



TEXAS CITY BP PLANT TOLL REACHES 15

Families mourn loss of loved ones in blast

By SUDEEP REDDY

The Dallas Morning News

TEXAS CITY — Mark King of Baytown arrived at the convention center here with his family Thursday morning holding out hope that his father would be among the living or injured.

Instead, he was asked to provide information that might help identify Morris King, 57, a contract worker at the plant. "I'm just numb," Mark King said. "Now there's not a lot of hope. It's just a waiting game."

Morris King was among six victims identified late Thursday. Officials continued working into the evening on the grim task of identifying the other

Local refinery officials saddened by tragedy

Herald Staff Report

Shockwaves from Wednesday's explosion at the BP Refinery in Texas City were felt in Big Spring this week, leading officials at the ALON refinery to reflect on the disaster.

"Our overriding feeling today at the Big Spring Refinery concerning the tragedy in Texas City is one of compassion.

nine bodies recovered from BP's 1,200-acre refinery complex.



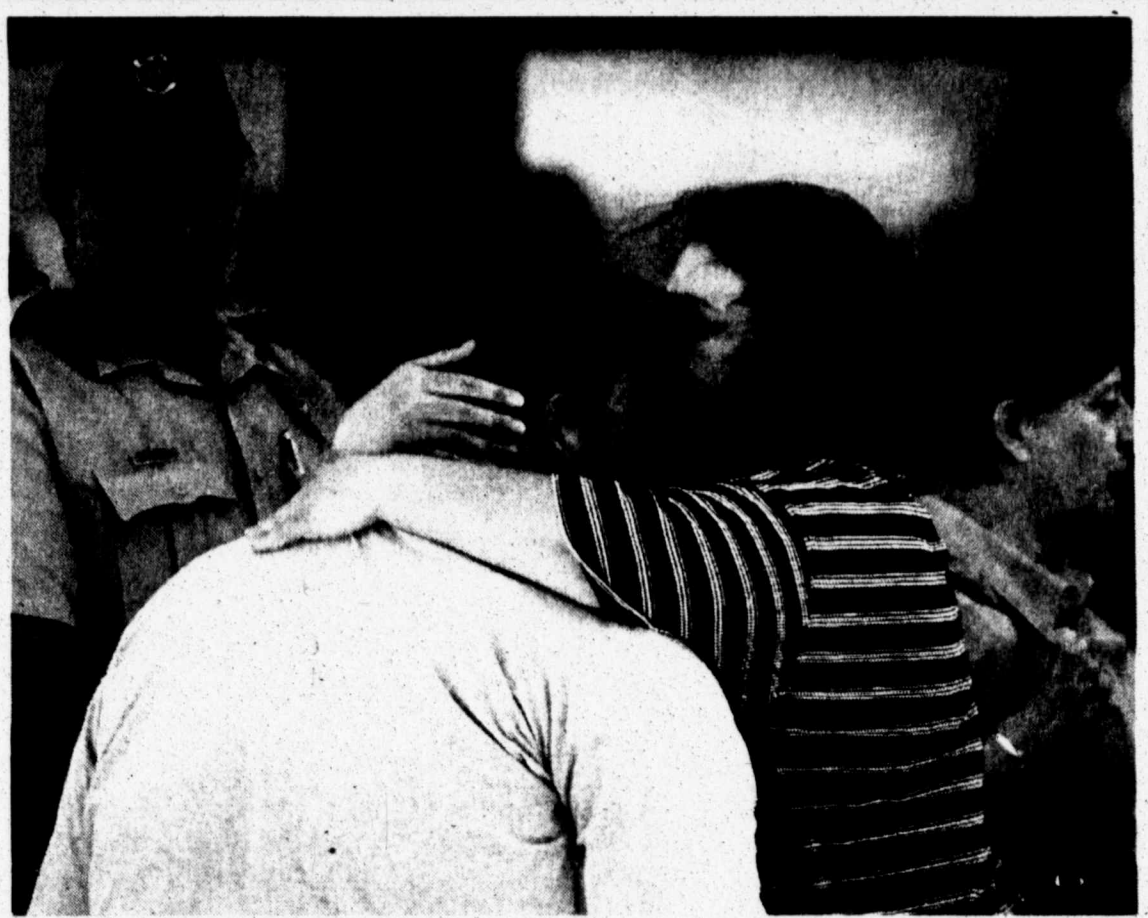
Concienne

Compassion and regret for the families of those killed or injured and for the employees at BP Texas City Refinery," said Joe

Concienne, Big Spring refinery manager. "I, and our employees, being of

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The explosion also injured more than 100 people, rattled buildings



KRT photo/Brad Loper, Dallas Morning News
Julie King consoles her husband, Mark King, outside the Texas City Convention Center Thursday morning. Mr. King's father, Morris King, was one of the 15 people killed in an explosion at The BP refinery on Wednesday.

miles away, and left this town of 40,000 reeling from the nation's deadliest refinery accident in

15 years. Company and government officials said they had no information about

the blast's cause. Though BP said it believes all workers had been accounted for, the

Public invited to Easter Sunrise Service at amphitheater

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

Even roosters might still be snoozing when a Big Spring Easter tradition gets going Sunday morning.

The Bible states that Jesus rose from the dead before sunrise on Easter. Ever since,

many have found dawn on Easter Sunday the perfect time to celebrate the seminal event of Christianity.

Things will be no different locally, as the annual interdenominational Community Sunrise Service will be held at 6:45 a.m. Sunday at the Big Spring Amphitheater.

The service will feature nine ministers speaking on variations of the subject, "God So Loved The World."

Ministers who will participate at this year's ecumenical service are: The Rev. Rex Clanton of E. Fourth St. Baptist Church; the Rev. Craig Felty of Cornerstone Church; the Rev.

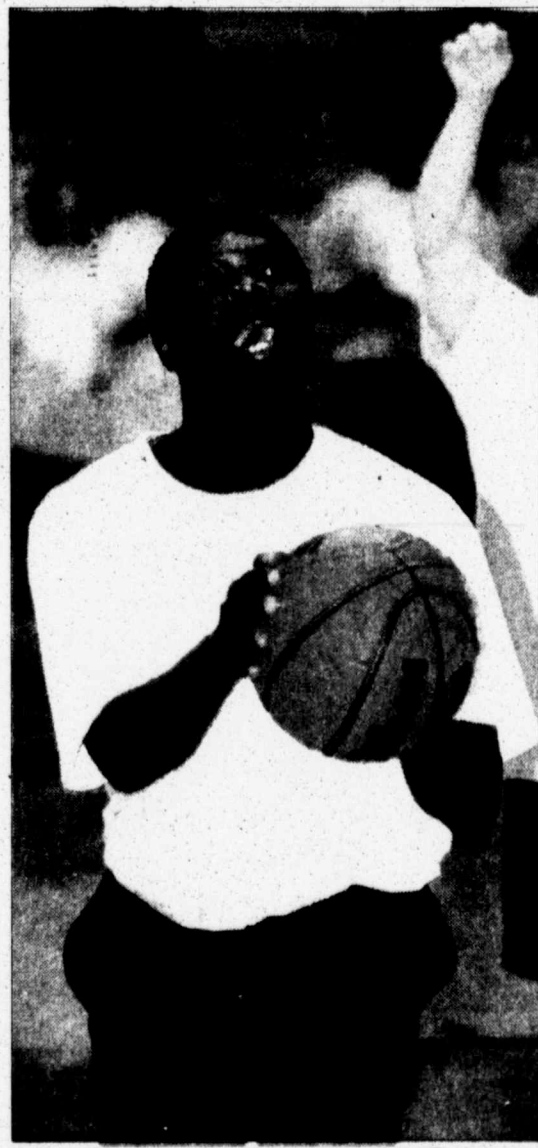
Mike Johnston of Christ Community Church; Capts. Russ and Linda Keeney of the local Salvation Army; the Rev. Dave Ring of First United Methodist Church, the rev. Lynn Robertson, associate pastor of the Community of Hope Nazarene Church; the Rev. Jim Wright, minister of music at

First United Methodist Church; and Agustin Ypina, Hispanic missionary at First United Methodist Church.

Music for the service will be provided by pianist Christi Alton of Cornerstone Church and soloist Shelly Choate of

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HOOPS TOURNAMENT



HERALD photos/Troy Hyde
Left: Richard Winn of Big Spring scores two points during game action at the West Texas Centers for MHRM basketball tournament at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum Thursday. Right: Joseph Darpolar gets ready to attempt a free throw during Big Spring Gold Crush's game against the Seminole Longhorns.

Big Spring police investigating incident of aggravated robbery

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

The Big Spring Police Department is currently investigating an aggravated robbery that took place in the 700 block of Lancaster early Wednesday morning.

According to a press release issued Thursday by the Det. Jim Rider, the emergency call was received by the police department at approxi-

mately 7:09 a.m.

Police officers responded to the Classic Northside Laundromat, where an employee of the business alleged a male subject had entered the Laundromat and forced her to give him money from the business.

Rider said during the course of the robbery the offender exhibited a firearm, which Sgt. Tony Everett, public informa-

tion officer for the police department, later described as a handgun.

Rider said the case is currently under investigation.

Police officials were not available for comment at press time.

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

Turning Blue Quail to Green, workshop slated here March 31

Herald Staff Report

Texas Cooperative Extension and Howard College at Big Spring are teaming up to present a blue quail workshop on March 31. The meeting, which is scheduled for 9:30 a.m., will be in the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum, 11th and Birdwell streets.

"Turning Blue Quail To Green: Enhancing Quail-Hunting Revenue for

West Texas Economies," focuses on scaled quail — also called blue quail, an important game bird in parts of West Texas.

Dr. Dale Rollins, Extension wildlife specialist at San Angelo, said the workshop promotes marketing of blue quail hunting across West Texas.

"I define this area as roughly Snyder west to Andrews, southwest to the Big Bend, east to San

Angelo, and then back to Snyder," Rollins said. "We want to convene various players at this meeting as a means of promoting blue quail hunting, an important, but often overlooked revenue source for landowners."

"Blue quail populations have rebounded nicely in the past two years, and they offer a unique kind of quail hunting, but it's

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TONIGHT 40°-42° TOMORROW 60°-62°

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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 noon Sunday.

HEALTH FAIR

Booth space is available for health care providers and health care agencies who want to participate in the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce Health Fair 2005.

"Prevention is the Key to Good Health" is the theme of the April 16 health fair, which will be held in the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

More than 2,000 people attend the health fair each year.

To obtain space for a booth, call the chamber at 263-7641.

EASTER EGGS

The West Texas VA Health Care Medical Center will hosts its fourth annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday from children from birth through age 10.

The event will begin at 10 a.m. Children are invited to hunt eggs and visit with the Easter Bunny. Children will be divided into three age categories and can be accompanied by a parent.

The Extended Care and Transition Unit are sponsoring the event, which will receive assistance from Goodfellow Air Force Base.

WEEKEND EDITION



Best-selling novelist Nora Roberts, who has sold more than 250 million copies of her nearly 150 books, continues to adhere to a highly disciplined writing schedule in her rural Keedysville, Md.,

Obituaries

Marvin L. Hodnett

Marvin L. Hodnett, 74, of Oklahoma City died March 21, 2005. No services are planned.

He was born Jan. 24, 1931, in Big Spring to Gordon L. and Ruby (Bishop) Hodnett.

Arrangements are under the direction of Bill Eisenhour Funeral Home in Del City, Okla.

Dean C. Barriball Jr.

Dean C. Barriball Jr., 65, of Big Spring died Thursday, March 24, 2005, at his residence. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Jackie May

Jackie May, 67, of Big Spring died Thursday, March 24, 2005, at his residence. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Support groups

FRIDAY

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

SATURDAY

□ Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion meeting, 6:15 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. Open podium/speakers meeting 6:15 Settles 8-9 p.m. Open birthday night, no smoking meeting the last Saturday of each month at 8 p.m.

□ West Texas Gluten-Free Support Group (Celiacs Helping celiacs) meet from 3 p.m. until 5 p.m. Jan. 15 in the Odessa Regional Hospital. For more information, contact Barbara at 432-694-3614 days, or 432-520-2119 evenings.

□ West Texas Gluten-Free Awareness Support Group meets from 3 p.m. until 5 p.m. at Memorial Hospital west campus in Midland. Call Barbara at 432-520-2119 for more information.

SUNDAY

□ Alcoholics Anonymous meets from 11 a.m. to noon at 615 Settles. Open meeting 5 p.m. until 6 p.m.

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

• **CHARLIE RYERSON**, 59, transient, was arrested Thursday on a charge of public intoxication.

• **DAVID RIOS**, 18, of 715 Creighton, was arrested Thursday on four local warrants.

• **RAUL MARTINEZ**, 48, of 1510 Oriole, was arrested Friday on a charge of soliciting after hours.

• **THEFT** was reported:

- in the 200 block of Marcy.

- in the 900 block of Willia.

• **RECKLESS DAMAGE OR DESTRUCTION** was reported in the 1500 block of Sycamore.

• **FAILURE TO IDENTIFY/GIVING FALSE OR FICTITIOUS INFORMATION** was reported in the 1800 block of Gregg Street.

• **BURGLARY OF A HABITATION** was reported:

- in the 1800 block of State.

- in the 1500 block of Sycamore.

• **AGGRAVATED ROBBERY** was reported in the 700 block of Lancaster.

TUESDAY

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

THURSDAY

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

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

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

□ Alzheimers Support Group meets at 2 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month at The Texas State Veterans Home, 1809 N. Hwy 87. For more information call Orand Carroll 268-8387.

Take note

• **TEXAS MOTORCYCLE RIGHTS ASSOCIATION** has set a fund-raiser from noon until midnight April 30 to send members to the National Coalition Motorcyclist Convention in Nashville, Tenn. The event will take place at the Cossack's Motorcycle Club on Birdwell Lane. Food, music and entertainment will include an auction. The cover charge and all other proceeds will benefit the conference expenses. Call 268-6421 for more information.

• **A MEMORIAL FUND HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED FOR THE FAMILY OF TYBO JACOBS** at the First Bank of West Texas in Coahom and Big Spring to help with funeral costs. He died in an automobile accident March 10.

• **MEMBERS OF THE PUGA FAMILY** are searching for family members to invite to a family reunion July 2 at Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church. Contact Anna Gutierrez-Trevino at 466-1780.

• **HOWARD COUNTY A&M CLUB SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS FOR 2005-2006** are being accepted. Applications may be obtained from Mike or Jeane Niklasch at 1409 E. Highway 350 or by calling the club president, Dr. Tom Dawson at 267-7911, ext. 216. Application deadline is April 15.

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

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

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

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

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

• **A FUND HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED FOR 6-WEEK-OLD MAGGIE VASQUEZ TO ASSIST WITH THE EXPENSES OF A KIDNEY TRANSPLANT.** She is the daughter of Susan Vasquez and Steve Nail of Big Spring. Maggie was born prematurely and suffers from kidney failure. She remains in Dallas Children's Hospital undergoing daily dialysis treatment until the transplant match is found and the surgery performed.

The account number at the bank is 9013091. For more information, contact Parks Convenient Store at 263-4498 or Denise 816-1539.

• **THE FAR WEST BOYS HOME** is in need of donations of household, office and recreational items to benefit boys 5-17 who are unable to live with their families due to abuse or neglect. Items needed include dressers, bunk beds, mattresses, cookware, recreational and exercise equipment, and a maintenance pickup, car or car. Cash donations to purchase these items are also appreciated. Far West is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization. To arrange pick up of items or for more information, call 432-353-4464.

• **AN ACCOUNT HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED FOR THE FAMILY OF CHRIS RIVERA, 26, A FORMER COSDEN FEDERAL CREDIT UNION MEMBER,** who died Dec. 28, 2004. The fund is to assist his wife, Natasha Rivera and his four children, all younger than 6, with funeral expenses. The account no. is 760221. To donate contact the credit union at 264-2600.

• **A BENEFIT FUND HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED** at Cosden Federal Credit Union for Jeremiah Best, to help with the cost of his cancer treatment. Contributions and prayers are appreciated.

• **AN ACCOUNT TO BENEFIT TRISTIN RANGEL,** son of Ione and Tim Rangel, has been set up at the Big Spring Government Employees Federal Credit Union, 2204 Gregg St., account No. 529903, to help with medical expenses. He has been diagnosed with acute lymphocytic leukemia and is in a Lubbock hospital.

• **THE FAMILY OF MICHAEL STEADHAM** is in need of help to pay for his funeral expenses. Friends of the family say he had no insurance and died suddenly. An account has been established at the Cosden Federal Credit Union for those wishing to help the family. For more information, call 264-0838 or 264-2600.

• **THE BIG SPRING WEST TEXAS GIRL SCOUTS COUNCIL SENIOR TROOP 266** is collecting stuffed animals for Scenic Mountain Medical Center's emergency room. A collection box for the stuffed toys will be at Seams-So-Nice in the Big Spring Mall. Or call Laurie Peterson at 432-267-9773.

• **FORSAN SCHOOL BAND WILL PERFORM IN WASHINGTON D.C. JULY 4, 2005,** by special invitation, representing Texas. Funds are needed to cover the \$145,000 cost of the trip. Donations are being accepted at the First Bank of West Texas, account name Forsan Band Trip. Contact Forsan Superintendent Randy Johnson or band directors Jim Rhodes and Jeremy Higgenbotham at 457-2223.

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Bulletin board

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

TODAY

• Good Friday holiday.
• Signal Mountain Quilting Guild will not meet.
• AMBUCS meet at noon in La Posada Restaurant.
• Greater Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room.
• 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

• Eagles Lodge Dance at 8:30 p.m. at 703 W. Third.

SUNDAY

• Easter Sunrise Service at 6:30 a.m. in the Amphitheatre in Comanche Trail Park.

MONDAY

• Senior Circle meets at 4 p.m. at Scenic Mountain Medical Center for Sit and Be Fit Chair Aerobics. Those 50 years and older are invited to attend. Call 268-4721.

• Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. 21 meets at 5 p.m. in the Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center, 306 W. Third, for weigh-in. The meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. Call 1-800-392-8677 or 263-0391 or 263-1758.

• Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. TX 1756 meets at 5:30 p.m. Monday in the 11th and Birdwell Lane Church of Christ. A different program is offered every week, and anyone 7 years old or older is welcome to attend. Please enter through the north-west door. Call 263-2786 for more information.

• Evening Lions Club meets at 6:30 p.m. in La Posada Restaurant.

• Concerned Citizens Council meets at 7 p.m. at 500 S. Main St., in the Dorothy Lamb Meeting Room of the Howard County Library. The public is welcome.

• Prospector's Club work night begins at 7 p.m. at 606 E. Third.

TUESDAY

• Intermediate Line dance classes begin at 9 a.m. in the Spring City Senior Citizen's Center. Call 267-1628.

• Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room.

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

Lottery

Results of the Texas Two Step drawing Thursday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 11-24-25-27. Bonus Ball: 25. Number matching four of four, plus Bonus Ball: 0. Estimated jackpot for Monday night drawing: \$250,000.

...

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Thursday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 14-18-23-34-37. Number matching five of five: 3. Prize per winner: \$12,232. Winning tickets sold in: Dallas, Garland, Stafford. Next Cash 5 drawing: Friday night.

...

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Thursday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 3-4-6

Weather

Tonight - Mostly cloudy. Isolated showers. Lows in the Lower 40s. East winds 10 to 15 mph.

Saturday - Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Cooler. Highs around 60. Northeast winds 10 to 15 mph.

Saturday night - Mostly cloudy. Slight chance of showers and thunderstorms in the evening...then a slight chance of showers or snow showers after midnight. Lows in the mid 30s. The chance of precipitation is 20 percent.

Sunday - Decreasing clouds. Isolated showers or snow showers in the morning. Highs in the lower 60s.

Sunday night - Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 30s.

Monday - Partly cloudy. Warmer. Highs in the upper 70s.

Monday night - Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 40s.

Tuesday - Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 80s.

Tuesday night - Mostly clear. Lows in the upper 40s.

Wednesday - Mostly sunny. Highs in the mid 70s.

BIG SPRING HERALD

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BY THE MONTH HOME DELIVERY: Evenings and Sunday, \$8.65 monthly; \$93.42 yearly (includes 10% discount for yearly).

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

COAHOMA CONTEST PARTICIPANTS



Fifteen Coahoma High School and Junior High students recently competed in the Region II University Scholastic League Solo and Ensemble Vocal Contest held at Abilene's M. Marry University. Lauren Yeater (middle of front row) and Eric Barton (second row, far left) qualified for the state contest to be held at Texas State University in San Marcos May 28. Among those who competed are: (front row, left to right) Hayli McCullough, Megan Conley, Yeater, Megan Parrish and Kyla Clark; (second row, left to right) Bart Price, Callie Paige, Alex Moore, Chelsea Griffin, Drew Wells, Kaysea Spiller, Teryn Bibb, Callie Paige and William Kelly. Photo by Isaac King.

SERVICE

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Hillcrest Baptist Church. Wright said the service, which is free to the public, should last for about

an hour. "When the disciples came down to Jesus' tomb... he had Easter Sunday ready risen." Wright said the special meaning of the service is about the resurrection where it took place.

and when it took place." For more information contact First United Methodist Church at 267-6394.

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331 ext. 234.

TRAGEDY

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charred site remained the focus of a search-and-rescue operation throughout the day. Late in the morning, the death count was raised to 15 after a body was discovered in the wreckage.

BP's top executive, John Browne, toured the site and met with company officials Thursday. "Yesterday was a dark day in BP's history," Browne said at a news conference at Texas City's City Hall. "It is the worst tragedy I have known in my time with the company."

Browne promised there would be "no stone left unturned" in an investigation of the accident's cause. A company team was expected to begin work by Friday afternoon.

BP, the London-based energy giant formerly known as British Petroleum, said that about 2,200 of the 3,300 workers on site at the time of the blast Wednesday were employed by contractors. All 15 of those killed worked for outside firms, mostly hired to perform maintenance work. At least 11 worked for JE Merit Constructors Inc.

The blast hit at 1:21 p.m. Wednesday as the plant's isomerization unit, which boosts octane levels of gasoline, was being brought back up to full

speed after maintenance. John Miles Jr., OSHA's regional administrator, said the plant's safety record would be reviewed as part of his agency's summer investigation. "The program has been fined in the last year for safety failures increased accidents that have killed or injured workers."

Browne, who said the citations they've issued over the last year are "significant" because of their seriousness, Miles said. Browne played down the plant's past safety record, saying it had made major improvements. Although those killed Monday, he said, contractors for other projects BP took full responsibility for the accident, Browne said.

"We are responsible for what happens inside the boundaries of our plant, and this is no exception," Miles said. Thursday, families of the victims were expected on recovering injuries or locating workers.

Herrera of Brown arrived at the convention center to learn details about his 25-year-old brother, Rafael, a complete health and safety control inspector within S&W Chemicals and Refining Corp.

"I had heard from someone at the company that his brother may have been seen walking from a trailer near the blast site. They called me, and they told me the plant my brother worked at blew

up," he said. Thursday morning, he said, he received a call to come to the convention center behind City Hall.

Magee, a Presbyterian minister, met with families throughout the morning as they went through the task of describing their loved ones' scars, tattoos, moles or other marks that might help identify workers. In some cases, the medical examiner was seeking dental records; in others, fingerprints were used to make identifications.

Magee said one young woman lost both parents in the blast. One family lost a sister, a fiancée and a daughter, he said.

"There's a tremendous amount of grief," Magee said. "There's an awful lot of anger." Galveston County Medical Examiner Stephen Pustilnik said he expected other victims' relatives to be notified Friday morning. A few might have to wait weeks for the lengthy process of DNA identification, he said.

The cause of death in most cases would be blunt-force trauma, and injuries indicated that most of those who died were knocked unconscious by the blast, Pustilnik said. "I cannot find any evidence that there was any suffering," he said.

Texas A&M system plans to increase tuition this fall

COLLEGE STATION (AP) — Students attending Texas A&M University system schools face higher tuition rates for the fall semester, although the amounts haven't yet been determined. Regents for the Texas A&M University system voted Thursday to approve a range of increases with caps rather than set tuition hikes. The system's nine universities won't determine their new tuition rates until after officials find out how much state funding they will receive. Prairie View A&M University students could face the highest increase

of up to a \$61.50 jump per credit hour from current costs. Officials at the historically black university say additional tuition revenue is needed to pay for a merit salary program, hire more faculty, buy equipment, provide financial aid and fund building projects that might not receive bond money. Undergraduates at Texas A&M University could face an increase of up to \$19 per credit hour. However, full-time undergraduates at Texas A&M would pay a flat rate based on 15 credit hours, regardless of whether they enroll for as few as 12 hours or as many as 18.

North Texas increases tuition, fees, housing costs for the fall

DENTON (AP) — Students will pay an additional \$6 per credit hour this fall at the University of North Texas, along with more out-of-pocket for fees, meal plans and housing. Regents voted Wednesday to raise tuition for undergraduates, following similar moves by other state colleges and universities. The state also has mandated a \$2 increase for

tuition. The board also hiked tuition for graduate students by \$4, student fees by \$4.60, on-campus housing rates by 6 percent and meal plan costs 3 percent. University officials say the school needs the \$4.8 million expected from the increases to help cover rising employee benefit costs, utilities, software and hardware licensing costs, and building maintenance.

QUAIL

Continued from Page 1A

something that traditional bobwhite hunters just don't appreciate. We hope to change that."

Rollins said the program will be of interest to landowners, hunters, and local entities promoting tourism and rural economic development in West Texas.

Extension specialists and landowners who have successful blue quail management programs will share their expertise. Morning topics will be: "Components of Marketing Blue Quail," "Needs From the Supply Side," "Needs From the Consumer Side" and "Comments From Related Service Providers."

Afternoon talks will cover: "Business Plans 101," "Management Needs," "Information Needs" and "Where To From Here?"

Cost for the workshop is \$10 if pre-registered by March 28 or \$15 at the door. Registration includes lunch. The Extension/Howard College partnership's task is to convert available technology into rural economic development across Howard County's 13-county service area.

For more information, contact Howard County Extension Agent Tommy Yeater at (432) 264-2236, or Dr. Dale Rollins at (325) 653-4576. Program

updates and registration details are available at the TeamQuail Web site at <http://teamquail.tamu.edu>

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Fri. & Sat. 10:00 Sat. & Sun. 2:30

Cursed (PG-13)
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ALON

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the same industry, are uniquely touched by such a tragedy."

Concienne said that the only way to glean anything positive out of a tragedy such as the one in Texas City, is to try and learn from it. "Our immediate take-away from the incident is to use this accident as a means to rededicate ourselves to our own safety systems and programs. Our industry has

improved our safety systems by learning from tragedy. Those findings can be used as input for implementing industry improvements both incrementally as well as further discussion and possible future improvements at the Big Spring Refinery."

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EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Susanne Reed
PublisherJohn A. Moseley
Managing EditorBill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEWS

We salute:

Each week, the Herald salutes individuals and groups from our community and area who have 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:

- Mark Winn, for his hard work in putting together a highly successful building trades program at Big Spring High School.

- Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez Texas State Veterans Home on its Senior Health Fair, held last Saturday.

- Charles Burgess, James Barrett and Latoya Fairley, Howard College basketball players who were named to the All-Western Junior College Athletic Conference Team. Burgess and Barrett were also named to the All-Region V Team.

- Chelsea Abner, Big Spring High School student who threw a no-hitter in softball action against Lubbock Cooper Saturday.

- West Texas Centers for MHMR on its Hoops, Dreams and Goals basketball tournament Thursday in the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

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.

YOUR VIEWS

TO THE EDITOR:

The Vietnam Memorial Committee of Big Spring would like to thank the Big Spring Herald and in particular Marsha Sturdivant for helping the committee acquire the scrapbooks, photos and other mementos of the Gold Star Mothers organization for the late 1950s to the late 1980s.

This will be a very special addition to our memorial and will help us honor all the Gold Star Mothers from this time period, earlier times, present time and for years to come. These mothers are very special to all the

members of the committee.

We would also like to thank Ms. Sturdivant for the article about the donations. It was very well written. She did an outstanding job.

We would also like to thank Joe Smith, his sister and especially his mother for taking care of all this history over these many years. This is a very generous gift and will be treasured by our members.

GENE WILSON
PRESIDENT
VIETNAM MEMORIAL
COMMITTEE

HOW TO CONTACT US

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

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

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May we find our way for life through You, Lord, and Your word.

Amen

Fear and politics are ruling Congress

Leave it to Congress to reduce tragedy to farce.

Leave it to Congress to summon Terri Schiavo to leave Florida, where she is on a feeding tube, and testify in Washington even though she has spent the last 15 years in a persistent vegetative state, a state also called "wakefulness without awareness."

Leave it to Congress to try to "save" the life of Terri Schiavo, who, according to her doctors, cannot think, feel or have memories. Her cerebral cortex has been reduced to liquid and destroyed.

Terri Schiavo's husband is her legal guardian and, as such, has a legal right to determine her medical treatment, when she is unable to. He has sworn under oath (as have two others) that when Terri Schiavo was in good health, she stated more than once she never wanted to be kept alive through artificial means should something befall her.

This is disputed by Terri Schiavo's parents, who are fighting to keep her hooked to a feeding tube, even though she could well last another 30-40 years in this vegetative state. This state is considered "far more severe than a coma," according to Reuters, which also reported: "Experts say Terri Schiavo would experience no discomfort if allowed to die, as the part of her brain that experiences pain is unlikely to be functioning."

The state courts have ruled on behalf of her husband time after time.

ROGER
SIMON

But Congress rushed back into session last weekend to pass what would appear to be an obviously unconstitutional bill to move the case to federal court. The president, according to the White House, was roused from bed after Congress acted, went into the hallway to sign the bill into law and then went back to bed.

There are (at least) two questions here: First, where does Congress get the power to assign cases within the judicial system? Where does the legislative branch get to determine how the judicial branch shall act?

Second, where does Congress get the power to determine the proper medical treatment for individuals? Whatever happened to the sanctity of the family?

Let's say your child falls ill and one doctor recommends a high-risk operation to save him and another doctor says it would be best to wait.

Should Congress be able to pass a law forcing you to make your child undergo the high-risk operation? Is that the proper role of Congress? Should members of Congress be able to take such a decision out of your hands and assume it knows better than you what is best for your child, even though they have never met your child?

And wasn't there a guy — pretty popular, as I recall — named Ronald Reagan who said the federal government should get out of our lives? So why is government intervening in a medical decision made by a woman's legal guardian and upheld by the courts?

Bill Frist, the Senate majority leader, knows. Frist — who mentions at least every 15 minutes that he's a doctor — moved the farce into the realm of the truly

grotesque when, having never met or examined Terri Schiavo, having seen only highly edited home movies of her taken by her parents, he made a medical diagnosis:

"Speaking more as a physician than as a U.S. senator," Frist said from the Senate floor, he thought there was "insufficient information to conclude that Terri Schiavo is in a persistent vegetative state."

You mean all those doctors who have examined her over the past 15 years are lying or mistaken? Only the all-powerful, all-knowing Frist can make a correct medical diagnosis — and without ever having examined the patient?

Frist, who has plenty of time to fly around the country and make speeches in preparation for his 2008 presidential campaign, apparently did not have the time to fly to Florida to see Terri Schiavo.

But he really didn't need to. Because his decision had nothing to do with medicine and everything to do with politics: the political need to curry favor with Christian conservatives, who want to keep Terri Schiavo on her feeding tube.

Many Democrats, who don't want to get caught on the "wrong" side of a "values" fight, are covering, keeping silent or supporting the Republicans.

Fear and politics, not sense and compassion, are ruling Congress these days.

What a shock.

To find out more about Roger Simon, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at www.creators.com.

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EPA drops the ball on mercury guidelines

This is one of those stories that I'd really like to start with a loud scream to give people some idea of how terrible it is. As a newspaper story, it has no soundtrack and comes without pictures. It appears to involve some technical aspects of an environmental regulation, and that can be counted on to bore the shoes and socks off people.

But there is a picture, quite a famous one, that you should search out so you will know what is at stake. The picture, by the great photojournalist W. Eugene Smith, is known as "The Madonna of Minamata" and is of a Japanese woman in a hot bath with an expression of terrible sorrow and tenderness on her face as she holds the hopelessly deformed body of her daughter.

Smith's classic book, "Minamata: Words and Photographs," is about the site of a horrific 1970s case of widespread mercury poisoning. No one who sees Smith's photos can ever forget them. There was a years-long struggle between the townspeople of Minamata and the corporation responsible for the mercury poisoning, which did not want to admit fault. During that struggle, corporate guards beat Smith so badly he lost his eyesight.

So, that's what this is about. Not that anyone has blinded a great photojournalist lately, but mercury in the environment is mercury in the environment, and mercury hotspots are mind-bogglingly dangerous. Mercury is a neurotoxin that is particularly dangerous to developing fetuses and infants. Even in minute quantities, it produces brain damage ranging from retardation to loss of IQ to attention deficit disorder.

MOLLY
IVINS

As you may know, one in six American women of child-bearing age already has enough mercury in her blood to put a developing fetus at risk. That's why pregnant women are urged not to eat many ocean and freshwater fish. Mercury also causes heart attacks among adults.

If the Clean Air Act, already in place, were simply implemented as it is supposed to be by the Environmental Protection Agency, we would be rid of over 90 percent of mercury emissions in this country by 2008. But, of course, that would cost the power industry a lot of money, and the power industry gives lots of money to politicians. So the EPA came up with a "cap and trade" system, under which power plants can avoid meaningful regulation until after 2025.

Then, the EPA, whose name is rapidly becoming a morbid joke, had the gall to put out a press release claiming its new rule will cut mercury by 70 percent in 2018. Using the EPA's own figures, it fails to do even that. We'd be lucky to get a 50 percent reduction by 2020, according to Natural Resources Defense Council.

The worse news is that "cap and trade" allows individual power plants to trade emissions credits, so while some states will have less mercury emission, other states will have enormous increases. God help you if you live near one of these future hotspots. NRDC estimates an 841 percent increase for California, 176 percent in Colorado, 241 percent in New Hampshire and 56 percent in New Jersey.

"It is unconscionable EPA is allowing power companies to trade in a powerful neurotoxin — it is unprecedented and illegal," said William Becker, director of the bipartisan State and Territorial Air Pollution Program Administrators.

Now here's another charming note. As is becoming monotonously repetitious with the Bush administration, it turns out the EPA simply ignored scientific opinion on this subject. The Washington Post reports that the EPA based its new system of "regulation" on a cost-benefit analysis — cost to industry versus public health payoff. "What they did not reveal is that a Harvard University study paid for by the EPA, co-authored by an EPA scientist and peer-reviewed by two other EPA scientists had reached the opposite conclusion. That analysis estimated health benefits 100 times as great as the EPA did, but top agency officials ordered the finding stripped from public documents, said a staff member who helped develop the rule."

One hundred times as much? Gee, maybe the Harvard study is too alarmist. OK, try the EPA's definition of cost-benefit analysis. According to its numbers, 600,000 babies of the approximately 4 million born a year are potentially exposed to mercury emissions. The EPA estimates the health benefits at \$50 million, which works out to \$83.33 per brain-damaged child. That's some cost-benefit ratio there.

I often think I have exhausted my capacity for outrage with this administration. Sheesh, why let what it does ruin a beautiful spring day in Texas? But I know kids with ADD and low IQs and brain damage, and I've seen the pictures from Minamata. If you can't reach outrage over this one, you may be eating too much mercury-tainted fish.

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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Red Lake shooting survivor says he tried to reach out to gunman

BEMIDJI, Minn. (AP) — A teenager wounded in the Red Lake High School shooting said he reached out to gunman Jeff Weise before the attack because the boy seemed to have no friends.

"He looked like a cool guy, and then I talked to him a few times," 15-year-old Cody Thunder said Thursday. "He talked about guns and shooting people."

Thunder said despite that, and even though Weise cultivated a dangerous appearance that included sculpting his hair into devil horns — "It looked like he was trying to be evil" — Thunder never thought Weise would shoot up their school.

At first, "I thought he was messing around, I thought it was a paintball gun or something," said Thunder, the first wounded student to describe the nation's deadliest school shooting since Columbine.

