

INSIDE Texas Tech upends UCLA, 77-66 in opening round of

tournament. Page 1B

VOLUME 101, NUMBER 83

FRIDAY, MARCH 18, 2005

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 WEEKEND

S-s-sigh. No s-s-snakes

No rattlesnake roundup this year, but AMBUCS are planning for 2006

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

The quiet wisp of rattlesnake buttons will pass Big Spring by this year, as local coordinators mourn the passing of one the annual event's biggest support-

Dennis Burns, chairman of the annual American Business Clubs (AMBUCS) Rattlesnake Roundup, said the death of Monty Staulcup, longtime coordinator and showman for the event, brought the roundup to a halt.

"Monty passed away in December," said Burns. "We're really going to miss him. He did a lot for the roundup, from gathering the buyers and running the shows, to the special programs he put on for the area schools teaching the kids about snakes.

with the buyers, so when he passed away, we essentially lost our buyer. Selling 2,000 pounds of snakes isn't an easy task."

Burns said another problem arose because of the date of the show.

"We've always held the roundup on the fourth weekend of March," said Burns, who has been the chairman of the roundup committee for nearly will be sorely missed by the

the Easter weekend this year. We didn't think it would be a good idea to try to schedule around Easter.

"We were told at one point that the roundup had fallen on Easter weekend many years ago, and no one showed up, which is no big surprise to anyone on the committee."

While the annual roundup

"Monty was the go-between two decades. "That date falls on community this year, Burns said this by no means marks the end of the scaly tradition in the Crossroads area.

"We're already making plans for the 2006 roundup," said Burns.

"We're going to go to the roundup in Brownwood and see if we can't locate a buyer through that. We're also going to work on getting a team for next year."

SPRING HAS SPRUNG... ALMOST



Spring finds its way into downtown Big Spring, as these tree blossoms beautify the steps of the District Courthouse on Scurry Street.

Spring officially begins Sunday.

Big Spring Alumni Club

19 arrested Thursday in statewide cocaine ring

MIDLAND (AP) - Nineteen people accused of conspiring to deal drugs were arrested Thursday in connection with a cocaine ring that authorities said began inside a federal prison.

The 19 are believed to be part of "The Big Spring Alumni Club," which law enforcement officials said has been sell-

ing cocaine since 2003 and was organized while four members of the group were serving drug trafficking sentences at the Big Spring Federal Correctional Institute.

The arrests were made in Lubbock, Dallas, Worth, Snyder, Midland and Odessa. Two other people

are still being sought. "Today's arrests are the first nails in the coffin for this large-scale crack cocaine ring," U.S. Attorney Johnny Sutton said in Friday's Midland

Reporter-Telegram. The 21 were indicted on charges of conspiracy to manufacture, distribute and possess with the intent to distribute cocaine.

The arrests came after a year-long investigation that uncovered the sale of more than 50 grams of cocaine. If convicted, the suspects face a minimum 10year sentence.

The alleged ringleader was Adrian

See ARRESTS, Page 3A

No easy solution to management software, trustees learn

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

The Big Spring Independent School District is learning that, when it comes to student-management software, there is no magic bullet. "Next year will not

For months, the school district has been looking for solutions to its balky Chancery SMS software package, which has caused school officials severe headaches in student-management areas such as grades, scheduling and transcripts.

Finally fed up with Chancery's seeming inabil-

ity to solve the problems with its software, the school board authorized the

district in February to begin looking for a possible replacement to SMS.

To that end, a committee of district officials, led by Technology Director Corey Wood, has visited comparably

sized school districts using different software pack-

Wood addressed the board during its monthly meeting Thursday night, and told trustees point blank that every system the committee looked at has its good points and bad points.

In short, whatever the district does, software problems are not necessarily a thing of the past.

be a utopia. We're

hoping it will be

better, but it won't

be a utopia."

Corey Wood,

BSISD technology director

See SOFTWARE, Page 3A

Big Spring ISD board updated on school finance legislation

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

Big changes may be on the horizon as to how Texas schools can conduct their business — and those possible changes have many districts highly concerned, to say the least.

Big Spring Independent School District Michael Downes updated trustees on those possible changes during their monthly meeting at the high

The Texas House of Representatives recently passed two bills that will effect



major reform in both school financing and the education process itself. And Downes, along with many other rural school district superintendents, sees major problems with both bills.

"These are not good bills." he said flatly. Downes

The bills are currently before the Texas Senate, where they must pass muster before going to Gov.

See FINANCE, Page 3A

NDEX

Classified **Features**

noon Sunday.

Obituaries 2A Opinion

Find us online at: Sports 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 (432) 263-7335 before 7 p.m. weekdays and

IN TOWN TONIGHT Concert and dance

Dorothy Garrett Coliseum will be the site of the "Honky Tonk Tailgate Party" concert and dance tonight, sponsored by Junior Achievement of West Texas.

Doors open at 6 p.m. Showtime is 8 p.m. Featured artists include Daryle Singletary, Chad Brock, Rhett Akins and David Kersh with special guest Trent Willmon.

Tickets are \$15 in advance (KBST radio) or call the central ticket office at 1-800-462-7949 and \$20 at the door. Floor seating is an additional \$5.

COMING UP

Senior health fair

The Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez Texas State Veterans Home, located at 1809 N. Highway 87, will host a Senior Health Fair Saturday from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

The fair will feature a number of different screenings, including blood sugar and blood pressure, glaucoma checks and information on long term care insurance.

The event is open to the public at no charge.

For more information concerning the health fair, call 268-8387.

IN THE PAPER

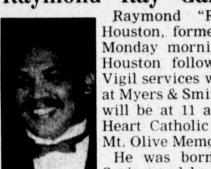
Coming in the Weekend Edition: Family-owned farms have dotted the American landscape since Colonial times.



Some of these multi generation farms have endured and developed along with the nation. Here are a few of their

Obituaries

Raymond "Ray" Galaviz



Raymond "Ray" Galaviz, 41, of Houston, formerly of Big Spring died Monday morning, March 14, 2005, in Houston following a sudden illness. Vigil services will be at 7:30 p.m. today at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral Mass will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at Sacred Heart Catholic Church with burial at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

He was born Oct 30, 1963, in Big Spring and he grew up in Big Spring and had lived in Houston for the last 17 years. He was, a Catholic and an inspector for Precision Flame

Cutting Sheet Metal Company.

He is survived by his wife, Jean Galaviz of Houston; one daughter, Becky Mendez of Big Spring; three stepdaughters, Denise Hagey, Kimberly Parkinson, and Janice Lapaglia, all of Houston; mother, Rita Cantu of Stanton; four sisters, Mary Galaviz, Lupe Marquez, Rosa Salazar and Janie Galaviz, all of Big Spring; four brothers, Domingo Galaviz and David Galaviz, both of Big Spring, Frankie Galaviz of Stanton and Eusebio Galaviz of Odessa: three grandchildren, Anastasia, Brianna and Matthew; and a number of aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his father, Domingo Galaviz; and two brothers, Juan Galaviz and Robert

Pallbearers will be Eusebio Galaviz, Frankie Galaviz, David Galaviz, Michael Galaviz, John Galaviz, Juan Cuevas, Raul Parras and Jess Leal.

The family will be at 2307 Mishler. Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at www.myersandsmith.com

Paid obituary

Dewey Thomas Jr.



Dewey Thomas Jr., 79, of Big Spring died Thursday morning, March 17, 2005, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Graveside services will be at 9 a.m. Saturday at Trinity Memorial Park with the Rev. Herb McPherson, pastor of Calvary Baptist, officiating.

He was born March 3, 1927, in Welch to Elenora Allen Thomas and James Dewey Thomas Sr. He married Violet Marie Hopper June 1, 1947, in Big

Spring. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving in World War II in Europe. Dewey was a retired truck driver and had worked for Steere Tank Lines. He also had owned Mission Petroleum Trucking From 1989 until 1997. He lived in Big Spring for 50 years and was a member of Calvary Baptist Church.

He is survived by his wife, Violet Marie Thomas of Big Spring, one daughter, Cecelia Kay Barber of Big Spring; two grandchildren, Angela Randle and her husband Tony of Kingsville, and Mickey Barber of Big Spring: two great grandchildren, Brittney Randle and Demetre Randle, both of Kingsville; one sister, Shirley Shortes and her husband Calvert of Andrews; one Pay your respects online at www.myersandsmith.com brother. Alva Thomas and his wife Lois of Big Spring; three nephews, and one cousin.

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

Eloise Davis



Eloise Davis, 92, of Coahoma died Thursday, March 17, 2005, in a Big Spring care facility. Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, March 19, 2005, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with the Rev. Donita Lea, pastor of First United Methodist Church of Coahoma, officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

She was born May 2, 1912, in Pilot Point and married Lawrence N. Davis, May 16, 1936, in Garden City. He preceded her in death April 4, 1981.

Mrs. Davis had been a resident of Coahoma since 1947. She was a graduate of North Texas Women's University and had taught school in Coahoma for many years, until retiring in 1977. She enjoyed playing bridge and loved her family and friends.

She was member of the First United Methodist Church of Coahoma.

Survivors include a daughter and son-in-law, Joan

and Glenn Daniel of Coahoma; a son and daughter-inlaw, Wayne and Betty Davis of Coahoma; a sister, Mary Fowler of Big Spring; four grandchildren, Duane Robinson of Gladewater, Wacey Daniel of Big Spring, Steve Davis of Coahoma and Cindy Moorehead of Grapevine; three great-grandchildren, Mathew and Blakely Robinson of Gladewater and Kyle Daniel of

She was also preceded in death by a daughter, Betty Jean Robinson and two brothers, Winfred Riney and Eldon Riney.

The family suggests memorials be made to the American Heart Association, 3205 W. Cuthbert, Ste A-5, Midland 79701.

Arrangements under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring. Online condolences can be made www.npwelch.com.

Paid obituary

Weather

Tonight - Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 40s. West iffing to the southeast after

Saturday - Partly cloudy. Highs around 70. Southeast winds around 10 mph. Saturday night - Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower

Sunday - Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of

showers. Highs in the lower 70s. Sunday and Macthe cloudy, Lows in the lower 40s.

Monday Partly cloudy. High's in the lower 70s. Monday night - Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 40s. Tuesday - Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 60s.

John M. Betus



John M. Betus of San Antonio died Sunday, March 13, 2005, at the age of 32. He was a member of the San Antonio Police Department for five years, assigned to traffic.

John was a loving father and husband. He was a member of Rector United Methodist Church. Officer Betus was an avid shooter and a gun enthusiast. He loved motorcycles, his family and his friends.

John served his country in the United States Marine Corps during Desert Storm and the Air National Guard in Operation Enduring Freedom.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Annie

Evelyn Betus and grandmother, Lounell Hipp. John is survived by his loving wife, Jennifer Louise Betus; his children, Delaney and Dylan; his father, Alexandre "Sandy" Betus and wife, Beth; mother-inlaw and father-in-law, Sarah and Joseph Fletcher; his brother, James Betus and wife, Lori; and niece, Kelsy

Services were 9:30 a.m. Thursday, March 17, 2005, at Porter Loring Chapel in San Anontio.

Pallbearers were the San Antonio Police Department Honor Guard. Interment was in Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery with military Arrangements with Porter Loring Funeral Home in San Antonio.

Paid obituary

Melvin Bryant



Melvin Bryant, 65, of Big Spring, died Monday evening, March 14, 2005, at the V.A. Medical Center in Salt Lake City, Utah. Funeral services will be at 3 p.m. Saturday at Myers & Smith Chapel with the Rev. Arnold Tonn of Spring Tabernacle officiating. Military graveside services will be at 5 p.m. Saturday at the Greenwood Cemetery in Greenwood. The family will receive friends from 5:30 until 6:30 p.m. today at

Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

He was born May 15, 1939, in Midland. He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy. He was a life underwriter executive working in the United States and Germany. He was a member of the Masonic Lodge, Elks Lodge, American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars and Trinity Baptist Church.

He is survived by two sisters, Mary Gray and Dorothy Buchanan, both of Vincent; 3 brothers, Jimmie Bryant and Eugene Bryant, both of Big Spring and Raymond Bryant of Vincent; and seven grandchil-

He was preceded in death by his parents, Jack William Bryant and Ruth Flo Davis Bryant; and one daughter: Pamela Christian.

The family will be at 2617 Neill Road.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Belle Harris

Belle Harris, 78, of Big Spring died Tuesday, March 15, 2005, at Covenant Medical Center in Lubbock. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Monday at East Fourth Baptist Church with the Rev. Rex Clayton, pastor, officiating. Burial will be at Mt. Olive Memorial

She was born Sept. 19, 1926, at Peacock, Texas, to Louise and E. C. Butler. She moved to Big Spring in December 1948 from Knox City. She married Hershel Harris on Sept. 27, 1952, in Big Spring. He preceded her in death on Oct. 27, 1993. She was a member of the Big Spring Chapter No. 67 of the Order of Eastern Star, the Eager Beaver Sewing Club, East Fourth Baptist Church, and she was a homemaker.

