

Powwow returning to Big Spring after nine-year hiatus

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

After a nine-year absence, Powwow is returning to Big Spring.

Powwow, a celebration of Native American culture and family reunion rolled into one, will be held Saturday and Sunday at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

Times are 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday and 9:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Sunday. Admission is \$2, and visitors are encouraged

to bring a canned food item for donation to the local food bank.

Organizers expect up to 100 participants in the event, which is being held locally for the first time since 1996.

Native Americans in full regalia, dancing, drums and food will be on display during the event.

Before the celebration begins Saturday, organizers will hold a "Kid's Hour" — a chance for children to get an up-close look at powwow and other Native

American traditions — at 10 a.m.

"We're going to open up the floor about an hour before the powwow begins, and let the kids talk to the dancers," said Robert Downing, president of the organizing committee. "We hope it will be educational ... They can come in and learn a little more of what's going on. We might even teach them a dance step or two."

More than 50 Native American vendors are expect-

ed, selling a fry bread and other items. A silent auction also is scheduled.

Master of ceremonies will be Tim Harjo of Ada, Okla. the MC announces each event, while also explaining its significance to the audience. Arena director for the event will be Fabian Galvan of Lubbock.

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



Big Spring VAMC focus for meeting



Jim Nicholson, newly appointed head of the Department of Veterans Affairs, left, meets with Congressman Randy Neugebauer and Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison concerning the ongoing feasibility and business plan studies being conducted at 18 sites, including Big Spring and Waco, identified by the CARES decision made in May of 2004.

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer

Congressman Randy Neugebauer met Wednesday with Secretary Jim Nicholson, newly appointed head of the Department of Veterans Affairs, with the focus on the Big Spring VA Medical Center.

Neugebauer had requested the meeting in order to speak with Secretary Nicholson. Neugebauer also hoped the meeting would build on the momentum gained since former VA Secretary Anthony Principi's visit to the Big Spring VA hospital in August 2004, when hundreds of area residents packed the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum to show their support for the facility, which was identified as a possible site for closure.

Of specific importance during the meeting was the progress of the feasibility study called for by Principi to assess the hospital's role in providing quality care for veterans in the Big Spring area.

"Big Spring made great strides in demonstrating the value of its veterans hospital to the VA and the CARES Commission while Secretary Principi was in office," Neugebauer said following the meeting. "By meeting with Secretary Nicholson, the groundwork is being set to continue what has already been accomplished."

According to the congressman's senior staff, Neugebauer stressed the importance of the hospital to veterans and communities throughout West Texas and the Big Country. He also received an update on the feasibility study and how it plans to evaluate rural VA facilities.

Secretary Nicholson indicated that he would like to visit the Big Spring Hospital in the near future.

"Today's meeting was a good one and accomplished much of what I hoped," Neugebauer said. "I think Secretary Nicholson now has a good

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Sheppard honored for volunteer work at state hospital

By VALERIE AVERY

Special to the Herald

Dorothy Sheppard is always working, always thinking, always planning — and always putting the patients of Big Spring State Hospital first.

She's an admitted behind-the-scenes worker — one who shuns the spotlight. Big Spring State Hospital CEO Ed Moughon pointed out. And when she was honored as this year's Jack Y. Smith Award winner at the annual Volunteer Luncheon Wednesday, she shook her head as Smith's son, Steve, read off accomplishment after accomplishment.

Moughon pointed out her reluctance to leave her seat and accept the award in front of more than 100 people Wednesday at the Annual Volunteer Awards Luncheon.

"When we were down in Corpus Christi last week, and she was given one of the State Star awards, she just moaned and groaned. She was dying because she didn't want to go up there," he said laughingly.

"Dorothy has to be miserable right now. She hates this recognition. But, Dorothy, you mean so much to us," Moughon said.

Sheppard finally made her way up front, embarrassed, but well-deserved of the hospital's most prestigious volunteer award.

The award is named after Jack Y. Smith — one of the hospital's earliest and strongest volunteers.

"Being a friend is the best gift you can give someone," Steve Smith said. "Never underestimate the power of your actions. With one small gesture you can impact someone's life."

Smith said Sheppard has impacted many patients' lives since she walked in the doors of Big Spring State Hospital's Community Relations Office on Feb. 1, 2000.

Sheppard began baking cakes for patient parties, but quickly moved onto directing the massive holiday celebration. She breathed fresh air into the volunteer program by introducing new fund-raisers, such as afternoon card and game days. Patients also find greeting cards in the Fashion Shop because of Sheppard, Smith said.

And when volunteers and employees attend the annual fall luncheon, they can purchase cookies by the pound or homemade casseroles, which pay for patient needs.

"She has become invaluable," Moughon said.