Weise, a hulking 16-year-old, shot to death five students, a security guard and a teacher Monday at the school on the Red Lake Indian reservation, then killed himself. Earlier, he shot to death his grandfather and the man's girlfriend.

Officials said the 350-student school is not expected to reopen until the week of April 12 at the earliest. Students were asked to visit the nearby elementary school Thursday to meet briefly with teachers.

The meeting in Ojibwe was not open to the media. Wanda Baxter, a teacher, estimated that 200 to 300 students and teachers attended. She said a tribal elder encouraged them to support one another.

Thunder was asked during a hospital news conference what kind of expression Weise had; some witnesses have said he was smiling and waving during the attack. "It was a mean face," Thunder said.

"He was aiming at me," said Thunder, who was shot once in the hip.

He said he had a few classes with Weise last

year and spoke with him a few times. "Because no one talked to him. I just thought it would be nice to go talk to him, so I did," Thunder said.

Also at the news conference at North Country Regional Hospital was 15-year-old Lance Crowe, Thuder's cousin, who relatives said may have survived by playing dead after being shot. He declined to speak.

The wounded also included one 15-year-old in serious condition, and another in critical condition.

Superintendent Stuart Desjarlait said officials were working with professionals from

around the country to reopen school. He defended security measures that included a disaster plan, cameras and security guards. The guards were not armed.

"It goes to show that if something is going to happen, it's going to happen," Desjarlait said. "No matter what you do."

Authorities were still trying to determine what set Weise off.

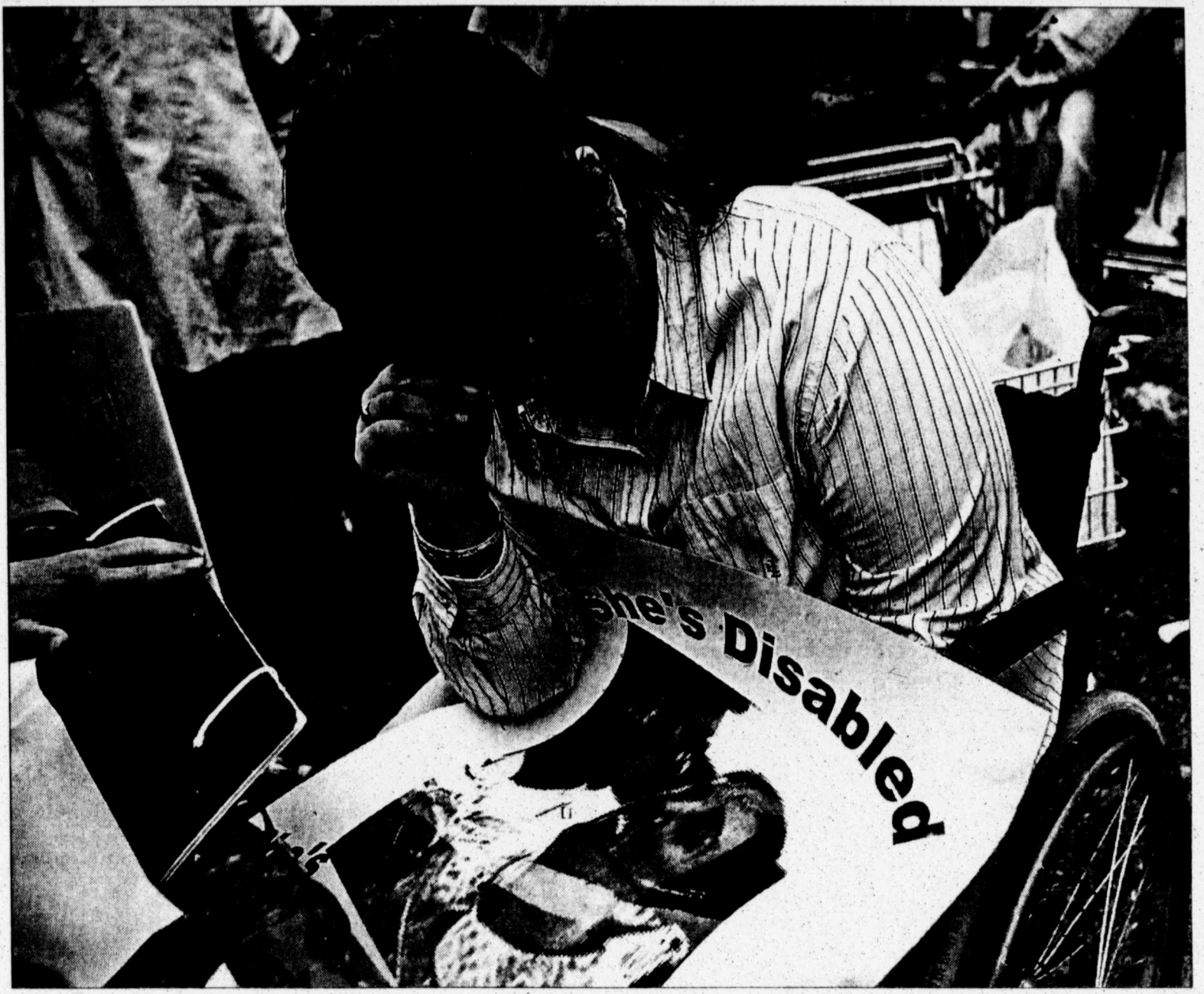
Authorities were investigating whether Weise, who dressed in black and wrote stories about zombies, posted messages on a neo-Nazi Web site expressing admiration for Adolf Hitler and using the name "Todesengel" — German for "Angel of Death."

Wednesday, TheSmokingGun.com reported that Weise posted a computer animation on a Web site in October. Newgrounds.com, that showed a gunman shooting four people, blowing up a squad car and committing suicide. The animation was accompanied by a photograph of Weise and a description of him as "nothin' but a Native American teenage-stoner-industrialist."

Desjarlait said he didn't know about any such postings, but "if I had known about it, I would have checked it out." He also said he was investigating if anyone had reported Weise's talk of guns to school authorities, and if Weise had been getting counseling.

"He looked like a cool guy, and then I talked to him a few times. He talked about guns and shooting people."

Cody Thunder, student



Theresa Devera, of Los Angeles, Calif., cries outside the Woodside Hospice in Pinellas Park, Fla., after hearing that the U.S. Supreme Court would not hear an appeal from Terri Schiavo's parents.

Terri Schiavo's parents lose another round as federal judge denies motion

PINELLAS PARK, Fla. (AP) — As Terri Schiavo's health waned, a federal judge refused today to order the resinsertion of her feeding tube, thwarting another move from the brain-damaged woman's parents in their battle to keep her alive.

For a second time, U.S. District Judge James Whittemore ruled against the parents, Bob and Mary Schindler, who had asked him to grant their emergency request to restore her feeding tube while he considers a lawsuit they filed.

The tube was removed a week ago on a state judge's order that agreed with Schiavo's husband, Michael, who has said she has no hope for recovery and wouldn't want to be kept alive artificially. The Schindlers believe their daughter could improve and wouldn't want to die.

"We're looking into our options," said Rex Sparklin, an attorney with the firm representing the Schindlers, after the ruling was issued. George Felos, attorney for Michael Schiavo, did not immediately return a call

seeking comment.

In his 11-page ruling, Whittemore wrote that the Schindlers couldn't establish "a substantial likelihood of success on the merits" of their case. He also noted "the difficulties and heartbreak the parties have endured throughout this lengthy process" and praised the lawyers' civility, saying it was "a credit to their professionalism ... and Terri."

As of Friday morning, Terri Schiavo, 41, had been without food or water for almost seven days and was showing signs of dehydration, according to attorneys and friends of the Schindlers. Doctors have said she would probably die within a week or two of the tube being pulled.

She has now been off the tube longer than she was in 2003, when the tube was removed for six days and five hours. It was reinserted when the Legislature passed a law later thrown out by the courts.

On Thursday, Pinellas Circuit Judge George Greer denied Gov. Jeb

Bush's request to let the state take Terri Schiavo into protective custody. Bush appealed to the 2nd District Court of Appeal.

"We're minute by minute right now. But it doesn't look like we have much left," Suzanne Vitadamo, Terri Schiavo's sister, said late Thursday.

The Schindlers' emergency request to have the feeding tube reattached included claims that Schiavo's religious and due-process rights were violated.

"It's very frustrating. Every minute that goes by is a minute that Terri is being starved and dehydrated to death," said her brother, Bobby Schindler, who said seeing her was like looking at "pictures of prisoners in concentration camps."

Michael Schiavo's brother, Brian Schiavo, strongly disagreed with that assessment, telling CNN that Terri Schiavo "does look a little withdrawn" but insisting she was not in pain. He added that starvation is simply "part of the death process."

Thursday, a lawyer for Michael Schiavo said he hoped the woman's parents and the governor would finally give up their fight.

"We believe it's time for that to stop as we approach this Easter weekend and that Mrs. Schiavo be able to die in peace," attorney George Felos said.

In the federal court hearing, Schindler lawyer David Gibbs III argued that Terri Schiavo's rights to life and privacy were being violated. Whittemore interrupted as Gibbs attempted to liken Schiavo's death to a murder.

"That is the emotional rhetoric of this case. It does not influence this court, and cannot influence this court. I want you to know it and I want the public to know it," Whittemore said.

A perimeter around the federal courthouse was evacuated during the hearing after a suspicious backpack was found outside. The hearing was not interrupted, and the package was safely detonated using a remote device.

Sizemore sentenced to jail, treatment in probation and drug cases

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Actor Tom Sizemore was sentenced Thursday to 17 months in jail and four months in a drug treatment facility for repeatedly failing drug tests while on probation.

Later in the day, he was sentenced in a separate felony methamphetamine case to additional inpatient drug treatment. Sizemore, 43, was allowed to remain free while he appeals a domestic violence conviction.

Sizemore failed seven drug tests, admitted methamphetamine use twice and failed to show up for further testing while on probation for a 2003 domestic violence conviction involving his ex-girlfriend.

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HENRY BACKES

Canadian immigration board denies refugee status to U.S. Army paratrooper

TORONTO (AP) — A U.S. Army paratrooper who refused to fight in Iraq has found no refuge north of the border.

Jeremy Hinzman was denied political asylum in Canada on Thursday, a ruling that dealt a blow to other deserters here who argue such duty would force them to commit atrocities against civilians.

An immigration board ruled that Hinzman had not convinced its members he would face persecution or cruel and unusual punishment if returned to the United States.

Seven other American military personnel have applied for refugee status, and Hinzman's lawyer estimated dozens of others are in hiding in Canada waiting to see how the government ruled. The attorney, Jeffrey House, said Hinzman

would appeal the ruling. House said at a news conference that the Immigration and Refugee Board had not allowed him to argue that the war in Iraq is illegal and would make that complaint before a federal appeals court.

He said there were many problems with the ruling, describing it as filled with "defiance" to the United States.

Immigration and Refugee Board member Brian Goodman, who wrote the ruling, said Hinzman might face some employment and social discrimination.

But "the treatment does not amount to a violation of a fundamental human right, and the harm is not serious," he wrote.

Canada has long opposed American wars; former Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau

declared his homeland "a refuge from militarism" during the Vietnam War and allowed the 30,000 to 50,000 American draft dodgers to settle here. Ottawa also opposed the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq, but is also seeking to ease badly strained relations between the two governments.

Hinzman could face charges of desertion if sent home and would face up to five years in prison. He and seven other U.S. military deserters are being represented by House, a Wisconsin native who came to Canada in 1970 to avoid the draft during the Vietnam War.

The Pentagon has urged the deserters to return to the United States and take up their concerns at their respective military bases.

"We are an Army serving a

nation at war," the Army said in a statement after Thursday's ruling. "Each of us volunteered to serve, and the vast majority serve honorably. AWOL and desertion are crimes that go against Army values, degrade unit readiness and, in a time of war, may put the lives of other soldiers at risk."

Hinzman, 26, lives with his wife and young son in Toronto, where Quakers and the War Resisters coalition of anti-war groups have taken on his cause and provided some shelter.

Currently a bicycle messenger, Hinzman told an anti-war rally after the announcement that he would continue to fight for his right to remain in Canada, as well as the seven other young men seeking refugee status.

"Canada has a history for

being a haven for people of conscience," he said. "Hopefully that legacy will continue."

He fled from Fort Bragg, N.C., in January 2004, weeks before his 82nd Airborne Division was due to go to Iraq. He had served three years in the Army, but had applied for conscientious objector status before his unit was sent to Afghanistan in 2002.

Hinzman argued before the board in December that he would have had to take part in war crimes if he went to Iraq, saying the war there is illegal. He said he would be persecuted if forced to return to the United States.

Hinzman's lawyer estimated as many as 100 American war resisters are hiding in Canada, waiting to see how Hinzman's case is played out before coming forward.

Police arrest Texas woman who prank called New Jersey police

NEWARK, N.J. (AP) — A woman admitted Thursday she started a six-hour standoff between New Jersey police and purported hostage-takers earlier this week by phoning in a fake emergency call from Texas.

Fatin A. Ward, 23, was arrested at her Arlington, Texas, home and charged in New Jersey with conspiracy and other offenses.

The Middlesex prosecutor's office sought Ward's extradition for the incident in which police Tuesday cordoned off a New Brunswick neighborhood, attracting heavy coverage on cable news networks.

Ward told The Associated Press she was playing a telephone game called "bombing" in which people make bogus emergency calls and then see how many law enforcement

officers respond.

Her mother said Ward has a history of mental illness and has been refusing to take medication.

"I didn't mean to cause any trouble," Ward said in a telephone interview Thursday. "It got out of control."

The prosecutor's office signed criminal complaints against Ward and an alleged accomplice, Wadu Jackson, 20, of

Irvington, charging them with conspiracy, initiating a false public alarm, and making a fictitious report to police.

Jackson was still being sought in New Jersey.

Ward told The Star-Ledger of Newark that she told police she had been handcuffed to a bed, raped and was being held hostage in an apartment.

The standoff ended when three teenagers who were in a

third-floor apartment walked out of the house. The teens were taken into custody and then released. Middlesex County prosecutor William Lamb said Thursday the teens have been cleared of any criminal activity.

Ward and others are suspected of similar hoaxes on other New Jersey and Pennsylvania towns, according to police.

Demobilized reservists could keep military health insurance for up to 8 years

WASHINGTON (AP) — The more than 400,000 National Guard and Reserve members mobilized since September 2001 for the fight against terrorism will be offered the choice of military health care coverage for as long as eight years after they return to civilian life, officials said Thursday.

Only those who remain in the Reserves after they are demobilized will be eligible, said Thomas Hall, the assistance secretary of defense for reserve affairs.

Hall said that in discussing the plan with more than 2,000 Guard and Reserve members in the Persian Gulf recently he heard a great deal of enthusiasm for this kind of transitional health

insurance. "It targets the young men and women bearing the brunt today," Hall said.

Until now, Guard and Reserve members could retain health care coverage under the Defense Department's Tricare system for no more than six months after they left active duty. Under the new arrangement they could retain coverage for at least one year and as long as eight years, depending on the length of their mobilization and the length of their commitment to remain in the Guard or Reserve.

They would pay monthly premiums ranging from \$50 to \$150 a month for individual coverage, depending on their rank, and from \$100 to \$300 a

month for family coverage, depending on rank.

William Winkenwerder, the assistance secretary of defense for health affairs, said at a joint news conference with Hall that he has no firm estimate of how much the

program will cost the government.

Later, the Pentagon issued a statement saying the cost would be \$70 million for the remainder of the current budget year, which ends Sept. 30, and \$394 million for the 2006

budget year.

Hall said he expects a majority of eligible Guard and Reserve members to resume coverage under the health care system offered by their civilian employer, rather than take the military cover-

age. Winkenwerder said the Pentagon has no firm forecast of how many people will take the benefit. "It's going to be many thousand to tens of thousands, we would expect, at a minimum," he said.

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Pastor

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over KBYG 1400 AM Evangelistic Service.....6:00 p.m.
on your dial Wednesday Service.....7:00p.m.

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The Great Vigil of Easter
March 26th - 9 PM

Easter Day Service
March 27th - 10:30 AM

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BIG SPRING HERALD

Kyrgyz opposition leader claims control a day after president ousted in massive protests

BISHKEK, Kyrgyzstan (AP) — Kyrgyzstan's triumphant opposition scrambled today to restore order in a capital described as "gone mad" with looting and vandalism, and named a leader of the rebellion acting president after driving President Askar Akayev from power.
Kurmanbek Bakiyev emerged from the Parliament building and said he had been named

acting prime minister and president.
"Freedom has finally come to us," Bakiyev told a crowd in the capital, Bishkek. Celebrations also were reported in southern Kyrgyzstan, where the popular uprising began earlier this month.
Bakiyev's appointment as acting president was endorsed in a late-night session by a newly restored parliament of

lawmakers who held seats before this year's disputed elections, which fueled protests against Akayev and his government.
Akayev, whose whereabouts were unknown after fleeing the Central Asian country with his family, denied he had resigned, according to Russia's ITAR-Tass news agency.
"My current stay outside the country is temporary," said Akayev, who

ruled Kyrgyzstan for 15 years. "Rumors of my resignation are deliberate, malicious lies."
Akayev's spokesman, Dosali Esenaliev, said he did not know of the statement's existence.
Felix Kulov, an opposition leader now heading Kyrgyzstan's law enforcement agencies, said Akayev had fled to a foreign country after being turned away by Russia. The Interfax news agency

said Akayev and his family were in neighboring Kazakhstan.
"He had a chance to resign, but he fled," said Kulov, a longtime Akayev opponent who was released from prison during Thursday's turmoil. "He wanted to go to Russia, but the Russians didn't accept him."
Russian President Vladimir Putin said, however, that the Kremlin wouldn't object if Akayev

wants to go to Russia. Foreign Ministry spokesman Alexander Yakovenko said Moscow doesn't know where Akayev is.
Bakiyev's immediate challenge in the strategic nation was in halting vandalism and looting that left major stores in Bishkek gutted and damaged by youths who roamed the capital overnight, with few police seen.