She is survived by one son, Preston Harris of Big Spring; two brothers, James, Butler of Mesa, Ariz. and Don Butler of Cheyenne, Okla.; six sisters, Mary Ingram and Frances Merwin, both of Cheyenne, Okla., Doris Cibriskie of Montpieler, Idaho, Irene Spearman of Brownwood, Nicky Smitheman of Tyler and Ella May McDaniel of Jacksonville; and a number of nieces and nephews.

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

Truey Smith

Truey Smith, 95, formerly of Big Spring, died Wednesday, March 16, 2005, in Frisco. Graveside services are 11 a.m. Saturday in Elmwood Memorial Park, directed by Elliott-Hamil Funeral Home,

Lawrence G. Adkins

Lawrence G. Adkins, 86, of Stanton died Thursday, March 17, 2005, in a Midland hospital. His services are pending with Gilbreath Funeral Home of Stanton.

Larry Ragan

Larry Ragan, 51, of Big Spring died Thursday, March 17, 2005, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Voncile Gilbert Coker

Voncile Gilbert Coker, 91, of Big Spring, died Friday, March 18, 2005, in a Lubbock hospital. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Fire/EMS

The Big Spring Fire Department reported the following activity:

 MEDICAL was reported in the 1700 block of Yale at 4:31 p.m. Thursday. One person was transported to

· MEDICAL was reported in the 1000 block of Stadium at 7:29 p.m. Thursday. One person was transported to SMMC.

Bulletin board

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

TODAY

- · Signal Mountain Quilting Guild meets from 9 a.m. until about 3 p.m. at 1019 Nolan St. Members bring their own lunch. Call 267-1037 or 267-7281 for more information.
- · AMBUCS meet at noon in La Posada Restaurant. · Greater Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell
- · Spring City Senior Citizen's Center country and western dance from 7:30 p.m. until 10:30 p.m. All area seniors are invited.

SATURDAY

intoxicated.

· Health Fair set for 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Saturday at the Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez State Veterans Home, 1809 N. Highway 87. Blood pressure checks, blood sugar check, eye tests, pharmacists, long term care insurance and a massage therapist available. Call 268-8387 for more information.

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 8 a.m.. Thursday and 8 a.m.

today: · PATRICIA GROSSMAN, 43, of 609 Circle, was arrested Thursday on a charge of Class C/Assault.

• TYLER GREGG, 18, of 1416 Stadium, was arrested

Thursday on a charge of failure to identify. • DARRIN WEBB, 34, of 1202 E. Third Street, was arrested Thursday on a Howard County warrant and a

charge of prohibited weapon. JESSE TORRES, 47, of 603 E. 16th Street, was

 BEVERLY ARMSTRONG, 43, of 1607 Hilltop, was arrested Thursday and held for the HCSO. CHARLES DEAX, 28, of 102 Merrick Road, was

arrested Thursday on two local warrants.

arrested Thursday on two local capias warrants. · WILMA ARNLINE, 32, of Colorado City, was arrested Thursday on a charge of public intoxication.

· TRACEY MARTINEZ, 30, of Colorado City, was arrested Thursday on a charge of public intoxication. · LESLIE COFFMAN, 42, of 1306 W. Leatherwood,

Sheriff's report

was arrested Thursday on a charge of driving while

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

· JUDY ANN CASTILLO, 36, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated - second offense

 JACK DANIEL PAREDEZ, 19, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on a charge of assault with intent to cause bodily injury/family violence - enhanced.

· ANDRES JUAREZ, 45, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on a charge of violation of a protective order - stalking.

· BEVERLY RYNEL ARMSTRONG, 43, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on charges of parent contributing to non attendance and failure to identify as a fugitive from justice.

• IRENE JIMENEZ HINOJOSA, 40, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on charges of speeding - 90 mph in a 70 mph, violation of a promise to appear, issuance of a bad check and theft by check.

· SHAWNTA LOUANN SAVELL, 23, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on charges of unrestrained child under 2 years of age, no liability insurance, violation of a promise to appear and criminal trespass.

Lottery

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Thursday night: Winning numbers drawn: 16-26-29-30-35. Number matching five of five: 0. Next Cash 5 drawing: Friday night.

Results of the Texas Two Step drawing Thursday

Winning numbers drawn: 5-16-17-27. Bonus Ball: 15. Number matching four of four, plus Bonus Ball: 1. Prize: \$600,000.

Winning ticket sold in: Houston. Estimated jackpot for Monday night drawing: \$200,000.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Thursday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 7-4-5

BIG T SPRING

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Susanne Reed John A. Moseley Ext. 240

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Big Spring Junio Junior Honor So Thursday night a

Herald Staff Re More than Spring Junio School student their pins as m the National Honor Societ induction ce Thursday nig

junior high gyr Students qu membership in nization by ma a high grade av showing super ties of citizensh ship, character vice, Counselo

FINANCE

Continued from Pa

Rick Perry for ture. Under legislat by the House,

districts are gua 3 percent inc funding, and tea promised a p Downes warned that language i could result money being con less than school might expect.

Downes also c portion of the calls for a mand of the school ye first Tuesday a Day, with the ye no later than Ju "We firmly be

local school should be the decide when t year begins and said.

Other propose included in the

include: · Texas Asse

Continued from F Jerrold Crook,

arrived at the p 1996 and alleged the conspiracy others inmates.



Big Spring Junior High School seventh-grader Chaneel Dykes, left, receives her National Junior Honor Society pin from NJHS adviser Laine Lawson during induction ceremonies Thursday night at the junior high gymnasium.

42 receive Honor Society pins

Herald Staff Report

More than 40 Big Spring Junior High School students received their pins as members of the National Junior Honor Society during induction ceremonies Thursday night at the junior high gymnasium.

Students qualify for membership in the organization by maintaining a high grade average, and showing superior qualities of citizenship, leadership, character and service, Counselor Jacklyn

Swinney said.

Students inducted into the NJHS Thursday night

 SEVENTH GRADE Anthony Barrera; Katryna A. Ceniza: Kristina Chang; Alexander - Crabtree: Barbara Cruz: Sloan Davis; Chaneel Dykes; Tiffany Garcia; Mikael Gonzales; Macy Graves; Jake Hernandez; Chelsey Huckabee; Coloton Ingram; Stephen Islas; Andrew Lewis; Benjamin Merworth; Skyler Moore;

Pavel

Plakhotney;

Ritchey; Kelly Sage; Isabel Salazar; Janna Stiles; William Tannehill; Halee Thomas; Marina Trevino; Chance Urias; Karlye Weaver: Jonathan Womack: Martin Y. Yanez; and Linzee Yarbar.

• EIGHTH GRADE Sarah Armentrout; Dean Barney Jr.; Caitlin Breanna Carlisle; Conner; Chelse Franco; Carlita Green; Kadrian Groage; Holly Platte; Ambrie Schaffner; Shelby Swinney; and Jimmy Watson.

Voters may have to produce photo IDs

By JIM VERTUNO

Associated Press Writer AUSTIN (AP) - Texas voters would have to show photo identification or multiple forms of other ID before they could cast their ballots under election law changes being pushed by House Republicans:

Three bills with the photo ID requirement are pending before the House Elections Committee. Lawmakers heard testimony from supporters who say the measure would prevent voter fraud and opponents who warn it will deny some citizens of their right to vote.

"This is to make sure you are who you say you are when you show up to vote," said Rep. Mary Denny, the Flower Mound Republican who sponsored one of the bills. She is chairwoman of the elections committee.

The Republican Party of Texas supports the mea-The sure. Democratic Party opposes

"They're just adding roadblocks to voting,' said Democratic Party Chief of Staff Mike Lavigne.

enough to cast a ballot. allowed to proceed if they present a photo ID such as a driver's license or a state-issued personal identification card.

Other forms of acceptable non-photo identification include birth certificates or U.S. citizenship papers, a U.S. passport, a utility bill, bank statement, government check or other government document with the name and address of the voter, or some other identification approved by the secretary of state. Currently, just one of those alternate forms is necessary.

Denny's bill would require voters to present a voter registration card and their photo ID.. Without a photo ID, the voter would have to provide two forms of alternative ID.

Labor unions, advocates for the disabled and minority groups all opposed the measure and said it would have the biggest impact on the poor and the elderly.

"These bills are not

SOFTWARE

Continued from Page 1A

"It's going to be difficult," Wood said. "Next year will not be a utopia. We're hoping it will be better, but it won't be a utopia ... I believe it was an eye-opener to the members of the committee to see just how large and complex the student management system has become ... It's big.'

The district has taken the first steps toward weaning itself of SMS, changing gradebook functions over to a software package called Grade Speed. Wood said the switch has resulted in only minor technical problems, all of which have been remedied.

The district continues to use SMS in other areas. such as scheduling, special education indicators and attendance. End of the school year attendance figures will be vitally important to BSISD because they will, in large, determine the amount of state financing the district receives.

And Wood cannot guarantee that the SMS-run attendance figures will be accurate. "There is nothing at

this point to tell us it won't be accurate," Wood said. "But that's just one of the bridges that we'll have to cross.' The district committee

has visited sites using two possible replacements to SMS, and was scheduled to visit another site today.

Wood said the committee will make a recommendation in April to trustees to either replace or augment SMS with another software pack-

Cost estimates for replacing SMS range from between \$190,000-\$210,000, Wood said.

To date, the district has spent \$162,000 on the SMS package.

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

Currently, if a voter pre- based on evidence of sents a voter registration fraud," said Nina Perales, card at the poll, that's of the Mexican American Legal Defense Without it, voters are Educational Fund. "They will prevent some voters

from casting ballots."

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288 Dewey Thomas, Jr., 79, died Thursday. Graveside, services will be at 9:00 AM Saturday at Trinity Memorial

Park.

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Belle Harris, 78, died Tuesday. . Funeral Services will be at 2:00 PM Monday at East Fourth Baptist Church with burial at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

Larry Ragan, 51, died Thursday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.



CINEMA 4

Hostage (R) Daily: 4:30 & 7:00 Fri. & Sat. 4:30, 7:00 & 9:30

Sat. & Sun. 2:10, 4:30, 7:00 & 9:30 The Pacifier (PG)

Daily: 4:50 & 7:20 Fri. & Sat. 4:50, 7:20 & 10:00 Sat. & Sun. 2:20, 4:50, 7:20 & 10:00 Cursed (PG-13)

Fri. & Sat. 5:00, 7:30 & 9:50 Sat. & Sun. 2:30, 5:00, 7:30 & 9:50 *Be Cool (PG-13)

Daily: 4:40 & 7:10 Fri. & Sat. 4:40, 7:10 & 9:40 Sat. & Sun. 2:00, 4:40, 7:10 & 9:40 **ADULTS: \$6.00** \$4.00 ALL MATINEES, **CHILDREN & SENIOR CITIZENS** *PASS RESTRICTED

FINANCE

Continued from Page 1A

Rick Perry for his signature. Under legislation passed by the House, all school

districts are guaranteed a 3 percent increase in funding, and teachers are promised a pay raise. Downes warned, however, that language in the bill could result in new money being considerably less than school officials might expect.

Downes also criticized a portion of the bill that calls for a mandated start of the school year on the first Tuesday after Labor Day, with the year ending no later than June 7.

"We firmly believe that local school districts should be the ones who decide when the school year begins and ends," he said.

Other proposed changes included in the legislation include:

· Texas Assessment of

ARRESTS

Continued from Page 1A

Jerrold Crook, 34, who arrived at the prison in 1996 and allegedly started the conspiracy with three others inmates.

Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) tests will be eliminated in grades 9-12, and replaced with end-ofcourse tests in English, Geometry, Algebra, History, Physics and Chemistry. Students would not receive course credit unless they pass these new tests.

Jonathan Ray; Matthew

· All students will take the ACT or SAT at least once during their junior or senior year, at no cost to the student.

 Students in grades K-6 cannot be assigned to a class with a first-year teacher two years in a

· Local districts will be required to use at least 1 percent of their total maintenance and operations expenditures to provide incentive payments to employees.

Final passage of education legislation is not expected until near the end of the legislative ses-

Saturday night

703 W. 3rd

Sun., Wed, and Friday

Perry then has until June 19 to sign the bills.

Downes said that means that, regardless of what bills are passed, the local district will have little time to implement mandated changes before the start of the next school year.

In other business, trustees:

· Learned that district enrollment currently stands at 3,735 students, about 140 fewer than this time last year. Big Spring ranks 194th among 222 Class 4A schools in attendance, Downes said.

 Renewed contracts for the district's teachers and other professional personnel.

 Approved a facility fee waiver for the Relay For Life organization, so that it can use Blankenship Field for its annual event.

 Approved bids totaling \$179,000 to Johnson Construction Group of sion on May 30. Gov. Big Spring to provide

263-6862

806 E. 3rd

PLAYING FOR THE FIRST TIME AT THE EAGLES LODGE

cover charge

EAGLES BINGO

electrical upgrades and Washington Elementary, Bauer Magnet School and Goliad Middle School.

 Approved textbook recommendations and calendar amendments for the 2005-06 school year.

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



Elrod's

Big Spring's Oldest, Finest, Largest Furniture Store

2309 Scurry St.



267-8491

ROGER

SIMON

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

John A. Moseley Managing Editor

Bill McClellan News Editor

OUR VIEWS

We salute:

Each week, the Herald salutes individuals and comps from our community and area ave been recognized for special achievements or accomplishments.