Also honored during the luncheon were the hospital's State Star Award recipients. Earlier this month, volunteers brought home three statewide awards in three categories from the annual state volunteer convention: Lucy Griffith, a former state hospital employee, Rookie of the Year; Sheppard as State Star Award; and ALON USA as State Star Group Award winner.

ALON USA assists the hospital in numerous areas, making a huge impact at Christmas when they wrap presents, deliver the hundreds of gifts to the units and address cards to patients, Moughon said.

Department of State Health Services Commissioner Dr. Eduardo Sanchez told the volunteers via a taped presentation that they provide the additional touch many patients desire when they are cared for at Big Spring State Hospital.

"I appreciate the gift of what you provide," Sanchez said. "What you do is very, very important for the folks you touch. And it's very important for our facilities. We are so proud of you."

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Murline Williams looks over the pins she received, during the Big Spring State Hospital Annual Volunteer Awards Luncheon held Wednesday in the Allred Building Auditorium. Williams received pins for more than 23,000 hours of volunteer service to the hospital — the most of any volunteer.

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TIP MEETING SLATED

The Texas Department of Transportation will host a meeting focusing on the 2006-2008 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

Tip is a three-year program that includes a priority list of all transportation projects that will be carried out within that period.

The meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 26, in the Mitchell County Courthouse in Colorado City.

Areas affected are Borden, Callahan, Fisher, Haskell, Howard, Jones, Kent, Mitchell, Nolan, Scurry, Shackelford, Stonewall and Taylor Counties.

DEADLINE EXTENDED

The deadline for Donor Recognition in the Denim and Diamonds Gala Invitation has been extended until May 1. Responding by May 1 will ensure that Gala donors' names will appear in the Denim and Diamonds Invitation, which will be sent out closer to the June 3 party.

Gala announcements were mailed out last week to more than 800 people, including volunteers and those who have attended in the past. Anyone who did not receive a letter and would like to attend can contact the Big Spring State Hospital Community Relations office at 268-7535.

FLEA MARKET

Keep Big Spring Beautiful will be holding a community-wide flea market Saturday. Area residents are encouraged to bring their gifts, crafts and recycled items to the Big Spring Mall parking lot from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m.

Booth prices range from \$25 for a 10-foot by 10-foot space, \$45 for a 12-foot by 12-foot space and \$65 for a 24-foot by 12-foot space.

For an application, mail a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Keep Big Spring Beautiful, P.O. Box 1350, Big Spring 79721. Applications can also be picked up at the chamber office.

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Obituaries

Johnnie 'Sparky' Turner Jr.



Johnnie "Sparky" Turner Jr., 54, of Bellville, formerly of Big Spring, died Monday, April 18, 2005, in Bellville. Memorial services with military honors will be at 10 a.m. Saturday, April 23, 2005, at Myers & Smith Chapel. Rob Parks and Dave Moore, brothers-in-law, with officiate.

He was born Feb. 24, 1951, in Big Spring to Johnnie Lee Turner Sr., and Lee Turner. He lived most of his life in Big Spring and had lived in Bellville for the last 15 years. Mr. Turner was a veteran of the U.S. Marines, serving from 1974 until 1980. He was a motor vehicle salesman. He was a Baptist and a dedicated Christian.

He is survived by one son, Patrick John Turner of Germany; his mother, Lee Turner of Big Spring; three sisters, Julie Bartlett and her husband, Jeff of Big Spring, Vicki Parks and her husband, Rob of Albuquerque, N.M., and Andrea "Andy" Moore and her husband, Dave of Brownwood; numerous nieces and nephews; and numerous great-nieces and great-nephews.

He was preceded in death by his father, Johnnie Lee Turner Sr., and one niece, Rebecca Moore Ashley.

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

Paid obituary

Eulis Britton 'Tarp' Compton

Eulis Britton "Tarp" Compton, 76, of Odessa, formerly of Stanton, died Thursday, April 21, 2005. Graveside services are 2 p.m. Monday, April 25, 2005, at Trinity Memorial Park.

He was born Oct. 29, 1928. In 1956, he married Betty Sue Pearson in Big Spring. She preceded him in death 1991. He married Johnnye Sue Barnes and moved to Odessa in 2004. He was a driller, a tool pusher and was also a self-employed water well driller before retiring in 1992 in Stanton. He was a member of Ranchland Heights Baptist Church in Midland.

He is survived by his wife, Sue; a daughter, Connie Sue Speight and her husband, Mike, of Midland; two sons, Victor Compton and his wife, Dee Dee, of Moore, Okla., and Steve Compton and his wife, Tammy, of Odessa; nine grandchildren; three great-granddaughters; and a sister, Eunice Padgett of Alpine.

The family will receive friends at Ellis Funeral Home, Saturday, April 23, 2005, from 4 p.m. until 6 p.m.

Memorials may be made to the Shriners Hospitals of Texas or Odyssey Hospice and Health Care of Odessa.