Suicide car bomber kills 11 Iraqi police commandos in Ramadi, U.S. military says

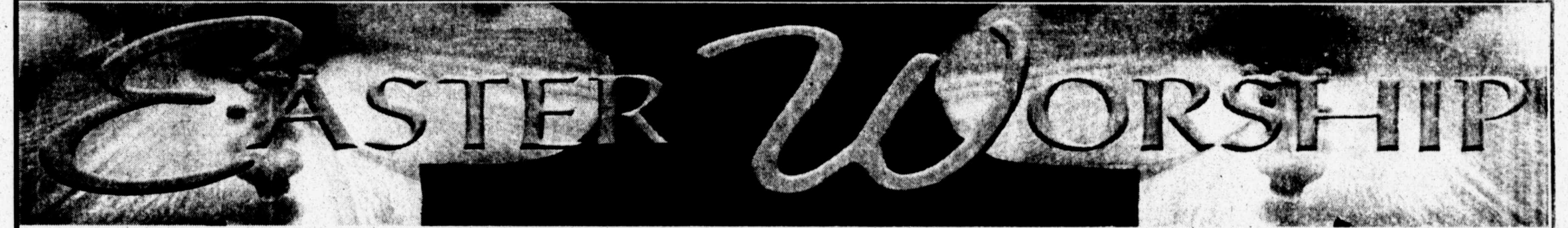
BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — A suicide bomber detonated an explosives-laden vehicle near the central city of Ramadi, killing 11 Iraqi policemen and wounding 14 other people including two U.S. Army soldiers, the U.S. military said Friday.
In eastern Baghdad, unidentified attackers killed five female translators working for the U.S. military late Thursday, said Iraqi police Capt. Ahmed Aboud.
The translators "were heading home when gunmen driving two cars sprayed them with machine-gun fire," Aboud said.
Further details weren't immediately available.
The blast in Ramadi hap-

pened Thursday evening at a checkpoint on the eastern outskirts of the Sunni Triangle city 70 miles west of Baghdad. Nine Iraqi security forces and three civilians were among the wounded, U.S. Marine Capt. Jeffrey Pool told The Associated Press. The attacker also died.
Insurgents routinely target U.S. forces and their perceived collaborators as well as members of Iraq's government, army and police — security forces the U.S. military says must gain better control of the strife-torn country before any major U.S. troop withdrawal.
Police found two decapitated bodies clad in Iraqi army uniforms north of Baghdad, officials said.

The headless corpses were lying on the side of a road between Baghdad and the town of Abu Ghraib when a passing police patrol discovered them Thursday and brought them to a nearby morgue, 1st Lt. Akram Al-Zubai said Friday.
Army officials weren't immediately available for comment.
On Thursday, hundreds of power workers shouting "No, no, to terror!" marched through Baghdad to protest attacks that have killed dozens of their colleagues, while demonstrators in the south demanded that the new petroleum minister be appointed from their oil-rich region.
The demonstrations came as negotiators for the two biggest factions in the new National

Assembly worked out details of an Iraqi government that U.S. officials hope will pave the way for the eventual withdrawal of coalition forces.
Jawad al-Maliki, a negotiator from the Shiite-led United Iraqi Alliance, said talks had progressed enough for Shiite Arab and ethnic Kurd officials to agree to hold parliament's second session early next week, although no date had been set. The 275-seat National Assembly met March 16 to swear in its members.
"The negotiations were positive and very good," al-Maliki said. "In the coming days, the meetings will be continuous and decisive."
Lined up behind a black banner with the names of slain

power workers, protesters demanded an end to attacks on electricity stations and oil pipelines — targets in an insurgent effort to weaken the economy and undermine the U.S.-led coalition and interim government.
At the same time, in southern Basra, more than 200 workers gathered outside a local government building to insist that the new government's oil and transportation ministers be someone from that region.
"Everyone must know that the oppressed and persecuted people of the south refuse to have their interests be ignored," protesters said in a statement given to the provincial governor, Mohammed al-Waeli.



These area congregations invite you to celebrate the miracle of Easter.

College Park Church Of God
Pastor Micheal Chase

Come Celebrate Our Resurrection Easter Sunday

Sunday School 9:30 am

Morning Worship 10:30 am

Dr. W.C. Ratchford Speaker

603 Tulane Big Spring 267-8593

Resurrection Sunday
Worship with us

7:00 AM Community Sunrise Service
9:45 AM Easter Egg Hunt
11:00 AM Worship Service

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Pastor Donita Lea

COAHOMA UNITED METHODIST
401 No. Main Coahoma 394-4432

Eastertide Greetings

HOLY WEEK
at
Immaculate Heart Of Mary

Don't forget the three holiest day in the Christian Calendar
Holy Thursday, Good Friday & Holy Saturday

Holy Thursday, 7 pm - Foot Washing Ceremony
Good Friday, 7 pm - Veneration of the cross
Holy Saturday, 7 pm - Vigil beings in the cafeteria with Old Testament readings

Easter Sunday Mass at 11 am
Welcome into full communion with the Catholic Church
Mandy Cruz & Alton McGruder and Congratulations

Salvation Army

Easter Schedule Of Services

9:00 a.m. Breakfast
10:30 am Morning Worship

Visit Us At
811 W. 15th Big Spring

Join Us At The Park
6:45 am City Wide Sunrise Service

Easter Blessings to All

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ST. THOMAS CATHOLIC CHURCH
605 N. MAIN • 263-2864

HOLY THURSDAY
Celebration Of The Lord's Supper
March 24 • Mass 7:00 pm - St. Thomas/Sacred Heart

GOOD FRIDAY
Liturgy Of Good Friday - March 25 • 7:00 pm
St. Thomas/Sacred Heart

HOLY SATURDAY
Easter Vigil Service
March 26 • 8:00 pm - St. Thomas/Sacred Heart
Father James Plagens • Father Felix Cubelo

EASTER SUNDAY
March 27 Mass:
9:00 am - Sacred Heart
10:00 am - St. Thomas

Come Celebrate Easter at
Trinity Baptist Church

Hear the Choir Sing The Cantata "Marks of the Mission"
Hear the special Easter sermon by Pastor Randy Cotton

The Sunday School and Morning Worship will be combined with service beginning at 10:30 A.M.
11th Place & Young

HIS TOMB IS EMPTY - HIS HOUSE SHOULD BE FULL

Church News

Berea Baptist Church

At 6 p.m. today, Good Friday, Berea Baptist Church will meet to worship with a focus on the significance of the cross. We will also observe the ordinance of the Lord's Supper as part of this worship time.

At 11 a.m. Easter Sunday worship time, we will celebrate the resurrection. Part of this service will include the ordinance of baptism.

Baptism dramatizes the death, burial and resurrection of Christ and in the life of the believer. We, like many other churches, baptize by immersion of the person completely under water. We invite you to join with us as we rejoice over what Christ has done for all of us and as we observe this ordinance.

Berea meets for Bible study at 9:45 a.m. each Sunday. We have nursery care for children under the age of four years. For transportation, call 267-8438 between 9 a.m. and noon Monday through Thursday. If you call at other times, leave a message. We will return your call.

Berea Baptist Church is located at 4204 Wasson Road. For personal contact or questions, call Dwayne Wheat, pastor, at 267-8438 or e-mail him at pdwheat@rcrom.net.

East Fourth Street Baptist Church

East Fourth Street Baptist Church at 401 E. 4th invites the Big Spring community to join us for our Easter Sunrise Service Sunday at 8 a.m. After the Sunrise Service, breakfast will be served. At 9:45 a.m., all age groups are encouraged to attend Sunday school and then the 11 a.m. worship service in which the Lord's Supper will be observed.

A Youth Discipleship class, Royal Ambassadors, Girls in Action, Mission Friends and Mission Babies are offered for children of all ages Sunday nights at 4:45.

Choir practice begins Sunday night at 5, and the evening worship service begins at 6.

Wednesday, adults are invited to worship in the Beth Moore Women's Bible Study or Men's Bible Study from 6:30-8 p.m. and teen-agers are invited to worship with the Youth group at the same time.

Call 267-2291 for more information.

First United Methodist Church

"Not Death, But Life!" is the title of the Rev. Dr. Dave Ring's sermon Easter Sunday. The gospel scripture is from Matthew 28:1-10. Worship services are at 8:30 a.m. and 10:50 a.m. Holy Communion will be served at the early service only.

Breakfast will be served at 7:45 a.m. in Garrett Hall following the Community Sunrise Service at the Big Spring Amphitheater at 6:45 a.m. Sunday school classes meet at 9:45 a.m.

The Youth will have a Good Friday Youth Activity Night this evening at 5:45 p.m. in the Partee Building.

The church is still try-

Continued on Page 9A

We Encourage you to... WORSHIP AT THE CHURCH OF YOUR CHOICE



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John 15:13

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Psalm 136: 1

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Big Spring, TX

New Life Church



**SUNDAY: 10:00 AM Sunday School
11:30 AM Morning Worship**

WEDNESDAY: 7:00 pm Bible Study

FRIDAY: 7:00 PM Youth Hangout

Pastor
Jerome McNally

204 NW 10th

264-0771

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SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST
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ASSEMBLY OF GOD

FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD
4th & Lancaster 267-7971
TEMPLO BELEN
ASSEMBLY OF GOD
2205 GOLIAD

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BAPTIST TEMPLE
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BEREA BAPTIST
4204 Wasson Rd. 267-8438
BIRDWELL LANE BAPTIST
1512 Birdwell Lane
CALVARY BAPTIST
1200 W. 4th. 263-4242
CENTRAL BAPTIST
Elbow Community
COLLEGE BAPTIST
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CRESTVIEW BAPTIST
Gatesville Street
EAST FOURTH BAPTIST
401 East 4th 267-2291
EAST SIDE BAPTIST
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Pastor, Jeff Janca
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IGLESIA BAUTISTA LA FE
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403 Trades
MT. BETHEL BAPTIST
630 Sgt. Paredez 263-4069
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Farm Mkt. Rd. 2230
PRIMERA BAUTISTA MISSION
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PRIMITIVE BAPTIST
201 East 24th
SALEM BAPTIST
I-20
TRINITY BAPTIST
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MARY CATHOLIC
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SACRED HEART CATHOLIC
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ST. THOMAS CATHOLIC
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FIRST CHURCH OF GOD
2009 Main 267-6607

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NEW LIFE
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Pastor: Michael A. Mahaney

PRESBYTERIAN

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701 Rannels 263-4211
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
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Hebrews 11:1

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The resurrection: More than just a story

Over the last several years, I have read several discussions about the Shroud of Turin. Experts who seem to be competent give differing accounts of its age, how it came to exist and what it probably represents. Immediately before writing this article, I went to the official Web site of the Shroud of Turin. New tests by yet another expert discredit the tests done in 1988 and presents new findings that the shroud is much older than the 13th century as proclaimed at that time. I do not know how true or not true these claims may be. However, I do know that my own confidence in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus does not depend on the ever-changing opinions about the shroud. The early disciples did not expect to see Jesus alive after the crucifix-

ion. When we read of the events which immediately followed crucifixion after the Sabbath was over, we learn that the women were on their way to Jesus' tomb to anoint his body for burial. There had not been time earlier because of the approach of the Sabbath. After the angel spoke with them, they ran to find the apostles in order to tell them what they had learned. Luke records the apostles' response. *Then the women remembered his words, and when they returned from the tomb they told all these things to the eleven and to all the rest. Now it was Mary Magdalene,*

Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told these things to the apostles. But these words seemed like pure nonsense to them, and they did not believe them. But Peter got up and ran to the tomb. He bent down and saw only the strips of linen cloth; then he went home, wondering what had happened. [Luke 24:8-11, Net Bible] Clearly the apostles were not expecting Jesus to live again, even though he had told them in various ways that the cross and the tomb would not have the final say. Luke notes that Peter even went into the tomb and examined the linen grave clothes, but that did not solve the riddle for him. Their understanding of what had happened did not really come until they were confronted with Jesus' presence that

evening. Whether we read of his conversation with the two men on the road to Emmaus, the appearances in the upper room, or appearances by the lake, the ultimate evidence is his presence. He even chose to eat with them more than once because some suspected that he was a ghost or spirit. Several years later, Paul, who was violently opposed to the preaching about Christ, finally was confronted with his presence and became a believer and a forceful advocate of the gospel. There is no evidence for the resurrection which is as forceful as meeting the living Christ in a salvation experience. Even if we are convinced that the resurrection has adequate evidence for us to accept it as a historical event, we will not understand the significance of the resurrection

until we accept the living Christ into our lives. When Paul wrote of the importance of a correct understanding of an experience with the resurrection, here is what he said to the Corinthian church. It seems that at least some were questioning whether or not a literal resurrection was all that important or in fact had even happened. *Now if Christ is being preached as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is futile and your faith is empty. Also, we are found to be false witnesses about God, because we have testified against God that he raised Christ from the dead, when in reality he did not raise him, if*

indeed the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is useless; you are still in your sins. Furthermore, those who have fallen asleep in Christ have also perished. For if only in this life we have hope in Christ, we should be pitied more than anyone. (1 Corinthians 15:12-19, Net Bible) As we come to this Easter season, my prayer is that for each of you the resurrection will become more than just a story and more than just an event in history. May the living Christ reveal himself to you so that he becomes a living presence in your life every day. *Wayne Wheat is the pastor of Berea Baptist Church.*



DWAYNE WHEAT

Church News

Continued from Page 8A

ing to gather current addresses for military men listed on the prayer list. Contact Holly Moore with addresses. First United Methodist Church is located at 400 Scurry. For more information on any of these programs, call the church office at 267-6394.

Birdwell Lane Baptist Church

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. The members of Birdwell Lane Baptist Church at 1512 Birdwell Lane encourage you to worship with them for Easter Services this Sunday. The choir will sing special Easter music in the morning services and the members will partake of the Lord's Supper in the evening service. We wish everyone a wonderful and safe Easter. Sunday worship services are at 10:55 a.m. and 5 p.m. Midweek services are at 7 p.m. Wednesday. For information, call 267-7157 or 267-8214.

First Baptist Church

Tomorrow, children of all ages are invited to come to the Family Life Center at First Baptist Church at 10 a.m., for "Egg-Stravaganza." This will be a great time for the little ones to have fun and learn about Jesus' love for them. "For He is not here, He is risen..." What a magnificent Savior we serve. This Easter Sunday, First Baptist Church invites you to worship the risen Christ with us at 9:30 a.m. for Sunday school and 10:50 a.m. for morning worship. Our pastor, the Rev. Dennis Teeters, will share with us the message, "A Surprise to End All Surprises." At 6 p.m. "The Passion of the Christ" will be shown followed by the Lord's Supper. Childcare will be provided for children through the sixth grade. If you need more information concerning our church and its activities, please call 267-8223.

Coahoma United Methodist Church

Coahoma United Methodist Church at 401 N. Main holds Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. and

Sunday Service at 11.

Good Friday Service will be held at 6 p.m. in the sanctuary. Easter Sunrise Service will be held at 7 a.m. in the Coahoma City Park (across the street from the church). An Easter Egg Hunt sponsored by the youth will be at the Sunday School Hour, 9:45 to 10:45 a.m. All children are invited to participate. Easter Worship will be held at 11 a.m. in the sanctuary. We look forward to seeing you for all of these activities.

East Side Baptist Church

East Side Baptist Church is located at 1108 E. Sixth Street. You will be welcome to come and celebrate the resurrection with our church family. We will begin at 9:45 a.m. with classes for all ages, learning of the Risen Lord. Our family worship begins at 10:45 a.m. with great music, testimony and a message from God's Word. This week's sermon is "The Cross," from Mark chapter 15. We would love for you to come and be a part of our worship and praise for our Lord at this very special service. We love company and will be honored to have you visit. Nursery is provided for 4 years old and younger.

College Park Church of God

Join us for a Resurrection Revival through March 26 at 603 Tulane. Friday through Sunday, the Rev. Dr. W.C. Ratchford, a national evangelist for the Church of God, will be speaking at 7 p.m. Dr. Ratchford was appointed in August 1998. He and his wife, Monte have two children, W.C. (Bill) Ratchford Jr., who is a Church of God pastor and David A. Ratchford, who also was a Church of God pastor until his untimely death Sept. 13, 2001. Dr. Ratchford received theological training from Southwestern Bible College in Oklahoma City, Okla. An honorary doctorate in ministry was conferred by Crossland Christian Bible College of Orlando, Fla., July 8, 2000.

He began ministry in 1957, was ordained in 1964 and licensed in 1958. He was elected assistant general evangelist and home missions director in 1982 and re-elected in 1984. He was elected again in 1986 and re-elected in 1988. He was elected to the General Executive Council in 1990 and re-elected in 1992. He served on the board of directors for Northwest Bible College in Minot, N.D., 1972-1974 and he served on the East Coast Bible College board of directors from 1990-1994. He served four years on the Y/CE state board in Texas from 1962-1966. He served four years on the Texas State Council from 1966-1970. He served as pastor to the following churches in Texas: Petrolia, Olney, Amarillo, Mesquite and Hurst. He was the state overseer in Nebraska from 1970-1976; Mississippi from 1976-1980; Virginia 1980-1982; South Carolina from 1990-1994 and Illinois from 1994-1998. He has been a speaker in more than 90 camp meetings, prayer conferences and major overseas crusades and pastor's conferences. He conducted 32 evangelism conferences, seminars and home missions rallies nationwide while general director of evangelism. He conducted conferences in our service-men's centers in Korea, the Philippines and Germany. He was part of "The Strike Force" team that planted 15 churches in one week in Moscow, Russia. He served on the Round Table of Evangelism (several organizations' evangelism departments) and is a member of the NAE. He is listed in Who's Who in Religion in 1974-75 and again in 1985-86. He has authored articles for the Church of God Evangel and other periodicals. Saturday, Dr. Ratchford will speak at the Resurrection Breakfast at 9 a.m. At 11:30 a.m., there will be an Easter Egg Hunt at Comanche Trail Park in the Old Settlers Pavilion with hot dogs and drinks. Sunday Easter Service is at 10:30 a.m.

Friends of Unity

As new life emerges after winter members will celebrate the resurrection experience

together Sunday.

The movie "What The Bleep," tells the story of the awakening of one person to new life and will be viewed at the 2 p.m. meeting. Everyone is welcome to share this challenging time at the Unity Center, located in the northeast boxcar at the Railroad Plaza. The Rev. Jim Sims continues the teachings on the subject of the "I Am" lessons of Jesus on Tuesdays at noon. All meetings are open.