We recognize these special people for working to help make our region a better place to live, work and play

This week we salute:

* Officens Federal Credit Union on its 50th

· Manuel "Manny" Puga, who has been named chief executive officer at Cosden Federal Credit

 The Big Spring Eagles Lodge, American Legion Post, Permian Basin Chapter of the Cossacks Motorcycle Club and the Big Spring Bass Club for their efforts in raising funds for the Forsan High School band. Congratulations too, to all of the cook-off winners.

· Heritage Museum and its hard workers on a great new exhibit: Law and Order.

Is there an individual or organization in our community that you feel should be saluted? If so: please send us their name and why you think they should be recognized. We must have your name and telephone number and you must provide it in writing.

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 tele-

phone 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

Simon says: Random thought and musings

oes anyone still have a rumpus room? The most President Bush can hope for out of his Social Security campaign is to make the Democrats "grasp the nettle" first and come up with their own plan for

benefit cuts before Bush is forced to come up with his. And the Democrats will do this. If they are very, very stupid.

What is with all this knuckle-cracking in public? When did this become acceptable behavior? Stop

Niagara Falls is actually very impres-

There are few cheeses that I don't like.

According to a Pentagon audit, Halliburton Co. bought \$82,000 worth of liquefied petroleum gas in Kuwait and then charged U.S. taxpayers more than \$27 million to transport the gas to Iraq.

Government auditors call the fee "illogical." I think I could come up with some others words, like "insane," or, "Why isn't somebody in handcuffs over this?"

Did the Atlanta courtroom shootings really deserve THAT much live airtime?

We all know that when China pays workers 50 cents an hour, they can make goods inexpensively and sell them cheaply in the United States. But think of the other side of the coin: Workers making 50 cents an hour are not going to be able to afford

American products. How many iPods are we going to sell to people who make that little? Which is part of what the trade deficit is all about: China sells us everything from television sets to textiles, while we sell China scrap metal. No wonder our trade deficit with China is over \$15 billion.

When is the last time you saw a really good ventriloquist? (And have you ever seen a ventriloquist's dummy that did not give you nightmares?)

People who don't signal their turns should be beaten with sticks.

From polltrack, a service of nationaljournal.com: "At its peak, the number of people who said the war in Iraq was worth fighting reached 70 percent at the start of the conflict in the spring of 2003; now it is at 45 percent. That figure has dropped fairly steadily since its peak, but it is up three points since December's 42 percent. And President Bush's numbers on the issue show an even more dramatic fall: Approval on his handling of the situation in Iraq — at 75 percent in the April 2003 poll — is now at 39 percent, an all-time low for the ABC/Post survey."

If there is summer stock, how come there's no winter, spring or fall stock?

This may not be uppermost on your mind, but the Taiwan Relations Act of 1979 does not commit the United States to the military defense of Taiwan. People just think it does

You're pretty old if you can remember when pop-tops actually came off the can.

I'll bet you've never seen a real

washboard in your life. (Unless you play in a zydeco band, that

Odd but true: If you are walking along, and your arms are full, and you are trying to balance objects, just sing as you go and you will not drop a thing. Don't ask me why.

How on earth do woodpeckers avoid headaches? It would drive

Do mothers still say: "Stop that! You could put somebody's eye out!"?

From Adam Nagourney's story in The New York Times, March 16: "Some associates of Mr. Kerry said Mr. Edwards had privately assured Mr. Kerry that he would not run for president in 2008 if Mr. Kerry decided to run again, a promise similar to that made by Sen. Joseph I. Lieberman to Al Gore after the 2000 presidential campaign." But Lieberman was nuts to make that pledge to Gore. and Edwards would be nuts to make that pledge to Kerry.

There is nothing wrong and a lot right with plastic wine corks. (Yes, plastic comes from petrochemicals, but it saves cork oak

A lot of people are willing to leave a penny, but most people are too chicken to take a penny.

Could the Ten Commandments be considered the first blog? 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.cre-

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Texas politicians aren't bad — they just act that way

he John Wesley Hardin Died for You Society has a theme song that goes: "He wasn't really bad. He was just a victim of "s." I sometimes find this useful ing to explain Texas political to outsiders.

beory is that few nols are actual crooks, they just have an overdeveloped sense of the extenuating circumstance. Woodrow Wilson Bean once warned himself that skatin' close to the the edge of ethics. After mount, he concluded, Woodrow Wilson Bean.

ethics is for young

lawyers. We had a governor who was caught in a big, fat lie about a football scandal (serious stuff) and explained, "Well, there never was a Bible in the room."

MOLLY

IVINS

Come civilians believe the definition of an lionest Texas pol is one who stays bought. But among pols of the old school, the saying was, "If you can't take their money, drink their whiskey, screw their women and vote against 'em anyway, you don't belong in the Legislature." Many of our pols have the ethical sensitivity of a walnut. All this has led many to conclude erroneously led forn DeLay, an alumnus of the legislature, is-somehow our

fault I grant you a certain resemblance to

some of our more notorious standards: "Everybody does it" and "They did it first" are actually considered excuses here. But I categorically reject cultural responsibility for Tom DeLay. Real Texas politicians are neither hypocritical nor sanctimonious. A pol does what he must - fish gotta swim, birds gotta fly - but no pol of the Old School, when DeLay served in the Lege, would add self-righteousness to shady dealing. Nor was hyper-partisanship practiced.

Under Bill Hobby, Bob Bullock and Pete Laney, Republicans were given their fair share of power. In fact, Republicans and liberals sometimes joined forces against conservative Democrats.

This was before the time when religion was regularly dragged into politics. The idea that you were immune from ethical lapses because you had found Jesus did not fly here. Sanctimony stinks in the nostrils of the Lord.

Doing favors for big campaign donors may indeed be an "everybody does it," but when those favors take the form of laws that directly hurt your people, you're supposed to draw the line. Over the line is where Texas pols would put using a children's charity as a cover for collecting soft money from special interest groups and then spending it on dinners, a golf tournament, a rock concert, Broadway tickets and so forth. Because the money was supposedly for a charity, Celebrations for Children,

Inc., special interests who wanted favors from DeLay were able to give him money without revealing themselves as campaign donors. Cute trick, Tom, but a really cruddy thing to do.

In another example of ethical rot, DeLay took a \$100,000 check from the Corrections Corporation of America, a company that runs private prisons in Texas and has a 20-year history that includes mismanagement and abuse. CCA wants the Texas Lege, over which DeLay exercises considerable sway because he's a money conduit, to privatize the prisons. And that check? Made out to DeLay's children's charity, the DeLay Foundation for Kids. Barf.

Another quality that makes DeLay an un-Texas pol is that he's mean. By and large, Texas pols are an agreeable set of less-than-perfect humans and quite often well-intentioned. As Carl Parker of Port Arthur used to observe, if you took all the fools out of the Lege, it would not be a representative body any longer. The old sense of collegiality was strong, and vindictive behavior punishing pols for partisan reasons was simply not done. But those are Tom DeLay's specialties, his trademarks. The Hammer is not only genuinely feared in Washington, he is, I'm sorry to say, hated.

Some of the ethics charges against DeLay are just plain old-fashioned grubby - letting a lobbyist pay for a fancy hotel in London and a golf trip to St. Andrews (Delay claims he didn't

know it was lobby money, even though he was accompanied by the lobbyist). What sets DeLay apart is his response when his shoddy behavior is exposed.

He has been admonished three times by the House Ethics Committee, so did he clean up his act? Nope, he went after the chairman of the ethics committee, threw him out, got the rules changed and then stacked the committee with his close allies. "The ethics process in the House of Representatives is in total shambles," said Fred Wertheimer, a longtime D.C. crusader on ethical issues.

I haven't even mentioned DeLay's apparent violation of Texas campaign finance law, quite a feat, since we only have the one. Or the whole nasty and absurd redistricting mess, or the dubious donations to his legal defense fund, or the Indian casino gambling saga, or, or, or.

The Houston Chronicle, DeLay's home paper, has been vigilant about tracking his lapses. The paper recently summed up his m.o.: "When in danger of losing, simply rewrite the rules in the middle of the game to make it impossible for the other side to win."

This guy smells like a slop jar. Get him out of there.

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.

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WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

House committee plans to issue subpoenas to keep Terry Schiavo alive

WASHINGTON (AP) — Working against the clock House lawmakers tried to prevent doctors in Florida from removing the feeding tube Friday from a severely brain-damaged woman.

In a two-pronged approach, a House committee was issuing congressional subpoenas to stop doctors from disconnecting the tube, while an attorney for the parents of the woman. Terri Schiavo, said he would ask a federal judge in Tampa to block the removal and review the actions of state courts.

Such habeas corpus appeals seek to require the government to justify its actions.

"We are going to ask him to issue a stay because in this case, state action would be used to end the life of an innocent, disabled woman," the attorney, David

Police in Pinellas Park, Fla., meanwhile, readied for the hundreds of protesters expected to show up outside Schiavo 's hospice as the hours slipped away before the scheduled 1 p.m. removal of her feeding tube.

The Florida House on Thursday passed a bill 78-37 to block the withholding of food and water from patients in a persistent vegetative state who did not leave specific instructions regarding their care. But hours later, the Senate defeated a different measure 21-16, and one of the nine Republicans voting against indicated that any further votes would be futile.

In a last-ditch attempt to stop the court-ordered removal, a House committee on Capitol Hill here decided early Friday morning to start an investigation into Schiavo's case and issue subpoenas order ing doctors and hospice administrators not to remove her feeding tubes and to keep her alive until that investigation was complete.

House, Senate OK \$2.6 trillion budgets with warring views of Bush spending cuts

WASHINGTON (AP) — Republicans forging a compromise \$2.6 trillion budget will have to balance a House plan that exceeds President Bush's planned cuts in Medicaid and other programs against a Senate outline that ignores many of the proposed

The two GOP-run chambers approved fiscal blueprints for next year on Thursday with vastly differ ent appetites for Bush's recipe of curbing rampant deficits by reining in benefit programs for the first time since 1997.

The House's budget would cull up to \$20 billion from planned Medicaid spending over the next five years, a 1 percent reduction that would more than double what Bush's savings are worth. Overall, it seeks \$69 billion in reductions from agriculture, student loans and other benefits, \$18 billion more than

But in the Senate, rebellious moderate Republicans joined Democrats in voting 52-48 to eliminate all \$14 billion in Medicaid savings that chamber's budget had proposed. Senators also voted to roll back Bush's plans to cut billions of dollars from education, community development, water projects and others.

Highlighting unease by Republicans in both chambers, the House plan was approved by 218-214, while the Senate's squeaked through on a 51-49 vote.

McGwire won't say whether he took steroids

WASHINGTON (AP) — In a room filled with hum bled heroes, Mark McGwire hemmed and hawed the

His voice choked with emotion, his eyes nearly filled with tears, time after time he refused to answer the question everyone wanted to know: Did he take illegal steroids when he hit a then-record 70 home runs in 1998 — or at any other time?

Asked by Rep. Elijah Cummings, D-Md., whether he was asserting his Fifth Amendment right not to incriminate himself, McGwire said: "I'm not here to talk about the past. I'm here to be positive about this subject.'

Asked whether use of steroids was cheating, McGwire said: "That's not for me to determine."

To a couple of other questions, all he would say is: "I'm retired."

The dark clouds over baseball rained on Big Mac, whose powerful bat once captivated the nation.

He was just part of Thursday's show at the House Government Reform committee's hearing on steroids in baseball, when lawmakers repeatedly threatened federal legislation to govern drug testing in not just baseball, but perhaps all U.S. sports.

Five current and former players, three of them among the 10 leading home run hitters in history. found themselves sitting biceps-to-biceps on Capitol Hill instead of a baseball field, wearing business suits instead of uniforms, forced by subpoena to testify before Congress about whether they cheated by using steroids.

Charge that former Colombian president was bribed retracted by U.S. prosecutor

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP) - A U.S. federal attorney who accused the Cali drug cartel of bribing former President Ernesto Samper and dozens of congressmen to pass a favorable extradition law retracted his statement after Colombia threatened to stop turning over suspected traffickers to the United States.

Samper denied the allegations by U.S. Attorney Paul Perez, made in a March 9 court paper obtained by The Associated Press on Thursday. Still they caused an uproar in Colombia as officials questioned whether the United States remained committed to the 1997 treaty.

U.S. Ambassador William Wood held a late-night news conference to try to repair the damage, insisting the United States would comply with the extradition requirements from its key ally in Latin America.

Wood, however, refused to explain why the document was shelved, saying only there had been a "confusion" and that he had just handed President Alvaro Uribe a revised version that omitted any mention of the accusations against Samper and the other politicians.

Arrival of splinter Mormon group in West Texas makes locals wary

By MICHAEL GRACZYK

Associated Press Writer

ELDORADO (AP) With the legal heat rising against its leader in Arizona and Utah, a splinter group of polygamous Mormons is hurriedly building a new community in sparsely populated West Texas.

But the arrival of the Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints - marked by a temple tower rising out of the rocky terrain and prickly pear cactus — has been about as welcome among locals as a new species of rattlesnake.

