAN'T WAIT TO HEAR WHAT THEY SAY." "I CALL IT MY MOMENT OF TRUTH." "I CALL IT MASOCHISM."

SNUFFY SMITH



"DANG IT, LOWEEZY!! I TRUSTED YOU TO KEEP A SECRET AN' YOU SPILT TH' BEANS!!" "IT'S YORE FAULT, YA BIG BLABBER-MOUTH!!" "WHY'D YA HAFTA GO AN' TELL ME?!"

BETLE BAILEY



"EVER GO IN A ROOM AND FORGET WHY YOU CAME IN?" "NO" "BUT I DID JOIN THE ARMY AND WONDER WHAT I'M DOING HERE!"

This Date In History

By The Associated Press

Today is Monday, Feb. 14, the 45th day of 2005. There are 320 days left in the year. This is Valentine's Day.

Today's Highlight in History: On Feb. 14, 1929, the "St. Valentine's Day Massacre" took place in a Chicago garage as seven rivals of Al Capone's gang were gunned down.

On this date: In 1778, the American ship "Ranger" carried the recently adopted Star and Stripes to a foreign port for the first time as it arrived in France.

In 1859, Oregon was admitted to the Union as the 33rd state. In 1903, the Department of Commerce and Labor was established. (It was divided into separate departments of Commerce and Labor in 1913.)

In 1912, Arizona became the 48th state of the Union. In 1920, the League of Women Voters was founded in Chicago; its first president was Maude Wood Park. In 1945, Peru, Paraguay, Chile and Ecuador joined the United Nations. In 1979, Adolph Dubs, the U.S. ambassador to Afghanistan, was kidnapped in Kabul by Muslim extremists and killed in a shootout between his abductors and police. In 1984, 6-year-old Stormie Jones became the world's first heart-liver transplant recipient at Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh (she lived until November 1990). In 1985, Cable News Network reporter Jeremy Levin, who was being held hostage by extremists in Lebanon, was freed. In 1989, Iran's Ayatollah Khomeini called on Muslims to kill Salman Rushdie, author of "The Satanic Verses," a novel condemned as blasphemous.

Today's Birthdays: TV personality Hugh Downs is 84. Actress-singer Florence Henderson is 71. Country singer Razy Bailey is 66. Jazz musician Maceo Parker is 62. Movie director Alan Parker is 61. Journalist Carl Bernstein is 61. Senate Budget Committee Chairman Judd Gregg, R-N.H., is 58. TV personality Pat O'Brien is 57. Magician Teller (Penn and Teller) is 57. Cajun singer-musician Michael Doucet (Beausoleil) is 54. Actor Ken Wahl is 48. Actress Meg Tilly is 45. Singer-producer Dwayne Wiggins is 44. Actor Enrico Colantoni is 42.

Answer to previous puzzle grid with words like ALCAPP, RETRACTS, BOODLE, AVIATION, RONDOS, VENDETTA, OKS, DECANT, REP, GET, STAGE, PLUMP, ARAB, ADE, PRISY, TONED, ESSAYS, ENTREAT, CLOTHES, BURSAR, REESE, EFFECT, MET, DATA, LORE, LOESS, DEW, UMA, GANDHI, LEE, DENOTING, INTIME, ENCLAVES, REINED, STEEPEST, TWEEDS.

Newsday Crossword

GIFTS FOR TODAY by Sally R. Stein Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS: 1 Tulsa's state: Abbr. 5 Not quite hot 9 Portrait holder 14 Curriculum section 15 Director Kazan 16 Artist's stand 17 Valentine's Day gifts 20 Produce, as a play 21 Throat-clearing sound 22 Stalactite site 23 Things to pucker 25 \_ 1 (speed of sound) 27 Cash-register key 30 Vanished 31 Skirt border 34 Business letter abbr. 35 British prep school 37 Worker bee 39 Valentine's Day gifts 42 \_ of Troy 43 Defeat in boxing 44 "Beware the \_ of March" 45 Metallic rock 46 Huntley or Atkins 48 Stubborn 50 Ball- hammer 51 Gorillas, for instance 52 Jai \_ 55 Sound of a crowd 57 In any way 61 Valentine's Day gifts 64 Employee's extra pay 65 Simplify 66 Actress Moreno 67 Poker rituals 68 Gush 69 Ship pole 8 Was profitable 9 Swampy ground 10 Cattle farm 11 On a cruise, perhaps 12 TV producer Griffin 13 Alternatively 18 Astronaut Armstrong 19 "Old Cowhand" 24 Fruit covering 26 Hand over legally 27 Mexican snack 28 None of the above 29 Fur coat 30 Reached 31 Unruly crowd 32 Go in 33 Not at all neat 36 Write things down in class 38 Cloudburst 40 Fairy-tale starter 41 Earring shape 47 "Present!" 49 Back part 50 Make angry 51 Stood up 52 Diplomat Eban 53 Lake bird 54 Mom's sister 56 PDQ 58 Pakistan's locale 59 "Shall we?" response 60 Atty.-to-be's exam 62 Battleship letters 63 Hardy any

Crossword grid with numbers 1-69 indicating starting positions for words.