West Hwy. 80 Church of Christ

West Hwy. 80 Church of Christ presents "Ladies Day" Saturday. The theme is "My Sisters' Hand." The speakers are Sister Willene Knox of the West Hwy 80 Church of Christ and Sister Deborah Mullins of the Coahoma Church of Christ. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. with a continental breakfast. The community is invited to attend this event. Lunch will be served immediately following the program. Evangelist at West Hwy. 80 Church of Christ is Bro. Ian Nickerson and our minister is Bro. Ulysses Mathews.

Baptist Temple

Sunday, we will be celebrating the resurrection of our Lord with a Sunrise Service. We would like to invite all who would like to attend, to join us at 7 a.m. We will have breakfast at 8:30 and our morning Bible Study will be at 9:30. In our morning worship, our Adult Choir will present an Easter Cantata called "Rise Again." We will conclude the day by celebrating the Lord's Supper. We are expecting a great day of worship, fun and fellowship. There will be no evening service on Easter.

We invite those who are seeking a place of worship to come and check us out. We have been placed right in the heart of Big Spring. At the same time we are a church that has Big Spring on our heart. We are located at the corner of 11th Place and Goliad. As we extend an invitation to those who are seeking a place of worship, we would like for you to come join us this Sunday as we gather for Bible Study and worship. We offer Bible Study classes for all ages. We are looking forward to a great movement of God in revival meetings in April. Revival services

are April 17-20.

Gibbie McMillan will be our evangelist and the Murlyn Keller Family will be sharing music as well as chalk drawings. We are excited about what we believe God stands ready to do and we want to invite all who would like to be part of the services to come expecting God to work in the lives of believers and to touch our community with a fresh touch of His presence. We at Baptist Temple just want you to know that you'll find something for everyone and you will always be welcome. For more information call 267-8287, visit our Web site at www.baptisttemplechurch.org. You will find a warm and friendly welcome.

Easter Sunrise Service

A community-wide Easter Sunrise Service is set for 6:45 a.m. Sunday in the Big Spring Amphitheater at 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 Christ Community Church, Capt. Linda Keeny and Capt. Russ Keeny 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 missionary of First United Methodist Church. Pianist this year is Christy Alton of Cornerstone Church. Special music will be provided by Shelly Choate of Hillcrest Baptist Church. The public is invited to this free event.

Cornerstone Church

Cornerstone Church, an Every Nation Ministries church, formerly Morning Star International, invites children in kindergarten through fourth grade to Sunday children's activities. 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. 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, will study the Ten Commandments at 7 p.m. each Wednesday in April. Cornerstone, located at the corner of 12th and Owens streets, offers a family atmosphere of praise and worship. Morning worship begins 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 W. Fourth Street. 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.

St. Paul Lutheran Church

We welcome you to join us in worship this Easter season. Good Friday Service of Darkness at 7:30 p.m. today. At 7:45 a.m. Easter Sunday, we have a courtyard worship service. The Easter Festival Service follows at 10 a.m. Celebrate the resurrection of our Lord! Christ is risen; He is risen indeed! Join us at Ninth and Gregg streets. Call 267-7163 for more information.

YoungLife seeks volunteers

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 club. Club members are also preparing for YoungLife camp July 2-10 in Colorado. For more information or to contribute to YoungLife, call leader Shelly Warren at 264-1234.

Club News

Alpine Site of GFWC TEXAS WD Convention 2005

In her Call to Convention, Western District President Mary Vongsavath said: "It is with great pleasure to officially invite you to the General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC) TEXAS Western District (WD) 45th Annual Convention — "Celebrate TEAM WD" in my hometown, Alpine, April 8-10, 2005." District officers, board members, delegates and guests are cordially invited to attend this effervescent event at the Kokernot Lodge.

A variety of events are available for members and guests to participate and enjoy. Starting April 8, a catered dinner and entertainment will be held. GFWC Woman's Club of Alpine is hostess-club and will perform an exciting skit.

The official opening of the convention will be April 9. The keynote luncheon guest speaker will be the prominent Dr. James Luecke who will talk on "Gems of Healthcare." Ken T. Vongsavath, PA-C will give the special introduction "Partners in Medicine." Luecke and Vongsavath have been serving the medical care of the Big Bend area for more than a decade. Both are affiliated with the Big Bend Regional Medical Center in Alpine. Dr. Luecke is the medical director of Fort Davis Family Practice, the Marfa Rural Health Clinic and Marathon Rural Health Clinic. The Marfa Rural Health Clinic is under the direction of Vongsavath as the healthcare provider.

Two new district life members will be elected and the Outstanding Clubwoman 2005 will be presented. Awards will be given to outstanding projects that each club has accomplished.

Souvenir items of tote bags, wall clocks, key chains and the district yearbook will be available to purchase. Many door prizes will be given away. Members are encouraged to join the GFWC photography contests and arts and crafts show in the Alpine High School foyer April 9.

Deadline for registration is Wednesday and registration and entry forms must be mailed to Eleanor Smith at 511 Hendryx, Alpine, 79830.

The GFWC Arts in the Community Spring Show will also be held in conjunction with the convention at the Alpine High School Foyer April 9-10. This show will feature Texas artists exclusively who will be on hand to exhibit artwork from a wide variety of mediums, including paintings, sculptures, pottery, jewelry, photography and others. Awards to be given are Best of Show, Award of Excellence, Award of Distinction, Award of Merit, Judges' Choice Award and People's Choice Award.

Texas artists are welcome to join and must send in their application as soon as possible to meet the Thursday deadline to P.O. Box 1694, Alpine, 79831. For further information, e-mail gfwc-texaswd@yahoo.com.

Located in our nation's capital, GFWC is an international organization of volunteer, community-based women's clubs with members worldwide dedicated to community improvement since 1890. GFWC TEXAS WD covers the counties

of Andrews, Brewster, Crane, Culberson, Ector, El Paso, Glasscock, Howard, Hudspeth, Jeff Davis, Loving, Martin, Midland, Pecos, Presidio, Reagan, Reeves, Sterling, Terrell, Upton, Ward and Winkler.

TOPS TX 21

Co-leader Carol Smith presided when Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) TX 21 met Monday at the Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center, 306 W. Third.

Olnee Menges voiced the opening prayer, the group then joined in reciting the TOPS pledge and then the four Keep Off Pounds Sensibly (KOPS) present recited the KOPS pledge. Shirley Jenkins let the fellowship song.

The club welcomed one visitor, Cherry Hill, to the meeting.

Minutes of last week's meeting were read by secretary Gladys Russell.

Genay Bertran called the roll with members answering with their loss or gain for the week.

Of the seven TOPS present, Duffy Yancy was the best loser and of the KOPS, Jennifer Shaffer was the best loser.

Each received the

weekly best loser award and a certificate.

It was announced that next week is the installation of the new officers with the installing officer being Carol Smith. The weigh-in and installation will be at the meeting place and then members will enjoy a salad supper in the home of Alex and Sherry Sechelski.

Members enjoyed a time of conversation about themselves and their own problems with food and later, Carol presented the program titled, "Balancing Your Meal Plan." Two points in the program that were helpful were: 1. Eat most calories during the day when you are most active. 2. Make a commitment to take control of your weight.

For more information call 1-800-397-8677 or locally 263-0391 or 263-1758.

Captain Elisha Mack Chapter of the DAR

The regular meeting of the Daughters of the American Revolution was March 19 at 11:30 a.m. in the Big Spring Country Club.

In attendance were Luci Schuelke Gabehart, Sue Ann Johnson

Damron, Mary Thornton Schuelke, Katie Lara, Sara Tipton, Fern Alexander, Carole Lawson, Lora Mae Pollard, Dottie Brittan and Charlene Ragan. Guests were Janie Harrison and Pat Simmons of Big Spring.

Pat Simmons gave a very interesting presentation on "Keep Big Spring Beautiful." Pat is a native of Big Spring and after 21 years of travel, she and her husband returned to Big Spring.

A graduate of Big Spring High School class of 1944, she was the founder of the Festival of Lights and is a former Woman of the Year and has been involved in "Keep Big Spring Beautiful" for 11 years.

Pat reminded the group that the 2005 "Trash Off Day" in Big Spring is April 2.

Sue Ann Damron gave a brief report on the state conference in Dallas. Four members attended the conference, Anne Witherspoon, Sue Ann Damron, Carole Lawson and Mary Schuelke.

Anyone interested in more information about the DAR and how to become a member can call Mary Schuelke at

353-4337, Sue Ann Damron at 393-5790 or Lora Mae Pollard at 263-6473.

The purpose of the DAR is to perpetuate the memory of the men and women who served in some capacity to achieve American independence. The DAR also educates and informs the public about current political issues and encourages patriotic citizenship.

Capt Elisha Mack Chapter NSDAR member assists with citizenship ceremony

Mary Thornton Schuelke, recording secretary for the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Captain Elisha Mack Chapter of Big Spring, attended a citizenship ceremony in Houston Feb. 25.

It was a ceremony for children and 110 children became citizens of the United States that day.

These children came from 25 countries such as Bangladesh, Egypt, India, Israel, Kazakhstan, Nigeria, Russia, Sri Lanka, Trinidad, China, Kuwait, Vietnam, Mexico, Iran and Korea.

Cathy Shuler, the assis-

tant district director of Homeland Security in Houston, gave the opening remarks and welcomed everyone. Hipolito M. Acosta, district director of Homeland Security in Houston, administered the oath of allegiance and encouraged each new citizen to set goals, educate themselves and attain those goals. He used an American astronaut as an example: This astronaut is a naturalized citizen from Mexico.

Norma Ambriz led the Pledge of Allegiance and a recording of Lee Greenwood singing the National Anthem was played. Acosta then issued the certificates of citizenship assisted by Sophie Ha, the supervisory district adjudications officer.

Each new citizen was given a flag and a copy of the pledge of allegiance by the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution. Representatives from the Lady Washington Chapter, Houston, Alexander Love Chapter, Houston and Captain Elisha Mack Chapter of the NADAR, Big Spring, served cookies and punch to the new citizens.

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Sports

**BIG
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 25, 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 every 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 during Howard 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.

B.S. Little League Umpires Association sets final meetings

The Big Spring Little League Umpires Association has announced its final meeting before the new season begins.

The meeting will take place Saturday at the Courthouse, beginning at 10 a.m.

For more information, call Don Booth at 816-9748.

Big Spring C.C. sets three-person touney

The Big Spring Country Club will host a three-person scramble April 2 and 3.

The entry fee is \$50 per player plus golf cart. There will be a 1 p.m. shotgun start each day. The entry fee includes barbecue Saturday, as well. The field will be flighted by first round score.

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

Howard County sets 4-H tournament

The Howard County 4-H Club has set up a three-on-three basketball tournament to benefit Relay For Life.

The tournament will take place April 1-2 starting at 7 p.m. at the Trinity Baptist Church Gymnasium.

Teams can have up to four players and the cost of each person is \$10 and participants must be 16 years of age or older.

The tournament is double elimination and it will also include a three-point contest.

T-Shirts will be awarded for first and second place teams.

The deadline to enter is March 30.

For more information, call Howard County 4-H during the day at 264-2236 or Brian or Karen Moore at night at 393-5571.

Finally! Victory at last

• Big Spring ends two-year drought against arch rival

By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor ANDREWS — Big Spring crossed homeplate just one time Thursday night, but once was enough as the Lady Steers softball ended a two-year drought against arch rival Andrews on the diamond and defeated the Lady Mustangs, 1-



0, in Andrews. Big Spring had lost five straight games against Andrews, but now finds itself in the drivers' seat for the District 4-4A title.

"We just needed to forget about the past and go out there and win," said Big Spring coach Phillip Pearce. "Our defense was awesome and Alex (Watkins) pitched the best game I have seen her pitch in the last two years."

Both teams had just a few chances to score in the game as the pitchers dominated. Big Spring was able to take advantage of one opportunity and claim victory after senior Heather Vassar crossed the plate in the fourth inning. The Lady Steers later stranded three runners on base in the same inning.

Andrews had two chances to score but plays in the field for Big Spring ended the Lady Mustangs' threats.

Sophomore Katy Abner was the first fielder to make a play. Andrews all-district member Honda Rodriguez reached base on an error in the first inning, but was later gunned down by Abner as she tried to advance to third base.

"Katy's throw in the first inning was big," said Pearce. "It kind of set the tone for the rest of the game."

Another threat by Andrews was ruined after the Lady Mustangs made a costly mistake on the base paths. The Lady Mustangs started the seventh inning off with a single, but the runner got caught in a run-down on the next pitch. Big Spring recorded the out after Vassar threw down to Courtney Rodriguez and Rodriguez threw over to Neisha Heinis, who applied the tag.

The pitching duel on the mound was won by senior Watkins, who improved to 10-1 on the season. She threw all seven innings, gave up just three hits and struck out four.

Kendra Corbin took the loss for Andrews, but pitched well enough to win. She threw all seven innings, giving up five hits and one earned run. She struck out six batters and walked two.

"We put the ball in play and that is all I ask really," said Pearce. "We knew she was going to throw the ball outside. I am not concerned with us not hitting the ball though."

Chelsea Abner (two singles) and Krista

See **SOFTBALL**, Page 2B



Big Spring junior Courtney Rodriguez raises her arms and screams for joy after the Lady Steers' softball team defeated arch rival Andrews on the road Thursday. Big Spring won the game, 1-0, and improved to 15-2 overall and 2-0 in District 4-4A.

Brown leads girls, Garza grabs first for Big Spring tracksters in Midland

• Steers, Lady Steers grab fifth against stiff Class 5A competition

By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor MIDLAND — Both Big Spring track teams went against tough Class 5A competition Thursday at the Tall City Relays in Midland at Memorial Stadium.

The girl's division was won by Midland High with 130 points, but all five teams were relatively close in the standings. Odessa High finished two points behind Midland, while San Angelo Central and Midland Lee were separated by just one point of each other for third and fourth, respectively. Big Spring finished fifth with 99 points.

The top four finishing teams were separated by just seven points.

The Big Spring boys had

a little tougher time. Midland Lee won the meet with 179 points followed by Midland High with 160. Odessa High scored 147 points, but San Angelo Central and Big Spring both struggled with 78 and 45 points, respectively.



Airianné Brown and Monica Fierro each got one gold medal in individual events, while

Brown's two relay teams also finished first. Brown won the 200 meter dash with a time of :25.91. The Lady Steers' 4x100 and 4x200 meter relay teams also grabbed first.

The 4x100 relay team was made up of Katy Abner, Brown, Carmen Lewis and Elida

Rodriguez and the group's winning time was :49.64.

The 4x200 meter relay team also finished first with a time of 1:46.28. Members of that team included Brown, Lewis, Whitney Lewis and Cycelye Tuitt.

Fierro's first place finish came in the discus. Her winning throw was 110-11. Amisha Vanderbilt finished one-foot behind Fierro in the discus and also captured second in the shot put with a throw of 36-02.

The lone third place finish of the day for the Lady Steers came in the 4x400 meter relay. The team — Carmen Lewis, Whitney Lewis, Britni Rodriguez and Esther Tobar — took the bronze in 4:13.99.

Chalesa Johns (high jump), Raegan (100 meter hurdles), Hayley Adams (800 meter run) all grabbed first place finishes, while Hayley Adams took sixth in the 200 meter run with a time of 2:36.36.

The Steers' 200 meter was grabbed by Garza, who won the 200 meter run with a time of 2:00.66.

Sophomore Rodriguez finished third and fourth, respectively, in the 3,200-meter runs. He finished the two mile with a time of 4:38.87.

Bobby Newton, Martinez and the Big Spring 4x400 meter relay team all grabbed second place finishes. Newton's fourth place finish came in the 200 meter dash.

See **TRACK**, Page 2B



HERALD photo/Troy Hyde

Members of the Big Spring softball team cover up the plate in Andrews Thursday after the Lady Steers defeated the Lady Mustangs on the diamond for the first time in two years. Big Spring won the game, 1-0.

SOFTBALL

Continued from Page 1B

Chesworth (two singles) had four of Big Spring's five hits. The other hit came off the bat of Vassar, who later scored the lone run of the game, in the fourth inning. Honda Rodriguez had



WATKINS

two hits for Andrews, but committed a costly error in the fourth inning which allowed Vassar to score.

"This win is a real lifter for our girls," said Pearce. "I think we will be fine the rest of the season. We just have to come out and continue to work hard."

The Lady Steers will look to take another step toward a district title Tuesday when they travel to Wolforth for a battle with rival Frenship. The game begins at 4 p.m.

Garden City golf teams finish first

• Grady squads finish third, Sands boys grab fifth overall

By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor

LOOP — Two impressive performances led to two first place finishes Wednesday for the Garden City golf teams.

The Kats and Lady Kats each grabbed first place at the Loop Invitational at the Gaines

MULTER County Country Club after shooting 372 and 448, respectively.

Grady took third place in both divisions, while the Sands boys' golf team grabbed fifth overall.

Loop, who finished 26

TUBE strokes behind Garden City, took second in the girl's division, while Borden County and Dawson rounded out the top-five.

The Garden City boys defeated second place Ira by 14 strokes and Grandfalls-Royalty finished fourth after shooting a 409. Grady shot a 398 and Sands finished with a 424.

Garden City's Kayla Madrano won individual first place medalist hon-

shot a 115 and 118, respectively, while Brandi Halfmann rounded out the top-five with a 137.

"It was a pretty windy day, but the girls battled hard," said Garden City coach Ken Hoskins. "We got our top-five lineup back and it showed."

The Grady girls were led by freshman Kenzie Madison, who finished fourth overall after shooting a 112. Keirston Russell was next for Grady with a 118.

The Garden City boy's 372 was their best score of the year. The Kats were led by junior Cory Multer's 88. He finished second overall. Sam Long finished tied for fourth with a 91 and Taylor Niehues shot a 93. Eric Hirt and J.C. Leitgeb finished with a 100 and 112, respectively.

"We had some really good scores as we look ahead to the district meet," said Hoskins.

Grady's Justin Tubb and Jonathon Tunnell led the Wildcats. They each shot a 92 and finished tied for fifth overall. Doug Rutledge ended up with a 94.