"I' think there's reason to be apprehensive, but they've done nothing to warrant any kind of great fear," Schleicher County Judge Johnny Griffin said. "But it's the unknown. ... It's the secrecy that bothers most people. I just hope nothing happens.

congregation, known as FLDS and led by reclusive prophet Warren Jeffs since his father's death in 2002, is one of several groups that split from the Salt Lake City-based Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in the decades after it renounced polygamy in 1890.

The FLDS began migrating 77 years ago to a remote area along the Utah-Arizona state line, where its members live in almost complete seclusion in the twin cities of Hildale, Utah, Colorado City, Members are not allowed newspapers, radio, TV or the Internet — and are forbidden to speak with outsiders.

The sect, which may have as many as 10,000 members, has a history of polygamy that's long been an open secret in Utah. In civil suits filed recently former members there, Jeffs is accused of sexual misconduct and of assigning young girls as wives to older men.

But authorities say the accusations aren't sufficient to produce criminal charges because they

"For three years now, he's been doing everything he can to keep people from cooperating with us and to take steps to avoid our efforts," said Utah Attorney General

Mark Shurtleff, who recently held a town hall meeting on the church with ' Arizona Attorney General Terry Goddard.

For Larry Donaldson, who has a ranch just

up the road from the much," FLDS site in Texas, Jeffs' Branch Davidian compound outside Waco.

"That's just the thing I thought of," Donaldson said from his pickup truck, a rifle resting on the seat next to him to take care of predators coveting his livestock.

The new complex just north of Eldorado, about 160 miles northwest of San Antonio, includes roughly a dozen concrete and log apartment buildings plus other structures around the fortress-like temple, about 80 feet tall, that's nearing comple-

The main entry to the property is a dirt easehas been spotted atop a construction tower that has a bird's-eye view of the 1,691-acre tract.

The Rev. Joseph Vathalloor, whose small Roman Catholic church is at the intersection of the road leading to the FLDS site, said he and other talked about trying to say hello to Jeffs.

"But what I'm told is

Vathalloor said.

The number of church members in Eldorado is unknown, and while they've been seen only sporadically, they're easily spotted in the town of just under 2,000.

The sect, which may have as many as 10,000 members, has a history of polygamy that's long been an open secret in Utah

can't get anyone to talk he's not seeing anyone,"

Men and boys wear. buttoned-up

long-sleeve shirts. Long. loose-fitting pastel-colored dresses are worn by women and girls, who have also long braided hair.

They don't say

said Tammy McGinnis, 28, who works move stirs memories of at a Shell convenience the fiery demise a decade store not far from the ago of David Koresh and compound where some his followers at the church men have purchased gasoline. "I said hello to one. He just looked down."

> Randy Mankin, editor of the 1,100-circulation Eldorado Success — the town's weekly, said his newspaper has been following the construction of the compound for about year. That's when Mankin took a call from a woman named Flora Jessop inquiring about a local land purchase; she heard it was related to the

Five months earlier, a company called YFZ Land LLC spent nearly \$700,000 for a former exotic game ranch, prompting chuckment blocked by a locked les from locals who figmetal gate. A quarter- ured some greenhorn got mile down the path snookered into paying legal wife. The others are there's a small guard about twice the value of known as "celestial" shack, and someone the place. The buyer's wives, Doyle said. equipped with binoculars representative initially told real estate agents and police he planned to operate the property as a hunting retreat.

> atrstrip nearby reported buildings under construcsomething else entirely. "They told a great big

clergy in town have lie," said Jimmy Doyle, peace.

escaped from the church nearly two decades ago and devotes her life to helping others to do so, showed up in Eldorado a week later. She claims she still has contacts within the church, and worries that the congregation's fierce loyalty to Jeffs might one day result in violence.

Yet George Arispe, the Schleicher County sheriff's chief deputy, noted that none has been reported at the site, and that the people he's seen are "hardworking folks" and "awesome confractors, great at what they do."

People who have watched from afar say much the same.

Within two months, the temple foundation was in, steel and decking four floors high was up, the exterior was wrapped in plywood and circular towers like castle lookouts stood at each corner. Now, cream-colored limestone from an onsite quarry is being attached to the temple walls.

Only a handful of "nonbelievers" have been allowed inside the compound. One woman died last July of breast cancer and her death had to be confirmed by Doyle.

"It was not elaborate. but it was very nice, Doyle said of his visit to the quarters of Barbara Barlow Jeffs, believed one of the 50 to 70 wives of the church leader.

In Texas, where bigamy is a misdemeanor, church men get around the law by declaring only one

Griffin, the county judge, is torn between what is viewed by many as a threat to his county and his respect for the Then pilots using an rights of privacy and religious freedom. And Doyle said he can't see any tion that looked like criminal charges "until one of the girls comes into my office and raises her hand and swears the county's justice of the they've been molested by so and so, and that's Jessop, who said she never going to happen."

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was raised in a family of two older brothers. My father and mother were married at a very young age and, bless her heart, she was the only female influence in a family of males.

All the boys look a little bit alike and we can-

not deny each other, though we tried several times while growing up.

As I get older, I am always reminded that each of

us have some genetic as well as some learned traits that have surfaced in each other's lives

CLAYTON

I have my father's ears, my middle brother had his nose, while my oldest brother has my dad's build. We also sound quite a bit alike.

More than these characteristics, we do some things that we learned growing up and we do them all alike. Just the other day I caught myself answering someone who was displeased with a politician and said that they wished they would all evaporate with a phrase my mother used countless times.

I said, "Well, isn't that nice!" My mother's saying slipped out before I could catch it.

We all tend to gather physical or character blocks that make us who we are from those who have contributed genetically or through experience.

For this reason, I am always floored when people tell me that they no longer go to church.

They have been hurt by this person or by that experience. I almost always ask, "What are you doing about Jesus?"

When we come to Christ, He is our brother and God is our father. Since Jesus established the church, when did we get the special message that we could "take it or leave it?"

Since we are always learning, being formed into the people we are to going to be, God changed our genetic structure into the eternal when we came by faith to believe in Jesus as our Savior.

We are now in the ongoing process of gaining through experience whom we are becoming.

I don't remember Jesus establishing a sport to propitiate His Name or His Mission. I don't see any Biblical proof text that shows that we should ignore Jesus' church to become loners or mere travelers in our walk on this earth.

My real family is the Family of God. I just wonder what others hear when they listen to me? Is what I am saying,

who I am being, a good reflection upon my true family. If I am a Christian, what is being said to a lost world when I, who claim to be in this family, look and act nothing like Jesus Christ?

Come back to the church in Jesus' name and take on the characteristics that come from God being worshipped in a gathering of believers. The church is not perfect, because we who are

sinners are in it. There is no excuse to justify the avoidance of worshipping with other believers. Worshipping our Lord is who we should be if we intend to reflect God.

Come; let us worship the Lord together!

The Rev. Rex Clayton is pastor of East Fourth Street Baptist Church.

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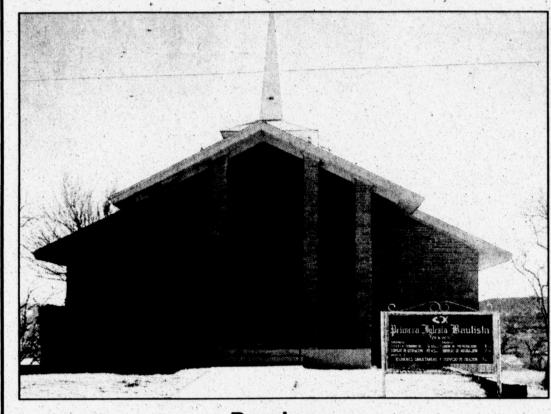
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821 W. 4th Big Spring, TX. Now faith is the substance of things hoped

for, the evidence of things not seen. Hebrews 11:1



BIG SPRING

Friday, Ma

Easter Sunr Service

comr Easter Sunris set for 6:45 a.i in the B Amphitheate Comanche Tr Area pastor ing in this a

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Clayton of I Street Baptist Rev. Craig Cornerstone Rev. Mike J Christ Church, Ca Keeny and Keeney of th Army, the Re Ring of Fi Methodist C Rev. Lynn associate Community Church of th the Rev. Jim V ister of mus

Ypina, Hispan er of Fir Methodist Ch Pianist th Christy Cornerstone Special music vided by Shel

United Metho

and the Re

Hillcrest Bapt The public this free even

Cornerstone A benefit ga set in the building, at the 13th and Ow from 7 a.m. Saturday. All to the churc

fund. Cornerstone Every Nation church, Morning International children in k

Sunday child ties. Sunday, th

through four



will be part of

Big Spring-**County Reti**

Teachers As The Big Spi County Retir Association Monday in Room at How Lunch will b 11:30 a.m.

Ruth Cook McDaniel wi program abou County.

All retired sonnel are

attend. TOPS TX 21

Fifteen n Take Off Sensibly (To met in the I Rehab Cente Monday, Donna Meng Olnee Meng meeting wit lowed by th Keep Of Pou (KOPS) Shirley Jeni group in sir

lowship song Olnee Me reading ti Walk," Menges pres ing, Cherry Sech

chuckle

Coron

1 Bedroom 801 W. N Big Sp

Pool, Privat & Washer -2-3 Bedroo

Church News

Easter Sunrise Service

community-wide Easter Sunrise Service is set for 6:45 a.m. March 27 Spring in the Big Amphitheater Comanche Trail Park.

Area pastors participating in this annual event include the Rev. Rex Clayton of East Fourth Street Baptist Church, the Rev. Craig Felty of Cornerstone Church, the Rev. Mike Johnston of Community Christ Church, Capt. Linda Keeny and Capt. Russ Keeney of the Salvation Army, the Rev. Dr. Dave Ring of First United Methodist Church, the Rev. Lynn Robertson, associate pastor of Community of Hope Church of the Nazarene, the Rev. Jim Wright, minister of music of First United Methodist Church and the Rev. Agustin Ypina, Hispanic missioner of First United Methodist Church.

Pianist this year is Christy Alton Church. Cornerstone Special music will be provided by Shelly Choate of Hillcrest Baptist Church.

Cornerstone Church

this free event.

A benefit garage sale is set in the YoungLife building, at the corner of 13th and Owens streets, from 7 a.m. until 2 p.m. Saturday. All proceeds go to the church building fund.

Cornerstone Church, an Every Nation Ministries , formerly church, Morning Star International, invites children in kindergarten First United through fourth grade to Sunday children's activi-

Sunday, the children will be part of God's story

by doing the Easter story. They will make their own props and then participate in the telling of what happened on that special morning many years ago, when Jesus arose from the dead. March 27 the children will tell their Easter story during the morning worship service. Then they will have a special celebration time.

The New Youth, for grades five and six, continue to study the Easter story.

the corner of 12th and McMeans from the Owens streets, offers a family atmosphere of praise and worship. Morning worship begins at 11:50 a.m. and worship at 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday worship is at 7 p.m. Childcare is available for newborns through preschool. Call Pastor Craig or Cherise Felty at 263-3072 with any questions.

Calvary Baptist Church

Calvary Baptist Church welcomes all those who are looking for a place to worship. Calvary Baptist Church is located at 1200 Fourth Street. The public is invited to Preaching services are at 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. Sunday, Sunday school is at 9:45 a.m. and Wednesday Bible study is at 5 p.m.

Life Church

Life Church at 600 E. FM 700, offers two morning worship services Sunday, first at 8:30 a.m. and again at 10:30 a.m. Children's Ministries are available during both services for ages 0-12.

Methodist Church

Palm Sunday will feature the Chancel Choir presentation of "God So Loved the World" at both

services. Worship services are at

8:30 a.m. and 10:50 a.m. Sunday school classes meet at 9:45 a.m. The Confirmation Class is also meeting at 9:45 a.m. Chancel Choir rehearses at 2 p.m. and Children's Choir rehearsal is at 4

morning

Kid's Fun Night is from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. in the Partee building for children ages 4 to fifth grade.

Holy Week Mid-Day Services begin Monday Cornerstone, located at with The Rev. Ken College Baptist Church preaching. All mid-day services will serve lunch services are from 12:25 p.m. until 12:55 p.m.

> The Open Door Class hosts Fun Night Monday at 7 p.m. Everyone is invited for food and games.

The Rev. Byron Brown of Community of Hope Nazarene Church will preach Tuesday and The Rev. Darrell Hendrickson of First Church of God will lead the service

Watch the newspaper

for coupon specials

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Wednesday.

The Hispanic Bible Study is at 6 p.m. and all Youth meet at 6:30 p.m. for Youth Bible Study. Handbells practice at 7 p.m. and Centered in Praise rehearses at 8 p.m.

Thursday's featured speaker is the Rev. Rex Clayton of East Fourth Street Baptist Church and the Rev. Jimmie Long of City-Wide Fellowship will preach Friday.

Thursday night is the Passover Seder at 6 p.m., and Friday at 5:45 p.m. is tion. Youth Activity Night.

The church office will St. Paul be closed Good Friday, March 25.

The church is located at 400 Scurry.

For more information on any of these programs, call the church office at 267-6394.