Arrangements are under the direction of Ellis Funeral Home in Midland.

Edith Jean George

Edith Jean George, 86, of Big Spring died Tuesday morning, April 19, 2005, at her residence. Graveside services are 2:30 p.m. Saturday, April 23, 2005, at Hagerman Cemetery, Hagerman, N.M., with the Rev. Loren Turner, pastor of the First United Methodist Church of Hagerman, officiating.

She was born Feb. 26, 1919, in Conway, Ark. She married Leonard Lloyd George, March 17, 1937, in Little Rock, Ark. Jean had been a resident of Hagerman for 69 years before coming to Big Spring. She retired from the United States Postal Service where she worked as a rural letter carrier. She was a member of the First United Methodist Church of Hagerman.

She is survived by one son, Paul George of Big Spring; one brother, Robert Hamilton of Denton; three grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, one son, William L. George, one daughter, Norma Jean George and one brother, William H. Hamilton.

Local arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Police blotter

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

- **JIMMY FRANCIS GARRARD**, 31, of 628 Caylor, was arrested Thursday on a charge of public intoxication.
- **LUIS ADOLFO PENA**, 26, of 1105 E. 14th, was arrested Thursday on a charge of resisting arrest and a Gaines County warrant.
- **THEFT** was reported:
 - in the 200 block of Marcy.
 - in the 900 block of Willia.
 - in the 1700 block of FM 700.
 - in the 1800 block of FM 700.
- **RESISTING ARREST, SEARCH OR TRANSPORTATION** was reported in the 1100 block of E. 14th Street.
- **FAILURE TO IDENTIFY AS A FUGITIVE FROM JUSTICE - INTENTIONALLY GIVING FALSE INFORMATION** was reported in the 500 block of Westover Road.
- **EVADING ARREST OR DETENTION** was reported in the 500 block of Westover Road.
- **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported:
 - in the 1200 block of Barnes.
 - in the 900 block of Grafa.
- **AGGRAVATED ASSAULT** was reported in the 1700 block of FM 700.

Sheriff's report

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

- **NINA MICHELLE RAINWATER**, 41, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for theft.
- **JAMIE RAE SMITH**, 28, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on charges of unauthorized use of a vehicle, driving while license invalid with a previous conviction, theft by check and contempt of court - disobedience of a court order.
- **WILLIAM ALLEN TILLEY**, 24, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for unauthorized use of a vehicle.
- **ELISAR JESSE PEREZ**, 19, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on charges of failure to identify as a fugitive from justice - intentionally giving false information, evading arrest or detention and possession of marijuana - two ounces or less.

Fire/EMS

The Big Spring Fire Department reported the following activity:

- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 3300 block of Maple at 11:19 a.m. Thursday. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 3700 block of Wright Avenue at 1:30 p.m. Thursday. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 300 block of Moss Lake Road at 9:22 a.m. Thursday. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 2600 block of Gregg Street at 6:22 p.m. Thursday. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 3200 block of Parkway at 1:23 a.m. Thursday. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAUMA** was reported in the 3200 block of Parkway at 5:14 a.m. Thursday. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAFFIC ACCIDENT** was reported near the intersection of Main and Fourth Street at 3:05 p.m. Thursday. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1700 block of Purdue at 2:41 a.m. Thursday. Service was refused.

Take note

- **COAHOMA JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL CHEERLEADERS BARBECUE AND AUCTION FUNDRAISER** is set to start at 5:30 p.m. today in the elementary school cafeteria. Plates are \$5 for barbecue, desert and a drink.
- **COMMUNITY-WIDE FLEA MARKET SPONSORED BY KEEP BIG SPRING BEAUTIFUL** is set for 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. Saturday in the Big Spring Mall parking lot. Booth applications may be obtained at the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, 215 W. Third St.
- **BIG SPRING POW-WOW** in the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum Saturday and Sunday. Contact Janice Bishop, 264-0060, ext. 501 or Robert Downing at 263-3255 for more information.
- **ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN BRING AND BUY SALE** is set for 8 a.m. until 1 p.m. Saturday. The church is located at 1001 Goliad.
- **PARENTS WHO CARE CLASS OF 2005** meets Monday at 6:30 p.m. in the Big Spring High School library to discuss the after-prom party. Call 263-0497 for more information.
- **BIG SPRING DAY IN AUSTIN** is set for April 27. Contact the chamber of commerce at 263-7641.