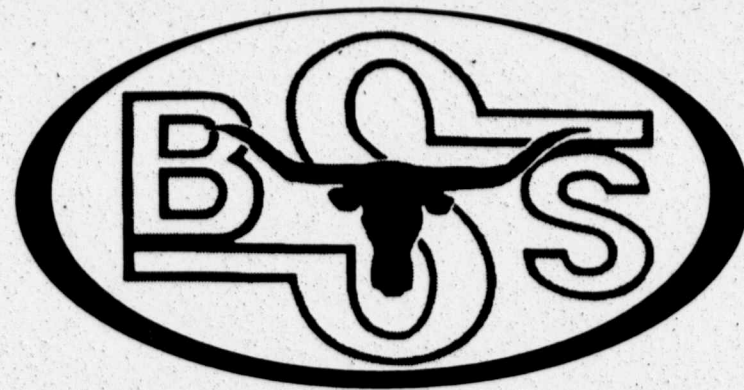
The Garden City girls improved their score at the Loop Invitational from last year by 36 strokes, while the boy's team improved by 53 shots.

Garden City, Grady and Sands will all next com-

fifth with a 113. Rebecca Cmerek and Erin Hirt

Man Shoot Out hosted by Garden City in Stanton Monday at 9:30 a.m.

BIG SPRING



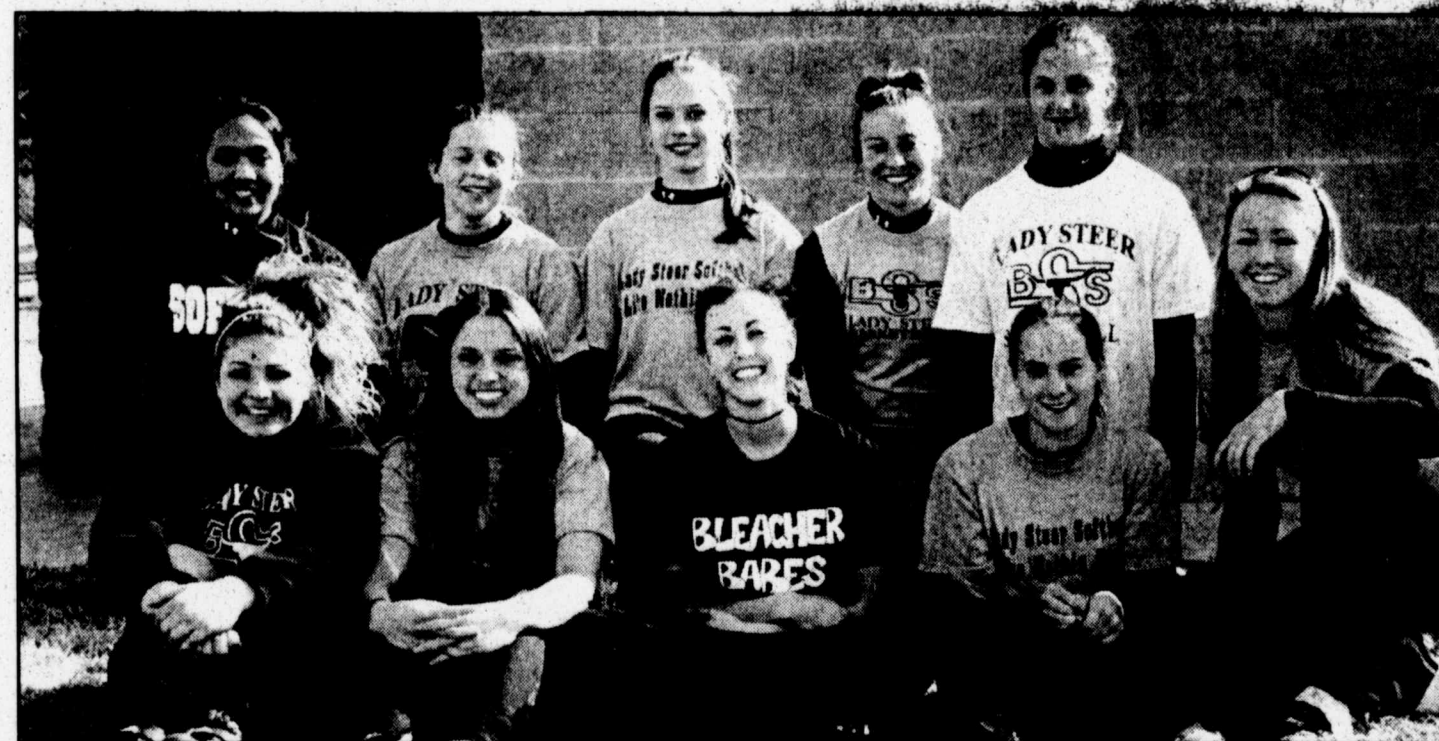
2005 Steer Baseball Schedule

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	TIME
March 1	Odessa Permian	(T)	4:00
March 3, 4, 5	Monahans Tournament	(T)	TBA
March 8	Midland	(T)	1:00
March 17, 18, 19	Andrews Tournament	(T)	TBA
March 22	Hobbs	(H)	4:30
March 26	Odessa Permian	(H)	12:00
March 29	*Lakeview	(H)	4:30
April 1	*Andrews	(T)	7:00
April 5	*Frenship	(T)	7:30

(DH) Double Header

*District Games

Head Coach: Jason Phillips Asst. Coaches: Kenny Lowery & Paul Hidalgo



2005 Lady Steer Softball Schedule

DATE	OPPONENT	TEAM	SITE	TIME
March 1	Abilene High	V-JV	(T)	3/4:30
March 3, 4, 5	El Paso Tournament	V	(T)	TBA
March 10	Greenwood	V-JV	(T)	4/5:30
March 12	Lubbock High	V-JV	(H)	11/1:00
March 14	Midland Christian	JV	(T)	5:30
March 15	Coahoma	V	(H)	4:30
March 19	Lubbock Cooper	V-JV	(H)	11/1:00
March 22	*Lakeview	V-JV	(H)	4/5:30
March 24	*Andrews	V-JV	(T)	6/7:30
March 29	*Frenship	JV-V	(T)	4/6:00
April 1	Midland Lee Soph	JV	(H)	5:30
April 1	*Estacado	V	(H)	4:00

*District Games

Head Coach: Phillip Pearce

Good Luck To All Of You!



BIG SPRING HERALD

Gee, Morgan lead Coahoma at Irion County Invitational

By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor
MERTZON — Senior Mendy Morgan ran her way to a first and two second place finishes, while junior Sterling Gee added a first, second and third place finish to lead the Coahoma girl's track team to a second place finish Thursday at the Irion County Invitational.

The Bulldogettes finished with 112 points, which tied Comstock, but Reagan County ran away with the team title after amassing 216 points. Grape Creek grabbed fourth place with 83 points, while host Irion County finished last with 63.

Morgan's first place finish came in the 200 meters as she crossed the line in :27.34. She also got two silver medals in two relays. Her 4x400 meter relay team — which also consisted of Kayla Guterrez, Krista Kerby and Sarah Collom — crossed the line in second with a 4:27, while the 4x200 meter relay team of Morgan, Kerby, Guterrez and Veronica Cortez grabbed second in 1:54.30.

Gee's first place finish was captured in the 100 hurdles as she crossed the tape in :16.52. She got second in the 300 hurdles with a time of :53.79 and took third in the triple jump with a leap of 30-6. Chelsea Gonzales ran two events



with Gee and captured fourth and fifth, respectively in the 300 and 100 hurdles.

Collom other second place finish of the day came in the 400. She crossed the line in :64.13.

Coahoma grabbed three third place finishes in individual events. Kerby grabbed the bronze medal in the high jump with a 4-6, Monica Morelion finished third in the 1,600 meter run with a time of 6:03 and Guterrez took third in the 200 meters with a time of :28.20.

Liz Conley had the only fourth for Coahoma as she finished three behind the winner in the shot put. Heather Sheppard and Cortez each got fifth and sixth, respectively, in the shot put, while Sheppard also finished sixth in the discus. Jessica Pittman also tied Sheppard in the shot put with a fifth place finish.

Vanessa Cortez was able to grab sixth place in the 200 meters, while Morelion took sixth in the 800 meter run with a time of 2:44.

The Bulldogettes will next run in Seminole Saturday, April 2.

COAHOMA



2005 Bulldog Baseball Schedule

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	TIME
March 1	Sonora	Here	5:30
March 3-5	Sweetwater Tourney	Sweetwater	TBA
March 8	Kermit	Kermit	1:00
March 10-12	Snyder Tourney	Snyder	TBA
March 15	Crane	Crane	7:00
March 22	Midland Christian	Midland (FAB)	6:00
March 25	*Stamford	Stamford	4:00
March 29	*Colorado City	Colorado City	7:00
April 1	*Anson	Here	7:00
April 5	*Hawley	Here	7:00

*District Games

Head Coach: Brad Harman Asst. Coach: Coley Dobbs



2005 Lady Bulldog Softball Schedule

DATE	OPPONENT	TEAM	SITE	TIME
March 1	Greenwood	V	(T)	4:30
March 3-5-7AM-Sat	Snyder Tournament	V	(T)	TBA
March 7	Snyder	JV-V	(T)	5/7:00
March 9-12	Arlington Tournament	V	(N. Richland Hills)	TBA
March 15	Big Spring	JV-V	(T)	4/6:00
March 18	Andrews	JV-V	(H)	5/7:00
March 22	Midland Lee	JV-V	(H)	5/7:00
March 25	*Stamford	V	(T)	6:30
March 29	*Colorado City	JV-V	(T)	5/7:00
April 1	*Anson	JV-V	(T)	5/7:00
April 5	*Hawley	JV-V	(T)	5/7:00

*District Games

Head Coach: Robby Dickenson Asst. Coaches: Dicky Stone & Shanna Roberts

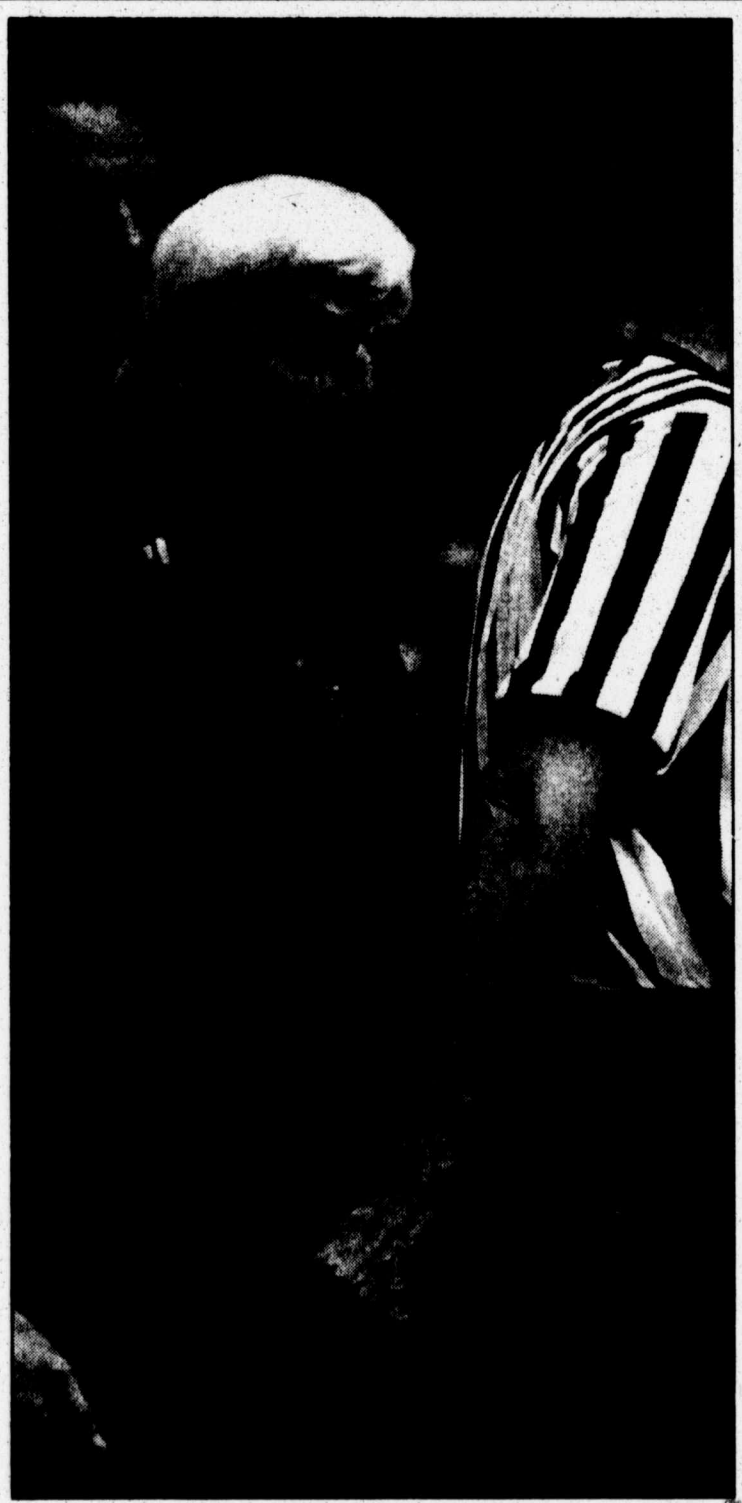
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KRT photo/Michael Alnoworth, Dallas Morning News
Texas Tech coach Bob Knight yells during his team's game with West Virginia during the first half of their NCAA tournament game in Albuquerque, N.M., Thursday. Texas Tech lost the game, 65-60.

TRACK

Continued from Page 1B

after crossing the line in :23.50. Martinez finished his 800 meter fourth place time in 2:09.43, while the relay team of Curtis Osburn, Dylan Yarbrough, Martinez and Jacob Nichols finished their race in 3:35.29.

Raymond Porter also grabbed sixth in the triple jump after recording a leap of 41-7.50.

The Lady Steers will next run in All American City Classic in Abilene April 1, while the Steers will head to San Angelo April 1-2 to compete in the San Angelo Relays. The home meet for both teams will take place April 8 at Blankenship Field.



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M A R C H 2 5 2 0 0 5

Tomorrow's Horoscope

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

This is the time of year when love parades into our lives, holding up the "traffic" of everyday events. All else must stop while the fanfare of romance marches proudly through, as though it belongs right there and has every right to interrupt. As the song goes, "That's amore!" The full moon is in loving Libra, and it

HOLIDAY
MATHIS

simply couldn't be dreamier.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). In even the healthiest relationships, love is sometimes a battlefield. But all the time? Sure, a warrior like you needs a little conflict to keep your skills honed. Still, this is getting ridiculous.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Making money depends on your ability to understand the new and remain on the cutting edge. Love prospects are dialed into your every move. Too bad you're not interested in the same one who wants you!

GEMINI (May 21-June

21). Your inner nerd gets a moment in the sun. Don't worry: It's still hip to be square, especially if you use your nerd powers to help someone out of a technological rut. By the way, it's probably time to get a haircut.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). The images and beliefs that bubble up from your unconscious aren't exactly pretty. Everyone has prejudice — everyone! Own up to yours, and consciously make an effort to fight injustice and inequality.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Don't be in a rush to judge. Just let the data gather as you go. Soon, you'll see a pattern that's so clear, it's like a big arrow pointing to the fastest, best road to success.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). It's playtime, and you let loose with the best of them! Bring a camera wherever you go because you'll want to remember all of the fun you create. Partners in crime are Libra and Cancer.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). As lovely as it is to dream and scheme about beautiful days to come, the truth is that you can't plan results. All you can plan is the actions you'll take to improve your life. One such action brings

love your way tonight.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Since you're out of your comfort zone, distinguish between psychic feelings and fearful ones. First impressions are shaped by experiences. Adding new experiences changes your immediate associations.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You're truly a social being. Mix, mingle, and be merry. Just when you're afraid your presenting company will literally bore you to death, you meet someone astonishingly original.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Moneymaking strategies include seeking out someone you've been avoiding. When you clear your karma, you attract abundance! Tonight, fight the urge to isolate, and instead, get involved.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Your demands of love won't be satisfied by someone flighty. Recognize which dynamics of a love affair are likely to change and which are not. Tonight gives you a second chance to work out the problems.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Loved ones don't mean to mislead you but will do anything to appear right. Gather the facts yourself. Are you in

line for a raise or big commission? Put in overtime tonight, and be appreciated.

WEEKEND LOVE FORECAST: Giddy, intoxicating spring fever infects new relationships and old. Why keep your head when it's more fun to lose it? ARIES: You're sought after for your free-wheeling spirit and contagious laugh. TAURUS: When your gut tells you there's something brewing with a loved one, ask bold questions! Get to the truth. GEMINI: The little ways you show your affection add up, revealing that you're committed big time. CANCER: You are teaching new relationship skills to a loved one. Be patient. LEO: Your reputation precedes you! Find out exactly what people are saying. VIRGO: Singles find love while spending time in public areas such as bookstores, supermarkets and coffee shops. LIBRA: Singles: Ask friends and relatives. They have friends you might like — especially Capricorn friends. SCORPIO: Your many moods are adorable to the one who is so crazy about you. SAGITTARIUS: If romance still looks like a treacherous road, hold on to hope. Things change around the bend.

CAPRICORN: Anything can happen in a romance, and that's what makes it so compelling to you. AQUARIUS: You are in hot pursuit, and your potential love poses many a challenge. PISCES: Your faithfulness leads you down a path that is different from the one followed by those who are less devoted.

COUPLE OF THE WEEKEND: Aries and Libra are zodiac opposites and thus fit snugly together, filling in each other's weaknesses and supporting one another's strengths. The full moon in Libra activates the innate beauty of this Venus-ruled sign, and Aries is rendered breathless by Libra's luminosity. Libra should be judicious with this new power, though, or there is a backlash next week when Libra must step off the pedestal.

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. To find out more about Holiday Mathis and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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Legals

CITY OF BIG SPRING
PUBLIC WORKS
March 23, 2005
PUBLIC NOTICE

An Ordinance of the City of Big Spring, Texas, authorizing and directing the City Manager to designate the placement and maintenance of a four way stop intersection at South Scurry and 24th Street (State Law provides that it is a misdemeanor offense to run a stop sign punishable by a fine of up to \$200.00 on conviction); and providing for publication.