East Fourth Street Baptist Church

BILBREY TEURS

Abilene, Texas

East Fourth Street Baptist Church, 401 E. Fourth St., offers these opportunities for Christian growth and ser-

school; 11 a.m. morning. worship and Easter Musical; 4:45 p.m., youth, Girls in Action, .Royal Ambassadors, Mission Friends and Mission Babies; 5 p.m. choir practice; 6 p.m. Mexican Saturday, Fiesta; Children's Fellowship/Skating Party; 6:30 p.m. March 23, Beth Moore Women's Bible Study, 2 p.m. until 4 p.m., Men's Bible Study. Call 267-2291 for more informa-

Lutheran Church

We welcome you to join us in worship this Easter season. Holy Week services include Maundy Thursday Communion Service at 7 p.m. March 24 and Good Friday Service of Darkness at 7:30 p.m. March 25.

At 7:45 a.m. Easter Sunday we have a courtyard worship service. The Easter Festival Service follows at 10 a.m. Celebrate the resurrec-

vice: 9:45 a.m. Sunday tion of our Lord! Christ is risen; He is risen indeed! Join us at Ninth and Gregg streets. Call 267-7163 for more information.

YoungLife

Club members are preparing for YoungLife camp July 2-10 in Colorado.

All parents of students interested in camp are invited to the club meeting at 7:59 p.m. Monday in the YoungLife building, 13th and Owens streets, for a chili dog supper and to learn more about camp.

YoungLife, a non-profit Christian organization for high school students, seeks Christian, adult volunteers to work with teen-agers to enjoy skits, comedy routines and fellowship during YoungLife

For more information or to contribute YoungLife, call leader Shelly Warren at 264-1234.

See CHURCH NEWS Page 8A





IT'S A STAMPEDE OF SAVINGS! **2005 EXPLORER** 2005 EXPEDITION \$2,500 Customer Cash \$3,000 Customer Cash \$1,000 FMCC Bonus Cash \$1,500 FMCC Bonus Cash **APR Financing** \$750 Discount on Leather APR Financing for up to \$3,500 Cash Back for up to **60 MONTHS 60 MONTHS** Also Available

Club News

Big Spring- Howard County Retired Teachers Association

The Big Spring-Howard County Retired Teachers Association meets Monday in the Cactus Room at Howard College. Lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m.

Ruth Cook and Bobbie McDaniel will present a program about Glasscock County.

All retired school personnel are invited to attend.

TOPS TX 21

Fifteen members of Take Off poundds Sensibly (TOPS) TX 21 met in the Dora Roberts Rehab Center at 5:30 p.m. Monday, with leader Donna Menges presiding. Olnee Menges opened the meeting with prayer, followed by the TOPS and Keep Of Pounds Sensiblt (KOPS) pledges and Shirley Jenkins led the group in singing the fellowship song.

Olnee Menges gave a reading titled "So I Donna Walk," and Menges presented a read-"Wildflowers." Cherry Sechelski read a chuckle titled "Don't

Mess With Senior Women.'

Minutes of last week's meeting was read by secretary Gladys Russell and Genay Bertran called the roll.

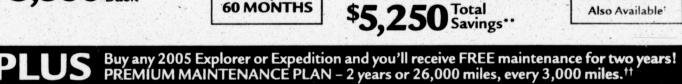
Of the nine TOPS present, Donna Menges was the weekly best loser and received the weekly award and a certificate. All of the six KOPS weighed in, with two turtles (weighing the same as last week) and four small gains, but each one is still within their allowed leeway.

Alex Sechelski, one of two male members, is one of the two KOPS who will graduate at the upcoming State Recognition Days in San Angelo. He will represent the club as chapter king.

Nine member have made reservations for the meeting in San Angelo and six of the nine will be on stage at one time or the other during the twoday event.

Following the program by Duffy Yancy titled Up Those "Burn Calories," the club was dismissed.

For more information about TOPS, call 1-800-392-8677 or locally 263-0391 or 263-1758.





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Church News

Catholic Diocese of San Angelo

March 25, Bishop Michael D. Pfeifer will continue the tradition in San Angelo of venerating the last few days of Jesus' physical existence on this earth. Bishop Pfeifer will lead a procession that will depart at 1 p.m. from St. Margaret's Church, 2619 Era St. The procession will move a few blocks to the Christ the King Retreat Center, 802 Ford

During the procession, the participants will read the scriptural passages describing the suffering and death of Christ and pray the rosary.

The parishioners of St. Margaret will serve their traditional free soup and salad lunch at noon prior to the start of the procession.

At the Retreat Center, the Bishop will lead the procession throughout the beautiful Grotto of the Stations of the Cross, on the banks of the Concho River and Bishop Pfeifer and the faithful will recite and sing the cherished prayers of the Stations of the Cross.

All Christians are invited to participate.

Birdwell Lane Baptist Church

The membership of Birdwell Lane Baptist Church encourages you, if you are looking for a church home, to visit with them at 1512 Birdwell Lane. We are a very friendly church family you have been looking for who lifts Jesus Christ up daily.

Saturday to discuss their Monday; Wednesdays at 5 upcoming May Mother-Daughter Banquet.

Sunday Services are at 10:55 a.m. and at 5 p.m. tice will be at 6 p.m. Midweek services are at 7 Maundy Thursday at 7

By MARSHA STURDIVANT

Local high school senior

Stephani Nixson has been

named Miss Junior Big

Spring and is now headed

for the Miss Junior

Texas, followed by the

Miss Junior America con-

"I am really excited to

have this opportunity and

feel honored to be repre-

senting Big Spring in

Dallas," said Nixson, 18,

daughter of Jack and

Donna Nixson of Big

Nominated anonymous-

ly, Nixson said she

earned the honor to rep-

resent Big Spring after

she successfully complet-

ed the application and

"I want to do this to try

something different and

to dress up and not be a

A senior at Maranantha

Baptist Academy, Nixson

said she enjoys photogra-

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interview process.

tomboy," she said.

Spring.

Features Editor

p.m. Wednesday. For p.m., Communion Service information on services or activities, call 267-7157 or 267-8214.

Midway Baptist Church

Sunday from 2 p.m. until 3 p.m. is a Children's Easter Program and Party at the Coahoma City Park. Children, parents, friends and neighbors are all invited to attend. There will also be an Easter Egg Hunt and refreshments.

Regular service times are Sunday school, 9:45 a.m.; morning worship, 11 a.m.: Team Kids, Royal Ambassadors, Girls in Action, 5 p.m.; Cross Training for Youth, 5 p.m.; evening service, 6 p.m.

Wednesday Fellowship 5:30 Meal, p.m.; Children's Choir, 6 p.m.; Solid Rock for Youth, 6 p.m.; Little Dribblers, 7 p.m.; Youth choir and drama, 7 p.m.; Adult Bible study, 7 p.m.

We consider it an honor to be able to share the

love of Christ. The church is located at 6200 S. Service Road I-20. For more information, call the church office at 263-6274.

First Presbyterian Church

The Rev. Matthew Miles, minister, will speak on text from Matthew 26:14-17:66 Palm Sunday. Worship service is held at 11 a.m. Sunday school begins at 9:45 a.m. and Take 10 follows at 10:35 a.m.

Opportunities for Holy Week include: a Session meeting at 6 p.m. p.m. is a confirmation class, prayer service is at 5:30 p.m. and choir prac-

and reading.

dent art show.

diesel mechanics.

the pageant itself.

264-9318.

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267-6344

over KBYG 1400 AM Evangelistic Service....6:00 p.m.

school she plans to attend

college and may study

She is seeking support

from the community to

assist her with traveling

expenses and the cost of

To help Nixson with

For more information

about the contest, visit

www.missjuniorameri-

Marsha Sturdivant is

the features editor for the

Big Spring Herald.

Contact her at 263-7331 or

e-mail life@bigspringher-

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Randy Cotton

Sunday School......10:00 a.m.

Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.

Wednesday Service.....7:00p.m.

these expenses, call her at

will be held and Good Friday Tennebrae Service will begin at 7 p.m.

A special event Palm Sunday is a pot luck luncheon after church. Bring a favorite dish and join

Everyone is always welcome to join any of the First activities at Presbyterian Church, located on Runnels between Seventh and Eighth streets.

Baptist Temple Church

Sunday is a very special day of worship. The Sunday morning celebration is a No Excuse Sunday. Just come as you are, within reason, for a time of coffee, juice, milk, water and donuts from 9 a.m. until 9:30 a.m. Bible study begins at 9:30 a.m. and worship to follow at 10:45 a.m. Sunday. Fulltime Evangelist Murlyn Keller and his family are leading worship. The Keller's sing, preach and do chalk talk. During the Sunday evening service at 6, there is a birthday celebrtion in the fellowship hall. There will be a meal and everyone may have cake and eat it, too.

The Sunrise service is at 7 a.m. March 27, with breakfast to follow at 8:30. a.m., morning Bible Study at 9:30 a.m. and then the Adult choir will present an Easter Cantata. The day concludes with celebrating the Lord's Supper. There will be no evening service Easter Sunday.

Baptist Temple offers something for everyone. We are in the heart of Big Spring with Big Spring on our hearts.

For more information, call 267-8287 or visit our web site at www.baptisttemplechurch.org



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HENRY BACKES

friendly welcome. First Baptist Church,

Big Spring Included with our regularly scheduled activities Sunday will be a luncheon sponsored by the youth of the church. The meal will be in the Family Life Center. The price will be a donation.

the corner of 11th and

Goliad streets, where you

will find a warm and

Begin the day with Sunday school at 9:30 a.m. and attend morning worship that begins at 10:50 a.m. The Rev. Dennis Teeters, pastor, will preach a sermon from John titled, "Dead Man Walking." A meal immediately follows the service. The children, who have

been learning memory verses and books of the Bible, will participate in a church Bible Drill at 2 p.m. in the chapel. Sunday Night Live continues at 4:30 p.m. with evening worship at 6 p.m. Saturday, children of all ages are invited to come to the Family Life Center 10 a.m.

for "Eggstravaganza." This will be a great time for the little ones to have fun and learn about Jesus' love for them.

come and meet with us at and its activities, call 267-

North Birdwell Lane **Baptist Church**

North Birdwell Lane Baptist Church extends an invitation to join the congregation for Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday services. The Easter service includes the Service of Holy Communion in celebration of the reserrection of the Savior.

Administrative The Council of the church meets at 5 p.m. Saturday to set dates for annual events such as the chili supper, Vacation Bible School and the Stew Supper. Several items of urgent business are also scheduled for discussion. All council members or any concerned member of the church is urged to attend.

The church is located at 2702 N. Birdwell Lane. Sunday worship services are at 9:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. Sunday school for all ages is offered at 10:30 a.m. Bible study is conducted at 6:30 p.m. the first and third Wednesdays of each month. United Methodist Women mest at 4:30 p.m. the second and fourth Thursdays of the month.

The Rev. Joel Miller and the congregation wel-For more information comes everyone to any of concerning our church these services. For those

seeking a church home, consider North Birdwell, a small church with a big heart.

For more information, call 267-4082.

Friends of Unity

The I AM name of God is the focus for the current study at noon Tuesday and 2 p.m. Sunday. These gatherings are open to all interested persons. Call 263-6311 or 267-8783 for further information.

Coahoma United **Methodist Church**

Sunday morning Palm Celebration Service is at 11 a.m. Sunday School begins at 9:45 a.m. The church is located at 401 N. Main, Coahoma. After church is a fund-

raising baked potato lunch, sponsored by the youth. Holy Week Services

include Maundy Thursday Service at 6 p.m. in the sanctuary; Good Friday Service at 6 p.m. in the sanctuary; Easter Sunday Easter Sunrise Service at 7:30 a.m. in the North Courtyard; Easter Egg Hunt sponsored by the youth at the Sunday school hour, 9:45 a.m. until 10:45 a.m. All children are invited to participate; Easter Worship at 11 a.m. in the sanctuary.



Commercial, Residential, Industrial

Local teen to represent Big Spring phy, softball, computers Art is another passion of this teen-ager. She takes art lessons from Sheree Moates, owner of Displays of Splendor and she's earned several awards at the annual stu-Nixson said after high

Stephani Nixson

Just Arrived Youth Locker Room Selection



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B.S. Girl's S Association

signups in N The Big Spr Softball As will be holdin to register upcoming 200 The league

for girls an

ages four and Signups w every throughout to to 6 p.m. at Spring Mall. signups will accepted at A

Sports, locate East 11th Place There is a tion fee of \$30 Tryouts league will t April 2 and t begins play A For more

432-213-3747. Howard rode sets crawfis

tion, call Ron

The Howar rodeo team its annual boil April 16 at the H.C. Ro during College's ann The cost

which includ into rodeo. For more tion, contact rodeo coac Kernick at 81

C.G.A. to ho benefit tourn

. The Chica Association v benefit golf ment at C Trail Golf C Christina F Sunday.

The tournar follow a fo scramble for costs \$20 pe

plus green fee The event v shotgun star ning at 11 teams must tered by 10:30

Barbeque p also be serv each with all going toward expenses Rodriguez.

For more tion, conta Pineda at 264

Pony baseba sets last sig The Big Sp

Baseball Le announced signup days Monday through Frid

The leagu boy's ages 13-signups will at All-Distri Printing from 5:30 p.m. T \$65 per perso the last oppo play this sea

Pony Leag will take pl 22 at 6 p.m. For more tion, call Mi at 263-8857.

Coahoma s League sign The Coah League signups from

noon Sature Coahoma b I-20. The fee aged 13-15

birth certific needed.

For more tion, con Ringener at

Sports

SPRING HERALD

Do you have an interesting sports item or story idea? Call Troy Hyde at 263-7331, Ext. 237. Email results to: sports@bigspringherald.com

Page 1B Friday, March 18, 2005

IN BRIEF

B.S. Girl's Softball Association holding signups in March

The Big Spring Girl's Softball Association will be holding signups to register for the

upcoming 2005 season. The league is open for girls and women ages four and above.

Signups will occur Saturday throughout the month of March from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Big Spring Mall. However, signups will also be accepted at All District Sports, located at 1005 East 11th Place.

There is a registration fee of \$30.

Tryouts for the league will take place April 2 and the league begins play April 25.

For more information, call Ron Shafer at 432-213-3747.

Howard rodeo team sets crawfish boil

The Howard College rodeo team will hold its annual crawfish boil April 16 at 2 p.m. at the H.C. Rodeo Bowl Howard during College's annual rodeo.

The cost is \$15, which includes ticket into rodeo.

For more information, contact Howard rodeo coach Greg Kernick at 816-9477.

C.G.A. to host benefit tourney

The Chicano Golf Association will host a benefit golf tournament at Comanche Trail Golf Course for Christina Rodriguez Sunday.

The tournament will follow a four man scramble format and costs \$20 per player plus green fees. The event will use a

shotgun start beginning at 11 a.m., but teams must be registered by 10:30 a.m.

Barbeque plates will also be served for \$5 each with all proceeds going toward medical expenses for Rodriguez.

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

Pony baseball league sets last signups

The Big Spring Pony Baseball League has announced final signup days will begin Monday and run through Friday, March

The league is for boy's ages 13-15 and the signups will take place at All-District Screen Printing from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. The cost is \$65 per person and it is the last opportunity to play this season.

Pony League tryouts will take place March 22 at 6 p.m.

For more information, call Mike Ritchey at 263-8857.

Coahoma sets Pony League signups

The Coahoma Little League will hold signups from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday at the Coahoma ballpark off

The fee — for boys aged 13-15 — is \$60. A birth certificate is also

For more informa-tion, contact Jill Ringener at 816-1532.

Big Spring wins pitching duel with new rival

 Coahoma shows worth, comes up short of upset

By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor For the second straight season, pitching dominated the Big Spring-Coahoma softball game. And for the second straight year, the Lady Steers won the battle between the new I-20

rivals. Senior A. l e x Watkins (8-1) gave up one run on six hits and struck out 12 batters Thursday

Spring (13-2) defeated Coahoma, 2-1, in nine innings in a game rescheduled after

Tuesday's rain out. "Alex pitched as good as she had all year," said Big Spring coach Phillip Pearce. "She hit her spots and pitched a great

game." Coahoma coach Robby Dickenson added, "Alex is tough to beat. You are only going to get a few chances to beat her and you have to take advantage of it when that time comes. We were unable to do that tonight."

It was just the second time Big Spring has played Coahoma in softball. The Lady Steers defeated the Bulldogettes, 1-0, last year in Coahoma.

Coahoma's only run Thursday came on a seventh inning home run by Bulldogette pitcher Kali Roberts. The home run tied the game and forced extra innings.

Roberts — a junior was just as good and maybe better on the mound. She gave up two runs on just three hits and struck out 10 hitters.

Fund-raiser

Meet the Lady Steer Day

Saturday, 4 p.m.

Lady Steer Softball

Rag Ball game

Lady Steer varsity vs.

BSISD faculty

Chili Dog baskets - \$5

includes chili dog, chips,

cookies and drink.

serving starts at 11 a.m.

Rag Ball game follows Big

Spring softball game vs.

Lubbock Cooper (varsity

starts at 11 a.m. while JV

begins at 1 p.m.)

Complex

Two of Big Spring's three hits came in the final inning.

"Kali came through on the mound and at the plate for us," said Dickenson. "Unfortunately, some base running mistakes early on and our inability to bunt hurt us."

Big Spring scored its first run in the first inning. Roberts gave up a walk to sophomore Amber Sides before senior Heather Vassar moved Sides to second on a sacrifice bunt. Then Watkins laced a line drive shot down the left field line. The RBI triple scored Sides from second and put Big Spring up 1-0.

Neither team did much offensively after that. Big Spring did not get another hit until the ninth inning. Coahoma had chances to score on two different occasions, but failed to send anyone across home plate.

The Bulldogettes stranded Ami Martinez at third base in the fifth inning and then stranded runners on second and third in the seventh. Big Spring senior Chelsea Abner ended Coahoma's threat in the seventh with a running catch in centerfield.

"I thought we had a chance there, but the centerfielder made a nice play," said Dickenson. "We played well enough to win, but couldn't get that extra punch we needed to score."

Coahoma was able to tie the game in the seventh before stranding the two runners. Roberts helped her cause on the mound by leading off the inning with a solo home run.

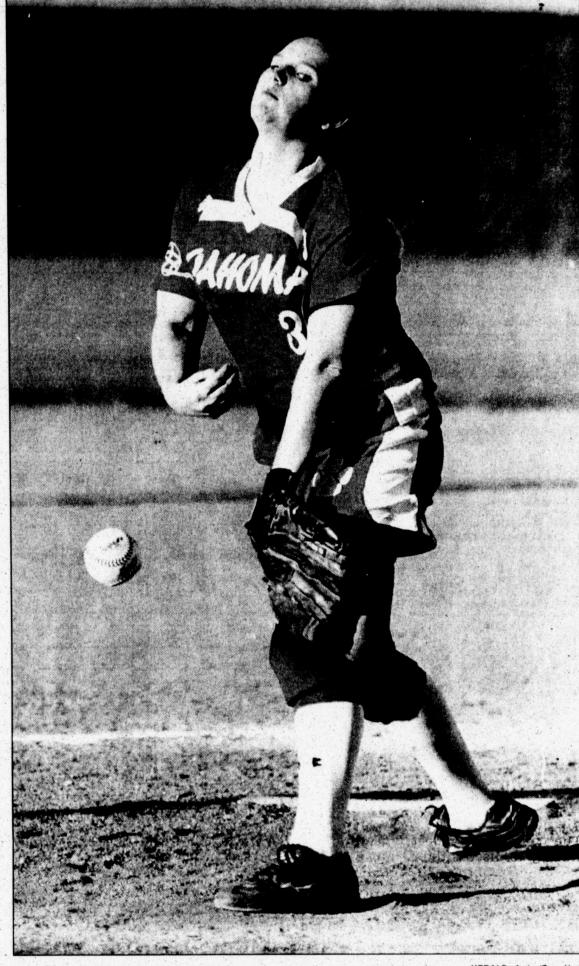
"Alex just left a pitch high and Kali got a hold of it," said Pearce.

Big Spring had troubles hitting the ball Thursday against Roberts, but Pearce is not too worried about the bats when the district season starts next Tuesday.

"I knew we were going to struggle against Coahoma because Kali is so good," said Pearce. "I know we'll start to hit the ball when district rolls around, though. Seeing Kali's speed tonight will help us."

·The two teams agreed to go to the International extra-innings rule (starting a runner on second base) in the ninth. Big Spring won the game in that inning after Vassar delivered an RBI single to Lubbock Cooper at 11 score junior Heather

Policky. Watkins and Vassar led Big Spring at the plate



Coahoma junior Kali Roberts delivers a pitch to the plate against Big Spring Thursday during the Lady Steers' extra-inning win over the Bulldogettes. Roberts took the loss on the mound but gave up just two earned runs and also homered to tie the game in the seventh inning. Big Spring won the game, 2-1, in nine innings.

with an RBI triple and RBI single, respectively. Martinez and Roberts each had two hits for Coahoma.

"This loss is no big deal because we got to play a good team and get better in the process," said Dickenson.

Coahoma's schedule doesn't get any easier. The Bulldogettes host Andrews tonight at 7 p.m. before hosting Midland Lee Tuesday.

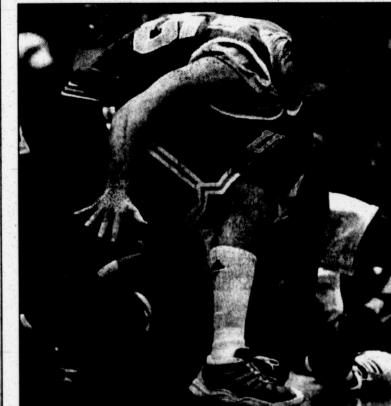
Big Spring will host a.m. Saturday. The Lady Steers will begin District 4-4A play Tuesday at home against Lake View..

NCAA Tournament

First Round scores from Thursday (2) Kentucky 72, (15) Eastern Kentucky 64

(12)Milwaukee-Wisconsin 83, (5)Alabama 73 (8) Pacific 79, (9) Pittsburgh 71 (3)Oklahoma 84, (14)Niagra 67 (1) Washington 88, (16) Montana 77 (2) Wake Forest 70, (15) Chattanooga 54 (3)Gonzaga 74, (14)Winthrop 64 (7)West Virginia 63, (10)Creighton 61 (6)Texas Tech 78, (11)UCLA 66 (7)Cincinnati 76, (10)lowa 64 (6) Utah 60, (11) UTEP 54 (9)Nevada 61, (8)Texas 57 (3) Arizona 66, (14) Utah State 53 (1)Illinois 67, (16)Fairleigh Dickinson 55 (11)UAB 82, (6)LSU 68 (4)Boston College 85, (13)Pennsylvania 65

Ross leads Texas Tech past UCLA



KRT photo/Michael Ainsworth, Dallas Morning News Texas Tech's Devonne Giles, right, tries to get a turnover from UCLA's Matt McKinney during the first half of their first round NCAA tournament game in Tucson, Ariz., Thursday. Texas Tech won the game by 12 points.

By BOB BAUM **AP Sports Writer**

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP) -Ronald Ross is rollin' and Texas Tech is past the first round of the NCAA tournament for the second year in a row.

Ross, who scored 28 and 22 points in the semifinals and finals of the Big 12 tournament, went for 28 again and the Red Raiders shot a seasonhigh 62 percent in a 78-66 first-round victory over 11th-seeded UCLA on Thursday night.

Texas Tech (21-10) improved to 2-2 in NCAA tournament games since coach Bob Knight came to Lubbock four seasons ago. Knight, meanwhile, is 44-23 in 27 NCAA appearances.

The sixth-seeded Red

Gonzaga, a 74-64 winner over Winthrop, in the second round of the Albuquerque Regional on Saturday.

UCLA (17-12), with its lowest seed ever on the 10th anniversary of its last national championship, never led but stayed close until a 12-2 run put Texas Tech up 76-

Jarrius Jackson scored 16 of his 19 points in the second half for Texas Tech. Devonne Giles added 16 points on 7-for-8 shooting and grabbed nine rebounds.

Dijon Thompson scored 22 for UCLA. Josh Shipp added 13 points.

Texas Tech never trailed in the first half, but the Bruins managed to tie it four times, the

Raiders play No. 3 seed last at 29-29 on Shipp's fast-break layup with 4:18 to go. The Red Raiders outscored UCLA 8-2 the rest of the half, capped by a pair of inside baskets by Damir Suljagic in the final minute, to go up 37-31 at the break.

Darryl Dora's stuff shot punctuated a 6-0 spurt that gave Knight's team a 45-36 lead with 17:13 left.

UCLA's last gasp came when Arron Afflalo was fouled on a 3-point try, and made all three free throws to cut Texas Tech's lead to 64-59.

Giles followed with a tip-in, Jackson made an 18-footer and the Red Raiders were on their way to Knight's 851st career victory, 26 shy of Dean Smith's NCAA Division I record.

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China: Limoges, Bavaria. French Havilen, Nippon, Bristol, Noritake, Tienshan Christmas set, much more. Glassware: Depression, Carnival, Fostoria, Cranberry, Ruby Red,

much more. Norman Rockwell collectibles: entire set of Four Seasons figurines,

books, Plates, steins, much more. Figurines: Borghese, Lefton, Andrea, Largo, Norman Rockwell, more.

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Jewelry: tie tacks and pins, earrings, necklace, watches, rings, bracelets, vintage jewelry, loose stones, more.

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

The sun and moon are in compatible water signs, stirring up a powerful of elixir

emotion. Something that merely irked you yesterday now seems terribly urgent and must with dealt before you become so impassioned



that you lose all sense of appropriateness. There are only two days left in this solar cycle. Don't hesitate.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). It's easy to be snobbish. But the chance to practice compassion was never so apparent. The mess you witness this afternoon has everything to do with human error. Have pity on the poor creatures we all are!

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Someone close is in love with an idealized version of you. It's tempting to feed this fantasy and let it all go to your head! Is that so wrong? What if you saw yourself on a regular basis just as this person does?

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Put more heart into your work. Just when you ble of forming their own

your all, that overachiever shows up with a new standard for excellence. If you're doing your very, very best, there's no reason to feel bad about the end result.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). The afternoon features a host of strange but benign interruptions. Beware of people who have nothing better to do with their time but "hang out." You need all the productive hours you can get. LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).