Big Spring City Code Sec. 18-133 Stop Intersections. Authorizes the City Manager to designate and maintain stop intersections on streets as directed by the City Council.
#4496 March 25 & 27, 2005.

Legals

CITY OF BIG SPRING
PUBLIC WORKS
PUBLIC NOTICE
March 23, 2005

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BIG SPRING, TEXAS, PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF A SPECIFIC USE PERMIT LOCATED AT 1103 EAST 11th PLACE, LOTS 9, 10, 11, 12 OF BLOCK 5, HIGHLAND PARK ADDITION AS PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL ON THE 22nd DAY OF MARCH 2005; PROVIDING FOR A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION AND FINDING AND DETERMINING THAT THE MEETING AT WHICH THIS ORDINANCE WAS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AS REQUIRED BY LAW.
#4499 March 25 & 27, 2005

Legals

TEXAS COMMISSION ON
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
NOTICE OF RECEIPT OF
APPLICATION AND INTENT TO
OBTAIN AIR PERMIT RENEWAL
PERMIT NO. 29009

APPLICATION Wingate Gin Corporation dba Big Spring Gin, has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for the renewal of Air Quality Permit No. 29009 which would authorize continued operation of the Cotton Gin located at 301 Leatherwood Road, Big Spring, Howard County, Texas. The facility will emit the following air contaminants: organic compounds, nitrogen oxides, sulfur dioxide, carbon monoxide and particulate matter.

This application was submitted to the TCEQ on January 31, 2005. The application is available for viewing and copying at the TCEQ central office, the TCEQ Midland regional office, and the County Clerk's Office at the Howard County Courthouse, 500 South Main, Big Spring, Howard County, Texas. The facility's compliance file, if any exists, is available for public review in the Midland regional office of the TCEQ.

The TCEQ executive director has determined the application is administratively complete and will conduct a technical review of the application. Information in the application indicates that this permit renewal would not result in an increase in allowable emissions and would not result in the emission of an air contaminant not previously emitted. The TCEQ may act on this application without seeking further public comment or providing an opportunity for a contested case hearing if certain criteria are met.

PUBLIC COMMENT You may submit public comments, or a request for a contested case hearing to the TCEQ Office of the Chief Clerk at the address below. The TCEQ will consider all public comments in developing a final decision on the application. The deadline to submit public comments is 15 days after newspaper notice is published. After the deadline for public comments, the executive director will prepare a response to all relevant and material, or significant public comments. Issues such as property values, noise, traffic safety, and zoning are outside of the TCEQ's jurisdiction to address in the permit process.

After the technical review is complete the executive director will consider the comments and prepare a response to all relevant and material, or significant public comments. If only comments are received, the response to comments, along with the executive director's decision on the application, will then be mailed to everyone who submitted public comments or who is on the mailing list for this application, unless the application is directly referred to a contested case hearing.

OPPORTUNITY FOR A CONTESTED CASE HEARING You may request a contested case hearing. The applicant or the executive director may also request that the application be directly referred to a contested case hearing after technical review of the application. A contested case hearing is a legal proceeding similar to a civil trial in state district court. Unless a written request for a contested case hearing is filed within 15 days from this notice, the executive director may act on the application. If no hearing request is received within this 15-day period, no further opportunity for hearing will be provided. According to the Texas Clean Air Act § 382.056(o) a contested case hearing may only be granted if the applicant's compliance history is in the lowest classification under applicable compliance history require-

ments and if the hearing request is based on disputed issues of fact that are relevant and material to the Commission's decision on the application. Further, the Commission may only grant a hearing on those issues raised during the public comment period and not withdrawn.

A person who may be affected by emissions from the facility is entitled to request a hearing. If requesting a contested case hearing, you must submit the following: (1) your name (or for a group or association, an official representative), mailing address, daytime phone number, and fax number, if any; (2) applicant's name and permit number; (3) the statement "[I/we] request a contested case hearing;" (4) a specific description of how you would be adversely affected by the application and air emissions from the facility in a way not common to the general public; (5) the location and distance of your property relative to the facility; and (6) a description of how you use the property which may be impacted by the facility. If the request is made by a group or association, the one or more members who have standing to request a hearing and the interests the group or association seeks to protect must also be identified. You may also submit your proposed adjustments to the application/permit which would satisfy your concerns. Requests for a contested case hearing must be submitted in writing within 15 days following this notice to the Office of the Chief Clerk at the address below.

If any requests for a contested case hearing are timely filed, the executive director will forward the application and any requests for a contested case hearing to the TCEQ Commissioners for their consideration at a scheduled Commission meeting. Unless the application is directly referred to a contested case hearing, the executive director will mail the response to comments along with notification of Commission meeting to everyone who submitted comments or is on the mailing list for this application. If a hearing is granted, the subject of a hearing will be limited to disputed issues of fact relating to relevant and material air quality concerns raised during the comment period. Issues such as property values, noise, traffic safety, and zoning are outside of the Commission's jurisdiction to address in this proceeding.

MAILING LIST In addition to submitting public comments, you may ask to be placed on a mailing list for this application by sending a request to the TCEQ Office of the Chief Clerk at the address below. Those on the mailing list will receive copies of future public notices (if any) mailed by the Office of the Chief Clerk for this application.

INFORMATION Written public comments and requests for a contested case hearing must be submitted to the Office of the Chief Clerk, MC-105, TCEQ, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087. If you need more information about this permit application or the permitting process, please call the Office of Public Assistance, Toll Free, at 1-800-687-4040. General information about the TCEQ can be found at our web site at www.tceq.state.tx.us.

Further information may also be obtained from Wingate Gin Corporation dba Big Spring Gin, P.O. Box 2306, Big Spring, Texas 79721 or by calling Mr. Kelley Green, P.E., Director of Technical Services, Texas Cotton Ginners' Association at (512)476-8388.
Issuance Date: March 17, 2005
#4500 March 25, 2005

Annie's Mailbox : Advice for those in need

Dear Annie: Last year, my boyfriend was killed in a car accident. We'd gone out for dinner, and then he went to drop off a friend. Apparently, because he had been drinking too much, he fell asleep at the wheel and crashed.

Although it was the most difficult loss I have ever experienced, I was even more shocked to discover that "Tom" had another girlfriend whom he had dated for several years. His family thought I was just a good friend, and I had no intention of revealing his two-timing and leaving them with such a bitter last impression. Tom's mom eventually found out the real truth, but we never really discussed it.

Since the funeral, I have maintained a close relationship with Tom's parents, talking with them several times a month. One thing continues to bother me. Tom's mother asked me once if I'd seen him the day of the accident. At the time, I told her that I hadn't. I didn't want to complicate matters by saying he was with me. Also, I partly blamed myself for allowing him to drive, when I knew he'd had too much to drink.

This has been eating at me, because I haven't been completely honest with them, and they have the right to know. Should I tell them the truth? — Devastated

Dear Devastated: Telling Tom's parents may have more to do with assuaging your guilt than giving them closure. Make sure your motives are clear.

Some parents truly want more details, and if you think this is the case, you can gently bring up the subject to Tom's mother, explaining that he'd had dinner with you and then left to drop off a friend. Don't go into detail about his drinking. Simply tell them that the last time you saw Tom, he seemed happy.

Dear Annie: After five years of being together, my girlfriend and I became engaged. Both of us have decent jobs, but we also have bills, and at the end of the month, we have very little to put away. Neither of us comes from wealthy families, nor are our families eager

KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

to give a large chunk of money to pay for the wedding. We are constantly harassed by friends and coworkers about when we're getting married, and it's become a public humiliation to my fiancée when people say I must not be serious about her because we haven't set a date.

I know how important it is for my fiancée to have a beautiful wedding. How do people afford these things? — Crunching Numbers in North Dakota
Dear N.D.: The cost of a wedding depends on what you intend to have. Many couples marry with a small afternoon reception of tea and cake, or home-cooked casseroles put together by friends and family. These events are perfectly lovely.

However, if you want the spectacle, with a sit-down dinner for 200, you probably will need to take out a loan. Discuss this with your fiancée, and decide exactly where your dreams and your money meet up. Good luck.

Dear Annie: I have to reply to the cemetery worker in Quincy, Ill., who complained that widows think it's funny to direct telemarketers to the cemetery when they call asking for the deceased. He said only women like this practical joke.

When my husband died, I attempted to change the credit card accounts, bank accounts and car registrations over to my name, and made sure to send copies of his death certificate. Each time, I was told, "I'm sorry, the head of the house will have to call us." I told these people to call 1-800-HEAVEN to reach the "head of the house." I apologize if the phone company got some flak,

but that is how I deal with insensitive folks who don't listen. — Still Missing Him in Vermont

Dear Vermont: Thanks for the explanation. Your frustration level must have been pretty high, but now we understand the reasoning behind it.

Dear Annie: I need to comment on the letter from "Married to the Old Goat in Virginia," whose 70-year-old husband returned home with a prescription for Viagra. She was upset that she'd had no input into this decision. However, this misses a much larger, often overlooked issue.

Anytime one is prescribed a drug to treat erectile dysfunction, it should be accompanied by safer-sex education. Postmenopausal women think they don't need to use a condom since pregnancy is not an issue, but there has been an alarming increase in HIV infection in older people since these drugs became available.

The Canadian AIDS Society notes that 12 percent of all new HIV infections in Canada in the first half of 2003 were in the 50-plus age group. Thank you for the opportunity to share this vital information with your readers. — Richard S. Ferri, Ph.D., ANP, ACRN, FAAN, Provincetown, Mass.

Dear Dr. Ferri: We appreciate your pointing out that everyone needs to be careful. Our readers were up in arms over this subject. Here's a sampling:

From Omaha, Neb.: My 55-year-old husband went in for his physical, and his doctor asked him if he wanted Viagra. There was no discussion of need. I think physicians do this because of perks from drug companies. I knew of a man who got Viagra samples so he could molest children. Doctors should not be offering it like candy.

Arizona: This woman sounds like she leads a dreary life and loves it. When I mentioned Viagra to my wife, her response was "Go get it!" She is 69, and I am 70.

Louisville, Ky.: My husband, age 64, got a prescription for Viagra. I didn't know about it for three months, but he told his

girlfriend right away.

Midwest: I'm 56, and my husband suffers from erectile dysfunction. I got up the nerve to ask him about it, hoping he'd speak to his doctor.

Instead, he told me he wasn't interested in sex anymore. I can't force him to try Viagra, so I am left out of his decision, which affects two people and a marriage.

Florida: My husband often talked about getting Viagra, and I kept saying he didn't need it. At 76, he has the stamina of a 35-year-old. Still, he came home with Viagra and asked to try it out. I have to say, don't knock it until you've tried it!

Colorado: Does that old biddy ask his permission to color her hair or use cosmetics to enhance her self-esteem? I would no more allow my wife to decide about my sexual dysfunction than I would give up reading glasses for her.

Denver: Without sex, men become impatient, horny and depressed. If one person forces another to have sex, it's called rape. When one person forces her spouse to be celibate, there must be a name for that, too.

Los Angeles: Erectile function defines your sense of masculinity. No one should have to ask his wife if he needs help in that area. She sounds like a dominatrix.

Massachusetts: What many people do not know is that Viagra was first tested as a vessel dilator. I have pulmonary hypertension, and I take Viagra to help lower the pressure. My girlfriend doesn't know whether to laugh or cry.

Arlington Hts., Ill.: The end result for that 70-year-old will be "all dressed up and no place to go."

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.com.
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FRIDAY

MAR. 25

	WFAA (2)	KMID (3)	UNI (4)	KPEJ (5)	KOSA (7)	KTLE (8)	KWES (9)	WTBS (11)	KMLM (12)	KOCV (13)	DISC (20)	AMC (21)	SPIKE (22)	TNT (23)	BET (26)	DISN (27)	ESPN2 (28)	ESPN (29)	TMC (250)	
6	News (CC) Dallas	News Wheel-Fortune Midland	News Wheel-Fortune Spanish	La Mujer de Madera	Malcolm-Mid Raymond	College Basketball: Odessa	Amigos de Jesus - Judas	News Seinfeld (CC) Raymond	Liberty John Hagee	News-Lehrer Odessa	American Chopper	CSI: Crime Scene Investigation	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Live BET com	Zack & Cody That's-Raven	Billards PGA Golf	SportsCenter NBA	Movie: Narc (CC)	
7	Easter Beagle 8 Simple Rules	Easter Beagle 8 Simple Rules	Apuesta por un Amor	The 36th Annual NAACP Image Awards (CC)	Regional Semi-College	Nino Llamado Jesus	Medical Investigation	Light of the Southwest	Update/Israel Biblical Israel	Wash. Week Wall-Fortune	Monster House	Movie: J-K-19: The Untold	CSI: Crime Scene Investigation	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Movie: Beverly Hills Cop II	Facess:	Championship	Phoenix Suns at Miami Heat	Movie: Narc (CC)	
8	Hope & Faith Less-Perfect	Hope & Faith Less-Perfect	Hospital, Paisa La Escuelita	Malcolm-Mid 70s Show	Tournament Regional Semi	Noticias Laura	News Tonight Show	Art Thou? (CC)	The Hour of Healing	Jimi Edit. Rpt Travis Smiley	American Hot Rod (CC)	9:55 Movie: Wes Craven's	Investigation (CC)	Movie: The Ultimate Fighter	Rip the Runway	American Drgn Zack & Cody	Boxing Bravo vs. Hopkins	NBA	Movie: Sleepwalkers (CC)	
9	News (CC) Nightline	News Nightline	Primer Impacto Noticiero Univ.	70s Show	Tournament Regional Semi	Noticias Laura	News Tonight Show	Art Thou? (CC)	The Hour of Healing	Charlie Rose (CC)	Monster House	9:55 Movie: Wes Craven's	Investigation (CC)	Movie: The Ultimate Fighter	Rip the Runway	American Drgn Zack & Cody	Boxing Bravo vs. Hopkins	NBA	Movie: Sleepwalkers (CC)	
10	Ent. Tonight Jimmy Kimmel	Extra (CC) Jimmy Kimmel	Movie: Sobrevivire	Becker (CC) Becker	News Late Show	Al Rojo Vivo: Maria Celeste Programa	Late Night: Conan O'Brien	Art Thou? (CC)	CCM Ministries Del Sanchez	Sign Off	American Chopper	New Nightmare (CC)	The Ultimate Fighter	Sleepless in Seattle	Midnight Love	Mr. Whiskers Kim Possible	College GameDay	Knicks at Seattle Sonics	Movie: The Crying Game	
11	Live (CC) News (CC)	Live (CC) Paid Program																		
12																				

Anything romance, it makes it to you. You are in and your poses many PISCES: less leads with that is the one fol- who are

OF THE series and diac oppo- fit snugly g in each esses and another's full moon vates the y of this sign, and red breath- luminosi- ld be judi- this new or there is next week ust step off

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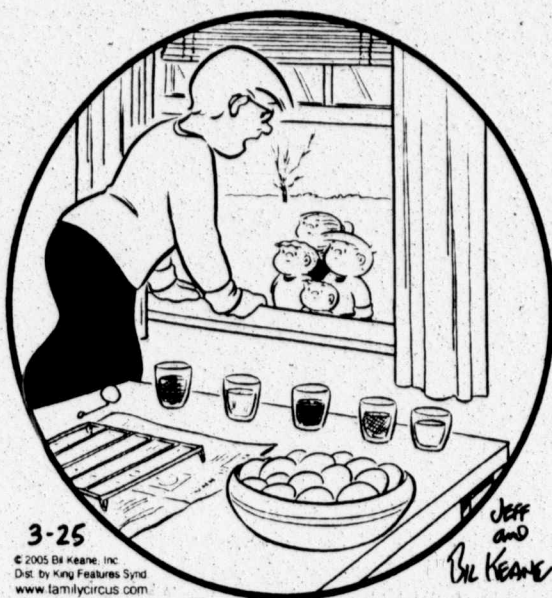
ttts: What do not know ra was first ssel dilator. I ary hyper- take Viagra or the pres- friend does- ther to laugh

DENNIS THE MENACE



"MARGARET SAYS 'ARROGANCE' IS JUST 'CONFIDENT BRAGGIN'."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

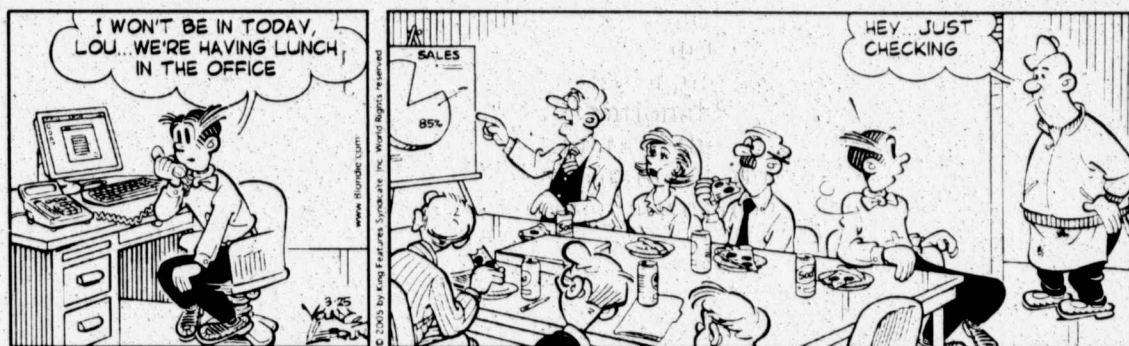


"Last call! If you don't get in here right away, I'll start dyeing without you."

HAGAR



BLONDIE



BC



WIZARD OF ID



AGNES



HI AND LOIS



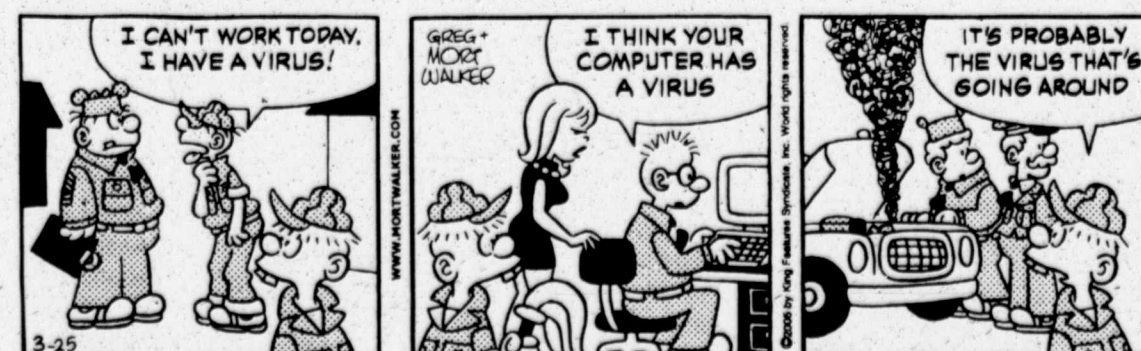
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

By the Associated Press

Today is Friday, March 25, the 84th day of 2005. There are 281 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On March 25, 1965, the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. led 25,000 marchers to the state capitol in Montgomery, Ala., to protest the denial of voting rights to blacks.

On this date:

In 1634, Maryland was founded by English colonists sent by the second Lord Baltimore.

In 1865, during the Civil War, Confederate forces captured Fort Stedman in Virginia.

In 1894, Jacob S. Coxey began leading an "army" of unemployed from Massillon, Ohio, to Washington, D.C., to demand help from the federal government.

astronaut James Lovell is 77. Movie reviewer Gene Shalit is 73. Feminist author Gloria Steinem is 71. Singer Anita Bryant is 65. Singer Aretha Franklin is 63. Actor Paul Michael Glaser is 62. Singer Elton John is 58. Actress Bonnie Bedelia is 57. Singer Nick Lowe is 56. Actress-comedian Mary Gross is 52. Actor James McDaniel is 47. Actor-writer-director John Stockwell is 44. Actress Marcia Cross ("Desperate Housewives") is 43. Actress Lisa Gay Hamilton is 41. Actress Sarah Jessica Parker is 40. Singer-musician Jeff Healey is 39.

In 1911, 146 immigrant workers were killed when fire broke out at the Triangle Shirtwaist Company in New York.

In 1913, the home of vaudeville, the Palace Theatre, opened in New York City.

In 1918, French composer Claude Debussy died in Paris.

In 1947, a coal mine explosion in Centralia, Ill., claimed 111 lives.

In 1957, the Treaty of Rome established the European Economic Community.

In 1975, King Faisal of Saudi Arabia was shot to death by a nephew with a history of mental illness. (The nephew was beheaded the following June.)

In 1990, 87 people, most of them Honduran and Dominican immigrants, were killed when fire raged through an illegal social club in New York City.

Today's Birthdays:

Modeling agency founder Eileen Ford is 83. Former

Answer to previous puzzle

ALERT	SCAM	FALK
COVER	HORA	ADEN
EVITAPERON	SOME	DELANO
AMA	TRUE	
ISTO	ANTLERS	
PALL	APT	ARA
ICY	STAI	INLET
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LIT	RET	CHUM
DEADAIR	DELA	
ELMS	DEA	ERATE
ALOT	BANANA	PEEL
LIRA	ICKY	FERMI
SEER	THAN	STOPS

Newsday Crossword

ISN'T THIS GRAND by Merle Baker

- Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com
- | | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ACROSS | 64 ABA members | 11 Mighty trees | 38 Outfielder's cry |
| 1 Pokes | 65 Pediatrician office features | 12 The African Queen screenwriter | 39 Slips up |
| 5 Occupied | | 13 At the end | 44 Satisfy |
| 10 Farm newborn | | 18 Ancient seer | 45 Banjoist |
| 14 Stocking shade | | 19 Short-armed hoppers | 46 Puts in order |
| 15 Toughen | | 23 Haberdashery buy | 48 Potholed |
| 16 Music of India | | 24 Happiness | 49 Without delay, in the ER |
| 17 Stop suddenly | | 25 Like some Ger. nouns | 50 Brand symbol |
| 20 Harbor vessel | | 26 Imply | 51 Newspaper article |
| 21 Picnic spoiler | | 27 Bart or Belle | 52 Part of a Latin trio |
| 22 First stage | | 28 Fusilli, for one | 53 Protagonist |
| 23 Prohibits | | 29 Bistros | 54 Just |
| 24 College VIP | | 30 Deeply felt | 55 '60s sporty cars |
| 26 Appearance | | 31 Spiny flora | 57 Stars and Bars org. |
| 29 English Lit reading | | 32 Three-time PGA champion | 58 Columbus Day mo. |
| 33 Know—(smarty-pants) | | 34 Snow White friend | 59 Wrestling need |
| 34 Roast platform | | 37 Make fun of | |
| 35 Bert Bobbsey's sister | | | |
| 36 Advanced degree | | | |

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Golf Insider

IT'S GOOD FOR YOUR GAME

Angle for power is in right wrist

By T.J. TOMASI
Universal Press Syndicate

If you lack power, you're probably releasing the club too early. By "too early" I mean that you're losing the angle between your right hand and the back of your forearm too soon during your downswing. When you hold this powerful angle until just the right time it's called the "delayed hit," and doing this correctly is the reason four players hit the ball so far.

To get a clear picture of the delay, look at my position at the top of my backswing in the first photo here. Notice the angle between my right forearm and the club shaft.

Now look at my position in the next photo. It's just before impact, but I have retained an angle between the back of my right hand and the back of my right forearm, meaning that I've held the power burst until the very last millisecond.

To get the feel for this, try this drill: Without a club, assume your stance with your right hand and arm only, then bend your right hand back so it hinges away from the target with the palm facing the target line. If you are like most people, you can create about a 90-degree angle between your right hand and forearm.

Now reach over your right arm with your left arm and grab the fingers of your right hand with your left hand so the 90-degree angle is locked in place.

You are now ready to swing back slowly, exerting enough pressure with your left hand to maintain the right-hand bend all the way to the top of your backswing. Pause briefly at the top then slowly start forward toward a simulated impact position, maintaining the angle of your right wrist. Allow your right elbow to move in front of your right hip and again pause, just before impact.

Now it's time to release the left-hand grip and feel the snap of the right hand and arm through the impact area. This drill gives you the feel of the delay.

One more thing: Again look at my position in photo 1 and notice the bend in my right arm. My elbow is folded in such a manner that the relationship between my upper right arm and right forearm forms a 90-degree angle.

Contrast this to my right arm position in photo 2. Here my arm is nearly straight. This draws attention to the two keys of the delayed hit: retention of the right-hand angle, and slamming the right arm straight.

This is exactly how the right hand and arm operate in any proper throwing motion in other sports. In golf, this is an action that can be learned if you take care to do it a step at a time. After you get the feel of the delay and are aware of the proper "piston-like" motion of the right arm, you'll see marked improvement in your power.



In these photos, I have retained an angle between the back of my right hand and the back of my right forearm, meaning that I've held the power burst until the very last millisecond.



CHRIS MATULA / Cox News Service

"She's grown into a fine young woman," says Herb Krickstein about his granddaughter, Morgan Pressel (above) who will compete in the Kraft Nabisco Open this week.

Pressel mature beyond her years

The novelty phase is over for 16-year-old phenom

By ALAN TAYS
Cox News Service

West Palm Beach, Fla. Can it really be four years since Morgan Pressel became the most famous 12-year-old in golf?

"She's getting old," jokes Pressel's grandfather, Herb Krickstein. "She'll be nearing retirement soon."

At the 2001 U.S. Open, Morgan Pressel missed the cut. Older and stronger, Pressel is expecting more than making the cut this week.

Sixteen going on 17 is a little early to be thinking about retirement, but Pressel, a high school junior in Boca Raton, Fla., has crammed a lot of accomplishments into four years. Here's a synopsis for anyone wondering, "What ever happened to that 12-year-old girl who qualified for the U.S. Women's Open?"

- She qualified for the Open again — under more demanding rules — in 2003. Then, unlike her first appearance, she made the cut.

- She became the youngest winner, 16, in the 102-year history of the North and South Women's Amateur when she won it in 2004.

- She has won the past two Florida high school individual championships, the most recent by a record 15 shots after shooting a record 62.

- She decided on a college, Duke, after she graduates from high school next year.

- She became the nation's top-ranked junior and top-ranked female amateur.

- "She's grown into a fine young woman," Krickstein said. "She's had to deal with the illness and death of her mother, which was very traumatic (Kathy Pressel died of breast cancer in September 2003). She's come through that with a lot of bravery."

- "She's progressed in every way you'd want a young girl to progress. We're very proud of her."

This week, for the first time, Pressel will play in a professional tournament other than an Open. It's the Kraft Nabisco Championship, the LPGA Tour's first major of the season, which begins Thursday at Mission Hills Country Club in Rancho Mirage, Calif. Pressel received a sponsor's

WELCOMING THE YOUNGSTERS

The Kraft Nabisco Championship is known for inviting young amateurs. Those teeing off in Rancho Mirage, Calif., will include:

Julieta Granada, 18: U.S. Girls' Junior champion.

Jane Park, 17: Winner of the U.S. Women's Amateur.

Morgan Pressel, 16:

Currently top-ranked female amateur.

Michelle Wie, 15:

Has played against men in PGA events.



Pressel competed in the U.S. Open when she was 12.

exemption, her first.

Pressel took the women's No. 1 ranking in mid-January after defeating U.S. Girls' Junior champion Julieta Granada in the final of the Harder Hall Invitational.

"It meant a lot," Pressel said of the ranking. "That was definitely something that I wanted to do. Any time you're No. 1, it's a pretty big accomplishment."

Attaining the top ranking among juniors a month later was perhaps even more satisfying, because Pressel did not feel that Granada had played a strong enough schedule to keep the No. 1 spot.

Pressel goes to the Kraft Nabisco with more in mind than making the cut.

"I went to my second Open definitely to compete and to play well," she said, "but this time I think I can play very well. I think I can really compete."

She is well aware that other teens have had success in this event. Aree Song played in the final group Sunday as a 13-year-old

in 2000, and finished one shot behind winner Grace Park as a 17-year-old in 2004. Michelle Wie tied for ninth as a 13-year-old in 2003. Creamer, an LPGA rookie, also has made the cut at Mission Hills.

"I see Michelle going out there and playing well," Pressel said. "Paula — I've been playing with her for so long and she goes out there and can compete. I think I can do the same."

Pressel goes to the Kraft Nabisco armed with a stronger game — literally — than ever before. "Over the last three years she has physically matured perfectly," said Randy Myers, her fitness coach. Myers, director of fitness at PGA National, has worked with Pressel since she was 14.

Myers works with many professional golfers. He put Pressel through a 10-part flexibility testing program he uses on tour players. "Morgan was tour-caliber at age 14 in nine of 10 categories," Myers said. "That's unheard of. She just blew away our testing system."

"From the flexibility standpoint, every golfer, male and female, could model themselves after her."

She went to Myers on the recommendation of her swing coach, Martin Hall of Ibis Golf & Country Club, with whom she has worked since she was 9. Hall also has seen an improvement in her strength, but says she's the one who deserves the credit.

"Whether it's Randy Myers or me," Hall said, "we cannot claim that much responsibility for Morgan Pressel's success. She's the one hitting the ball. She's the one dealing with the pressures of it."

Considering everything she has accomplished, it's hard to imagine Pressel being flustered by who is watching. As Krickstein points out, she's long past being a preteen novelty no one expects anything from.

"For any young person, whether it be Michelle Wie or Morgan or anyone else, once the youth thing gets put on the back burner a little bit, then you've got to perform," Krickstein said. "The pressures are going to be there, the expectations are going to be there — 'You've been around for a while, why aren't you producing?'"

"That's if you're not producing. If you are producing, you've got no problem."

Sounds like a certain 16-year-old.

SCHEDULE

All Times EST

PGA TOUR

The Players Championship

- **Site:** Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla.
- **Schedule:** Thursday-Sunday.
- **Course:** TPC at Sawgrass, Stadium Course (7,093 yards, par 72).
- **Purse:** \$8 million. Winner's share: \$1.44 million.
- **Television:** ESPN (Thursday-Friday, noon-6 p.m.) and NBC (Saturday, 2-6 p.m.; Sunday, 1:30-6:30 p.m.).

LPGA TOUR

Kraft Nabisco Championship

- **Site:** Rancho Mirage, Calif.
- **Schedule:** Thursday-Sunday.
- **Course:** Mission Hills Country Club, Dinah Shore Tournament Course (6,520, par 72).
- **Purse:** \$1.8 million. Winner's share: \$270,000.
- **Television:** ESPN2 (Thursday-Friday, 5-7 p.m.) and ABC (Saturday-Sunday, 4-6 p.m.).

PGA EUROPEAN TOUR

ASIAN TOUR

Indonesia Open

- **Site:** Jakarta, Indonesia.
- **Schedule:** Thursday-Sunday.
- **Course:** Cengkareng Golf Club (6,851 yards, par 70).
- **Purse:** \$751,260. Winner's share: \$125,205.
- **Television:** The Golf Channel (Thursday-Friday, 9-11 a.m.; Saturday-Sunday, 9 a.m.-noon).

NATIONWIDE TOUR

Louisiana Open

- **Site:** Broussard, La.
- **Schedule:** Thursday-Sunday.
- **Course:** Le Triomphe Country Club (7,204 yards, par 72).
- **Purse:** \$500,000. Winner's share: \$90,000.
- **Television:** None.

CHAMPIONS TOUR

- **Next event:** Legends of Golf, April 22-24, The Westin Savannah Harbor Golf Resort and Spa, Savannah, Ga.

LEADERS

WORLD RANKINGS

Player	Points
1. Vijay Singh, Fiji	12.29
2. Tiger Woods, USA	12.09
3. Ernie Els, S.A.F.	11.44
4. Phil Mickelson, USA	8.93
5. Retief Goosen, S.A.F.	7.33
6. Padraig Harrington, Ire	5.75
7. Sergio Garcia, Spn	5.23
8. David Toms, USA	5.21
9. Adam Scott, Aus	5.01
10. Stewart Cink, USA	4.96
11. Kenny Perry, USA	4.53
12. Stuart Appleby, Aus	4.53
13. Davis Love III, USA	4.49
14. Mike Weir, Can	4.47
15. Chris DiMarco, USA	4.17
16. Darren Clarke, Nir	4.08
17. Miguel A. Jimenez, Spn	4.04
18. Chad Campbell, USA	3.59
19. Luke Donald, Eng	3.46
20. Stephen Ames, T&T	3.21

MONEY LEADERS

PGA TOUR

Player	Money
1. Phil Mickelson	\$2,723,056
2. Vijay Singh	\$2,542,313
3. Tiger Woods	\$2,408,476
4. David Toms	\$2,240,483
5. Adam Scott	\$1,394,128
6. Kenny Perry	\$1,209,530
7. Joe Ogilvie	\$1,181,455
8. Stuart Appleby	\$1,178,999
9. Padraig Harrington	\$1,087,826
10. Retief Goosen	\$1,085,608

LPGA TOUR

Player	Money
1. Annika Sorenstam	\$390,000
2. Lorena Ochoa	\$193,367
3. Cristie Kerr	\$180,168
4. Jennifer Rosales	\$173,964
5. Hee-Won Han	\$128,263
6. Karrie Webb	\$122,128
7. Soo-Yun Kang	\$101,485
8. Juli Inkster	\$91,560
9. Michele Redman	\$88,173
10. Rosie Jones	\$75,922

CHAMPIONS TOUR

Player	Money
1. Hale Irwin	\$746,606
2. Dana Quigley	\$459,247
3. Mark McNulty	\$408,689
4. Wayne Levi	\$405,501

THE GOLF DOCTOR

Focus is hallmark of disciplined play

First introduced in 1988 at the Westchester Country Club in Harrison, N.Y. (home of the Buick Classic), electronic leaderboards make a muted machine-gun-like sound about every 10 seconds as they record lead changes. Some players complain that this noise is distracting; however, I've noticed that the ones complaining are rarely among the leaders.

As I explain in my book "The 30-Second Golf Swing," "The golf swing is only one piece in a much larger pattern of playing the game." The pattern includes managing both the inner content of your brain and the interference of external experiences such as noise produced by the turnovers on the leaderboards.

Even though advanced technology is about

to silence the boards, as stealth-like computer monitors make their debut in 2007, undisciplined players will find something else to complain about. Modern technology will never be able to silence all the external experiences that trouble an untrained brain on the golf course. Only by developing a consistent physical and mental pattern for the 30 or so seconds it takes to hit a shot can you put yourself in a state of quiet.

Anytime I hear someone complain about noise I'm reminded of the following Ben Hogan story. As Hogan stood over a critical putt, a train whistle suddenly blared, startling the crowd. Hogan never flinched and made the putt. Asked afterward if the whistle had disturbed him, Hogan replied, "What whistle?"

THE GOLF DOCTOR



Dr. T.J. Tomasi is director of instruction at Lyman Orchards Golf Club in Middlefield, Conn. To ask him a question about golf, e-mail him at: TJInsider@aol.com.

Q: I'm doing OK for a woman who has been playing for only 18 months, but I'm having a lot of trouble in fairway bunkers. I leave the ball in the bunker, hit the lip or come up short of the green. Do you have any suggestions? — Maria S., Burbank, Calif.

A: Before making your club selection, first check the "three L's":

1. The lie of your golf ball.
 2. The lip of the bunker.
 3. The length of the shot.
- The lie of the ball determines the type of shot you can play. The lip, the elevated edge of the bunker, requires that you choose a club with ample loft for clearance. If the first two conditions are favorable, only then can you consider the total length of the shot.
- The ball's lie is the most important determining factor. If it is buried in the sand,

you'll have to hit a blast shot with your sand wedge, regardless of how far it is to your target. If your ball is sitting nicely on top of the sand, check the height of the bunker's lip and choose a club with enough loft to clear it.

Once you have evaluated the lie and the lip, you are ready to evaluate distance. Remember that fairway bunker technique shortens the distance you normally hit your irons. Be sure you include that in your calculations. For example, if the distance to the green would normally require an 8-iron, you'll need to hit a 7 from a fairway bunker.

The worst mistake you can make in a fairway bunker is to not get the ball out. Evaluating the "three L's" is the first step in preventing this error. Read my book "Play Better Golf for Women," for more information.