The support you offer someone is not the same support that person can offer you. Nonetheless, don't stop giving. You learn something new and find deeper wells of respect for a loved one when you step into his or her territory.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You need all the optimism vou can get today. Dress in cheery colors. Orange and gold are lucky. Some of you win money this afternoon. Use your spare hours to clean up a pig sty — even if it's not yours.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Your way works for you. But be careful not to impose your vision of the world onto impressionable people. Children, especially, are very capa-

think you're giving it opinions and should be to listen, loved ones fill encouraged to do so.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Someone enthralling comes onto the scene this afternoon. It's hard for you to part company. You may even develop a fast crush. You are particularly susceptible to the charms of a Gemini or Pisces.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You catch the "fever," whether it's hopping on to a hot trend, falling in love with an irresistible someone, or falling prey to that cold that's been passed around the office. (Steer clear of places known to host an array of germs.)

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You can smell success, and you want to rush after it. But people around you feel safer when you act in a slow, controlled manner. As a famous officer once said, "Don't fire until you see the whites of their eyes."

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). The pessimists close in. Hold onto your faith, you child of the air! The world depends on you to be fanciful and filled with wonder. Remember, before you were born, you could fly.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You're not vulnerable, but you are open minded. If you crack the window

your ears with promises, promises — set out on your kitchen table like empty teacups.

WEEKEND REPORT: Mercury's retrograde brings new meaning to the words "starlovers." crossed Misunderstandings intensify romantic feelings. ARIES: You may carry more of the workload in a relationship, but you've got more energy to do this, too. TAURUS: Try as you might, you can't deny when the chemistry is hot. GEMINI: You know when you're with a kindred spirit. That gentle tug on your heart strings gives it away. CANCER: Discern between infatuation and true love. LEO: Build a friendship without expectation of something more. That's how happens. love true VIRGO: Characters in movies fall in love quickly and live happily ever after — but you'll fall in love slowly, truly, deeply. LIBRA: You put plenty of effort into love, and it's worth every bit of it. There is SCORPIO: always room for improvement in relationships, but it's not always wise to point this out. Focus on what's going right now. SAGITTARIUS: It doesn't matter if you've been

unlucky in love before; you're writing a new chapter now. CAPRI-CORN: Don't spend every minute on love, smothering it out of existence. Give it breathing room, and it's magical! AQUAR-IUS: You're getting to the complicated part of a relationship. PISCES: You don't have to run your relationship the same way your parents ran theirs.

COUPLE OF THE WEEKEND: Capricorn and Aries come together like forces of nature this weekend. Capricorn may see Aries as a bright angel, which is far from the truth, but that's OK because Aries Capricorn as a shimmering hero. When the delusion is mutual, the weekend is a romantic blur. Reality can be dealt with next week! The only caution is not to do or say anything that cannot later be undone or taken back.

If you would like to write to Holiday Mathis, please go to www.creators.com and click on "Write the Author" on the Holiday Mathis page, or you may send her a postcard in the mail. To find out more about Holiday Mathis and read her past columns, the visit Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

Annie's Mailbox .: Advice for those in need

Dear Annie: I have been married to "Ruth" for eight years, and we have a 7-year-old daughter. The first year we dated, Ruth cheated on me with her ex-boyfriend. I forgave her and believed it was an isolated incident.

ago, I found evidence that Ruth was engaging in various cybersex activileaf, I believed her

Over the next few years. I repeatedly caught her in similar activity. After each confrontation, I stupidly believed she would



MARCY SUGAR

change "this time." All

she really did was find

new ways to cover her

her 10-year high school

reunion, where she met

up with the ex-boyfriend.

Someone saw them mak-

ing out and told me.

Later, I found e-mail mes-

sages where Ruth said

she had planned to sleep

with her ex at the

reunion because she still

wants him. I was devas-

I have done everything I

can think of to foster hon-

est discussions, but I get

only hostility, screaming

and denial in return. I've

asked Ruth to go for coun-

seling with me, but she

refuses. I am terribly

depressed and want a

worry about our daugh-

ter. Also, a divorce might

very well send us both

into bankruptcy. I feel

trapped. Can you help? –

Betrayed in the Midwest

Dear Betrayed: It is

obvious that Ruth cannot

be trusted and she is not

committed to your mar-

riage. Give her one last

chance to prove other-

wise. Tell her if she does

not go with you for coun-

seling, you are filing for

divorce. Then see an

attorney about your

options and financial sit-

uation, and arrange some

counseling for yourself

and your daughter. For

low-cost options, check

the National Legal Aid

and Defender Association

Alliance for Children and

Dear Annie: This is in

response to the woman

who complained about

people not giving up their

seats or stepping aside to

let her pass into the

church pew. I find her

Families (alliance1.org).

(www.nlada.org)

attitude rude.

divorce. However,

Last year, Ruth went to

tracks.

tated.

However, four years

ties, including exchanging nude pictures and discussing potential in-person meetings. When I confronted Ruth, she denied everything, then tried to make me feel guilty for having caught her. Still, when she promised to turn over a new

Real Estate for Sale

FOR SALE: Good 4 bedroom. 2 bath- \$300. 10 years. 3 Bed-Olderroom. 1 bath-\$3,000.06. 2 Bedroom- very good, \$5,000. 1 Bedroom-Cheap. (432)264-0510.

FOR SALE by Owner: Owner financing provided. Low down payment, will work with income tax refund, low monthly, 3 bedroom, 1 bath. 1500 Kentucky Way. Call Kelly 432-425-9994.

FOR SALE by Owner: Owner financing provided. Low down payment, will work with income tax refund, low monthly, 3 bedroom, 1 bath, 1001 N. Gregg. Call Kelly 432-425-9994.

WILL PAY Cash for Houses up \$25,000.00. Call Kelly (432)425-9994.

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

SMALL PARTIAL land for sale. 5 miles south of Big Spring & 1 1/2 miles west of Coahoma. Owner will Finance Texas Veterans. (432)263-8785.

Vehicles

'04 Nissan Xterras \$3000 OFF MSRP **Bob Brock Ford** 500 W. 4th 267-7424

1993 CRUISE-MASTER Class A motor home 34 ft. sleeps 6, Master bedself-contained. room w/queen, 2 TV's, 454 en-\$19,000. (432)263-6579, 213-3660.

My husband and I arrive at church a halfhour early to get the seats we prefer. Why should we give them up? Maybe "Hoosier" needs to set her alarm clock earlier. Her cry that "we have children" is just another excuse for lack of responsibility. My mom raised seven children, and on Sunday, we were all lined up ready to go on time. Mom didn't expect others to accommodate her. California Churchgoer

Dear California: No one is asking you to change seats if you don't wish to. But some people refuse to move out of the way and allow others to reach available spots inside the pew. That, too, is rude, no matter how much later one shows up.

Dear Annie: I read the letters from bridal couples who registered for tools. My husband and I also did this. At the bachelor party, the men brought tools as gifts, and the guests loved the idea.

We celebrated our 10th anniversary last July, and this past year we have been rebuilding our home using some of those same tools. I've learned so much about construction that I've asked for my own tool belt for Mother's Day. The project has brought my husband and me closer together, and we're building our dream home in the process.

So, brides, let your guys register for tools. It could save you a ton of money in the future and make your marriage stronger, too. — Lovin' the Tools

Dear Tool Gal: Not every couple would find building a home together so cozy, but we congratulate you on getting into the spirit. We hope it turns out great.

Dear Annie: I am writing today because I don't know where else to turn. My father and I have an estranged relationship. He wants to communicate with me, but I do not share his need.

My parents divorced because Dad cheated on Mom. He rarely showed any interest in me and often paid more attention to the children of the women he was dating. To be honest, I loved my father more when I knew him from a distance. But then my mom died, and I was forced to live with him. After years of mental and physical abuse, watching him cheat on his girlfriends and wives, my love for my father eroded to the point where I moved to another state to get away from him.

In the past few years, my father has tried to I have contact me. changed my number several times, but he continues to get the listing from my stepbrothers. Eventhough I have begged them not to do this, they feel guilty and always give him the information. I really don't want to talk to him.

The scars from the past run so deep that I have had trouble breathing when I've been "guilted" into calling him. So now I turn to you. What do I do? Hidden in Minnesota

Dear Hidden: First, are you absolutely certain you don't want to give your father another chance? He is getting older and may value his relationship with you enough to make changes. If that is not an option, let an answering machine screen all your calls, and since you are "guilted" into contacting him on occasion, we suggest sending a card instead, since talking on the phone is so stressful. You also might want to consider therapy so those old scars can finally heal.

Dear Annie: You were correct to tell "Texas T," the underweight 21-yearold, to check his thyroid. However, that alone is not sufficient. It's possible he has celiac sprue, and there is now a laboratory blood test available to find out.

Celiac sprue is caused by an autoimmune reaction to gluten, a protein found in wheat, barley, oats and rye. The disease is hard to diagnose due to the diversity of symptoms that it can present, including weight loss, bowel problems, skin disease and neurological abnormalities. Many patients with chronic fatigue or irritable bowel syndrome actually have undiagnosed celiac sprue. It affects all ages.

I was unaware of the prevalence of the disease until I was diagnosed with it. My only symptom was weight loss despite a very high caloric intake. The treatment is to avoid all foods containing gluten. Please advise "Texas T" to be tested for celiac, whether or not his thyroid turns out to be normal. — A.R. Williams Jr., M.D.

Dear Dr. Williams: Thank you for providing another explanation for the

inability to gain weight. Anyone who would like more information can contact the Celiac Sprue Association (csaceliacs.org), P.O. Box 31700, Omaha, NE 68131-0700.

Dear Annie: We have been invited to our niece's wedding in Costa Rica. Not attending is out of the question. However, it will cost over \$5,000 for the four members of my immediate family. While yes, we will have a short vacation, we didn't get to select when or where, and the timing is extremely inconvenient.

Normally we would give a sizeable present. Is that still a reasonable expectation, or is a token gift enough? - Perplexed Guest

Dear Guest: One gives as much as one wishes, and what one can afford. The location of the wedding should have no bearing on the gift, although obviously, when you are out-of-pocket \$5,000, you are less inclined to be extravagant. But you can still give something nice without robbing the kids' college fund.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, P.O. Box 118190, Chicago. IL 60611. To find out more about Annie's Mailbox, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators

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NOBODY ASKS FOR IT Help STOP Sexual Assaults

Call 263-3312 Rape Crisis Services/Big Spring Friday, Marc FRIDA

BIG SPRING

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DENNIS THE MENACE



"SURE! WE'LL TAKE ALL THE MAGAZINES THAT HAVE COWBOYS AN' CARTOONS."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"I'm okay with my p's and q's, but I have to mind my b's and d's."

HAGAR



BLONDIE



POPULAR ONE WITH

BOY, MOM AND POP STORES SURE AREN'T WHAT THEY USED TO BE

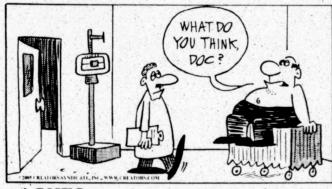
NOT TO WORRY.

BC





WIZARD OF ID



MONEY ON A LAPTOP

DON'T WASTE YOUR

AGNES



BUT YOU'RE LOOKING OVER MY SHOULDER! IT'S A POLL IT'S NOT CONFESSION

MR ERASER IS GOING TO BOX! WRONG BOX BE UNLEASHING ALL DAY SORRY DELUDED FOOLS DO NOT GET TO VOTE! UH-OH! MR. ERASER MUST UNLEASH HIS MIGHTY RIGHTEOUSNESS!!

HI AND LOIS





THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH





HE DON'T NEVER

BEETLE BAILEY





This Date In History

By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, March 18, the 77th day of 2005. There are 288 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

2111

On March 18, 1965, the first spacewalk took place Soviet cosmonaut Aleksei Leonov left his "Voskhod 2" capsule, secured by a tether. On this date:

In 1766, Britain repealed the Stamp Act.

In 1837, the 221 president of the United States, Grover Cleveland, was born in Caldwell, N.J.

In 1922, Mohandas K. Gandhi was sentenced in India to six years' imprisonment for civil disobedience. He was released after serving two years.

In 1931, Schick Inc. marketed the first electric

In 1937, more than 400 people, mostly children, were killed in a gas explosion at a school in New London, Texas In 1940, Adolf Hitler and

Benito Mussolini met at the Brenner Pass, where the Italian dictator agreed to join Germany's war against France and Britain. 1959, President In

Eisenhower signed the Hawaii statehood bill. In 1962, France and Algerian rebels agreed to a

truce. * In 1974, most of the Arab oil-producing nations ended their embargo against the

United States. In 1979, Iranian authorities detained American feminist Kate Millett, a day before deporting her and a companion for what were termed "provocations.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Peter Graves is 79. Composer John Kander ("Chicago") is 78. Author John Updike is 73. Nobel peace laureate and former South African president F.W. de Klerk is 69.

Country singer Charley Pride is 67. Singer Wilson Pickett is 64. Actor Kevin Dobson is 62. Actor Brad Dourif is 55. Jazz musician Bill Frisell is 54. Actor Thomas Ian Griffith is 43. Singer James McMurtry is 43. Singer-actress Vanessa L. Williams is 42. Olympic gold medal speedskater Bonnie Blair is 41. Country musician Scott Saunders (Sons of the Desert) is 41. Rock musician Jerry Cantrell (Alice in Chains) is 39. Rock singer-musician Miki Berenyi is 38. Rapperactress Queen Latifah is 35. Rock musician Stuart Zender is 31. Singer Devin Lima (LFO) is 28.

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Newsday Crossword

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3 Laundry

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- 16 Pour
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- 22 Unevenly worn 23 Garden tool 26 Garment with
- stays 28 Brook fish.
- 30 Naval off. 31 Orient
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AUTOMOTIVE by A.J. Santora Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

41 Groom's

43 Removes

44 Guests of

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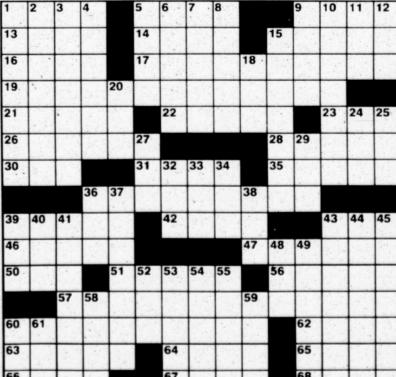
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Golf Insider

IT'S GOOD FOR YOUR GAME

Chipping is forgiving

By T.J. TOMASI Universal Press Syndicate

Then you barely miss a green on your approach shot, you have landed in the chipping zone — an area within five yards of the green. The object of chipping is to keep the ball in the air just long enough to clear the rough and fringe around the green with a low shot that lands about a yard onto the green and then rolls the rest of the way to the hole like

The shot is relatively simple - almost too simple, in the sense that you can reach some degree of proficiency even with bad technique. This is unlike the full swing where bad technique usually leads to such poor results that you realize very quickly something is wrong.

The bad technique I see most often in chipping is too much backswing, an error that causes a decelerating "scooping" action at impact where the club head flips past the hands. An out-of-control backswing violates the basic tenant of good, consistent chipping, i.e., that the ball is struck with a descending, slightly accelerating blow. All good chippers hit the ball this way, and the good news is that the correct way is just as easy to learn as the wrong way.

In the photos here I am working with a student on the root cause of her chipping problem — the out-of-control backswing. In the first photo, I hold a club so the grip end of it will restrict her backswing. In the second photo you can see that it has done just that. The motion should mimic the word: "chip" - short and staccato in its pronunciation as well as its execution.

Shortening this player's backswing to only a third of its original length will force her to change her downswing from a decelerating flip to an accelerating chip. Note also that the ball is positioned off her right ankle, where it needs to be to ensure a descending blow.

If you have this out-of-control problem (and many do), have a friend restrict your backswing as I am doing here until you get the feel.

One final thought: The first priority is to get the feel of the proper technique without regard to distance, so don't chip to a specific hole. Once you have the proper technique you can begin to gauge the flight/roll ratios of the various clubs to a target

Obviously, a 6-iron rolls much farther than a 9, but the only way to be a consistent chipper is to practice until your "feel system" is programmed o choose the correct club. Of course, if your technique is flawed, these calculations are meaningless, so work on your technique first (sans target) and your touch second (add target).





Shortening this player's backswing will force her to change her downswing to an accelerating chip.

Photos by BRUCE BENNETT / Cox News Service

Tiger Woods has three top-five finishes, including two wins, in five Tour events this year.

Big-name players dominating Tour

This weekend will be another clash of golf's titans as many of the world's best compete at Bay Hill

By GLENN SHEELEY Cox News Service

Orlando, Fla. That's happened to "Arnie's Army" now that 75-yearold Arnold Palmer virtually has retired from competition? It used to be fans lining fairways to watch Palmer in his prime and long after it. Now the Army is measured in marquee PGA Tour players assembled to play at his Bay Hill Invitational.

This week's Bay Hill has nine of the top 12 players on the world rankings plus a heavyweight threesome — No. 1 Tiger Woods, No. 3 Ernie Els and No. 5 Retief Goosen - playing together Thursday and

Not bad for continuing the Florida Swing excitement that moves to The Players Championship next week and then into Georgia for the BellSouth Classic and the Masters.

"You always expect a good field here and next week," said Sergio Garcia, ranked eighth. "The better the players, the more exciting the tournament is, not only for the people, but for us, too."

So far, Florida has been quite the state of thrills after a couple of soggy, less than sensational weeks on the West Coast.

First, Woods outlasted Phil Mickelson at Doral in an event that held near-major excitement, pushing Woods back to No. 1 in the rankings. Then Ireland's Padraig Harrington, who has moved to No. 6 but isn't playing Bay Hill, won a playoff at the Honda Classic Sunday when No. 2 Vijay Singh missed a 30-inch putt.

Woods, as a four-time Bay Hill



Padraig Harrington beat Vijay Singh in a playoff at last week's Honda Classic. Players ranked in the top 10 have already won eight events this year.

champion; and Els, who has won on consecutive weeks on the European Tour; are probably the co-favorites this week. With rain that has softened Bay Hill's sometimes brick-hard greens and added to the already lush rough, it promises to be yet another rewarding week for long hitters who can keep it fairly straight.

"It's a great field again," Woods said. "It will be just another good test. You're going to have to make a lot of birdies.

With a win, either No. 2 Singh or Els could take over the No. 1 spot if Woods finishes outside the top two.

"But it's not about the No. 1 ranking," Woods said Tuesday. "That's not what drives me. It's about winning golf tournaments The rankings, the player of the year awards, the money list - all of these things will be taken care

2005 WINNERS

This year's PGA results with winner's current world ranking:

Jan. 6-9: Mércedes Championships (Stuart Appleby No. 12 Jan. 13-16: Sony Open (Vijay Singh, No. 2) Jan. 20-23: Buick Invitational (Tiger Woods, No. 1) Jan. 26-30: Bob Hope Chrysler Classic (Justin Leonard, No. 22) · Feb. 3-6: FBR Open (Phil Mickelson, No. 4) • Feb. 10-13: AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am (Phil Mickelson, No. 4) • Feb. 17-20: Nissan Open (Adam Scott, No. 9) · Feb. 23-27: WGC-Accenture Match Play Championship (David Toms, No. 7) Feb. 24-27: Chrysler Classic of Tucson (Geoff Ogilvy, No. • March 3-6: Ford

Championship at Doral (Tiger Woods, No. 1)

• March 10-13: Honda Classic (Padraig Harrington, No. 6)

of by winning tournaments....I guess it (No. 1) might be interesting for the fans, but I'm not a fan. I'm a competitor. My whole idea is to win a tournament.

So far, the PGA Tour season has been all about quality, with players in the top 12 of the rankings except for Geoff Ogilvy (53) at Tucson — winning all of the official PGA Tour events. Woods and Mickelson, who likely will share the Masters favorite role with Els next month, each have two PGA Tour

"We had years where it was all about first-time winners, and then years where it was all about the old guys winning," said Stuart Appleby, the two-time Mercedes champion. "Predominantly, if you want to look at averages over the years, the best players are going to win most of the events. That's why they're the best."

SCHEDULE

All Times EST **PGA TOUR Bay Hill Invitational** Site: Orlando, Fla. Schedule: Thursday-

Sunday. · Course: Bay Hill Club and Lodge (7,239 yards, par 72). Purse: \$5 million. Winner's

share: \$900,000. • TV: USA (Thursday-Friday, 3-6 p.m.) and NBC (Saturday-Sunday, 2:30-6 p.m.).

LPGA TOUR Safeway International Site: Superstition Mountain,

· Schedule: Thursday-

Sunday. · Course: Superstition Mountain Golf and Country Club, Prospector Course

(6,620 yards, par 72). · Purse: \$1.4 million. Winner's share: \$210,000.

• TV: The Golf Channel (Thursday, 8-10 p.m.; Friday-Sunday, 1:30-3 a.m., 8-10 p.m.; Monday, 1:30-3 a.m.).

CHAMPIONS TOUR

Toshiba Senior Classic Site: Newport Beach, Calif. Schedule: Friday-Sunday. · Course: Newport Beach Country Club (6,571 yards,

par 71). · Purse: \$1.65 million. Winner's share: \$247,500. • TV: The Golf Channel (Friday-Sunday, 5-7:30 p.m.,

PGA EUROPEAN TOUR/ ASIAN TOUR

TCL Classic Site: Sanya, China. Schedule: Thursday-Sunday.

10 p.m.-midnight).

· Course: Yalong Bay Golf Club (7,097 yards, par 72). Purse: \$742,666. Winner's share: \$123,772. • TV: The Golf Channel

(Thursday-Sunday, 6-8 a.m). **NATIONWIDE TOUR** Next event: Louisiana Open, March 24-27, Le Triomphe Country Club,

LEADERS

Broussard, La.

WORLD RANKINGS 1. Tiger Woods, USA 12.25 2. Vijay Singh, Fij 11.77 3. Ernie Els, SAf 11.42 4. Phil Mickelson, USA 9.09 5. Retief Goosen, SAf 7.33 6. Padraig Harrington, Ire 5.76 7. David Toms, USA 5.23 8. Sergio Garcia, Spn 9. Adam Scott, Aus 5.04 10. Stewart Cink, USA' 4.88 11. Mike Weir, Can 4.65 12. Stuart Appleby, Aus 4.61 13. Davis Love III, USA 4.50 14. Chris DiMarco, USA 4.22 15. M.A. Jimenez, Spn 4.11 16. Darren Clarke, NIr 3.99 17. Chad Campbell, USA 3.59 18. Luke Donald, Eng 19. Stephen Ames, T&T 3.24 20. Shig. Maruyama, Jpn 3.14

MONEY LEADERS

PGA TOL	JR
Player	Money
1. Phil Mickelson	\$2,723,056
2. Tiger Woods	\$2,366,333
3. David Toms	\$2,240,483
4. Vijay Singh	\$2,102,313
5. Adam Scott	\$1,363,753
6. Stuart Appleby	\$1,154,936
7. P. Harrington	\$1,087,826
8. Joe Ogilvie	\$1,071,910
9. Ernie Els	\$1,018,640
10 Justin Leonard	\$922 200

LPGA TOUR

Player	Mone
1. Annika Sorenstam	\$180,00
2. Cristie Kerr	\$162,21
3. Jenniter Rosales	\$150,00
4. Hee-Won Han	\$112,85
 5. Karrie Webb	\$109,85

CHAMPIONS	ST	OUR
Player .		Money
1. Hale Irwin		\$728,601
2. Dana Quigley		\$456,854
3. Mark McNulty		\$368,382
4. Des Smyth		\$284,500
5. Wayne Levi		\$273,501

THE GOLF DOCTOR

Small coin marks big success

A golfer I know closed a big business deal in the Cayman Islands and felt so good about it that he began using an Elizabeth II 10-cent coin from the islands to mark his golf ball on the greens. He calls it his good luck charm.

Of course, the coin's only power is evocative, but that is power enough when it comes to the fragile golf psyche, so des-

perate for an edge. The coin "works" for our Cayman Island golfer because it reminds him of his success; it is a symbol that gives him confidence. Researchers have shown that symbols of your success in one area can

motivate you to succeed in another. The eoin holds no such meaning for someone else and would not help. PGA Tour professional Duffy Waldorf

utilizes the power of the symbol. He has his wife and children mark the golf balls he uses with pictures and messages. His family is his success, the pictures and messages the symbol.

During his 2000 victory at Disney World Resort, Duffy had a hand-drawn picture of Mickey Mouse on one side of his golf ball and on the other side his wife wrote, "Mouse in the House," Silly? Maybe. Successful? Definitely.

The point is that you have almost total control over your immediate environment, so place things in it that remind you of your past successes and you just might have more success in the future.

THE GOLF DOCTOR



director of

@ aol.com.

Bethpage, Long Island, N.Y. A: Here is one more: Never aim where a straight ball will put you in trouble. Aiming at Dr. T.J. Tomasi is the trouble and trying to curve the ball away from it often ends in disaster.

Q: Can you give me some

recently quoted from your

book ("The 30-Second Golf

Swing")? — Fred I., from

instruction at Lyman Orchards Golf Club in No matter how consistently Middlefield, you fade or draw, aiming a ball Conn. To ask him into a lake and expecting the a guestion about spin to carry the ball to safety golf, e-mail him subjects you to the ever-presat: TJInsider

ent Murphy's Law. Sure

enough, you'll make your best swing of the day and hit it more of the "never" rules you dead straight, into the water. Here are some bonus tips

from Never-Never Land: · Never fall asleep on your lay-up shot. Give it the same attention as any other shot.

(a) Never lay up too long. The smooth swing that usually accompanies a lay-up shot often contacts the ball so solidly that it flies longer than normal. Fifteen yards short of the hazard is not much different than 20 yards short, but one yard too long is a penalty. Pick your club conservatively.

(b) Never lay up to an

uneven lie. As a rule, it's better to hit a 7-iron from an even lie than a 9-iron with the ball below your feet.

(c) Never lay up to an awkward distance. Even great players sometimes have trouble when they're at a distance that's in between clubs. For example, it's too far for a normal 8-iron, but a bit too close for a 7-iron. Say your normal sand wedge flies 80 yards and you have 230 yards to the pin. Choose the lay-up club that goes 150 yards so you can hit a full sand wedge to the green, rather than a tricky halfwedge shot.