- **RSVP ANNUAL VOLUNTEER BANQUET** April 28. Contact Nancy Jones at 264-2397.
- **MOSS ELEMENTARY PTA SPRING CARNIVAL** is set for 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. April 29. The concession stand will open at 5:30 p.m. and remain open until 7:15 p.m. A silent auction and door prizes will also begin at 5:30 p.m. Booths are open from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. There are about 18 booths.
- **"A SPRING GALA" WITH THE BIG SPRING SYMPHONY AND CHORALE** is set for April 30. Contact the symphony office, 263-4033 for more information.
- **KEEP BIG SPRING BEAUTIFUL WASTE IN PLACE WORKSHOP** is set for April 30. Contact Todd Darden at 264-5000 or Loyce Phillips at 263-1738 for more information.
- **ACKERLY LUNCH BUNCH** meets at 10:30 a.m. at Gale's Sweet Shoppe, 400 E. Fourth, with lunch beginning at noon April 30. RSVP to Betty Pitts at 267-1449 or Sissy Jones at 267-7732.

Bulletin board

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

- TODAY**
- SouthWest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf celebrates 25 years.
 - Signal Mountain Quilting Guild meets from 9 a.m. until about 3 p.m. at 1019 Nolan St. Call 267-1037 or 267-7281 for more information.
 - **AMBUCS** meet at noon in La Posada Restaurant.
 - Greater Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
 - Spring City Senior Citizen's Center country and western dance from 7:30 p.m. until 10:30 p.m. featuring Monroe Casey and the Prowlers. All area seniors are invited.

- SATURDAY**
- SouthWest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf celebrates 25 years.
 - Community-wide Flea market sponsored by Keep Big Spring Beautiful is set for 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. in the Big Spring Mall parking lot.
 - Big Spring Pow-Wow in the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.
 - Big Spring Shrine Club meets at 6:30 p.m. at Goliad and First streets for a meal with a meeting to follow.
 - Eagles Lodge Dance at 8:30 p.m. at 703 W. Third.
 - Big Spring Squares. Call 267-7043 or 263-6305 for more information.

- SUNDAY**
- Big Spring Pow-Wow 9:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. in the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

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

Lottery

- Results of the Cash 5 drawing Thursday night:
Winning numbers drawn: 4-10-13-33-36.
Number matching five of five: 0.
Next Cash 5 drawing: Tonight.
- Results of the Texas Two Step drawing Thursday night:
Winning numbers drawn: 13-16-19-27. Bonus Ball: 26.
Number matching four of four, plus Bonus Ball: 0.
Estimated jackpot for Monday night drawing: \$250,000.
- The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Thursday night: 6-5-7
- The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Thursday afternoon: 1-5-8

Weather

Today — Mostly sunny. Not as warm. Highs in the upper 70s. North winds 15 to 25 mph.
Tonight — Partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 40s. Northeast winds 10 to 15 mph.
Saturday — Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 70s. East winds around 10 mph.
Saturday night — Partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 40s. Southeast winds around 10 mph.
Sunday — Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the mid 70s. South winds 15 to 25 mph.
Sunday night — Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the lower 50s.
Monday — Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 70s.
Monday night — Partly cloudy. Isolated showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the upper 40s.
Tuesday — Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 70s.
Tuesday night — Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 40s.
Wednesday — Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 70s.
Wednesday night — Partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 50s.
Thursday — Partly cloudy. Warmer. Highs in the upper 80s.

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By STEVE RI
Staff Writer
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Herald Staff
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VAMC

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Superintendent search 'over, CISD board back to normal

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

COAHOMA — After a month full of special meetings and late nights, the Coahoma Independent School District board of trustees returned to business as usual Thursday night.

The school board has spent what might have seemed an inordinate amount of time in the past several weeks interviewing candidates for the superintendent position.

With that search concluded, however, trustees were able to devote Thursday's meeting to more routine matters.

Among the items considered by the board were:

- Approval of a district infrastructure master plan.

District officials have known for some time that its aging infrastructure is in need of renovation. Interim Superintendent Wayne Mitchell said that

building age — some are at least 50 years old — and the condition of plumbing and electrical lines in those older buildings are of particular concern.

The architectural consulting firm of Parkhill, Smith and Cooper recently completed a preliminary assessment of district facilities, and is now ready to begin work on the master plan, an in-depth look at the district's infrastructure needs for the next 20 years.

The study, which will

cost the district about \$20,000, should be ready for the school board's review within the next few months, officials said.

• Canceled the May 7 school board election.

The election was canceled because both candidates on the ballot — Dale Coates and Mike Blissard — are unopposed. Blissard, who will replace outgoing trustee John Wayne Metcalf, and Coates will be formally seated for their three-year terms in May.

In related action, trustees named Sissy Wells as board secretary, replacing Larry Cordes, who recently resigned his seat.

• Approved the hiring of John Massey as high school principal, and Dean Richters as junior high principal. The board also approved the resignation of secondary principal Charles Adams and girls' track and basketball coach Sandy Logan.

• Went into executive session to discuss the hiring of additional teachers and professional staff, but made no decision on the matter.

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

BSSH Corral wins second straight Star Award

Herald Staff Report

The Corral, the Big Spring High School student newspaper, earned its second consecutive Star Award from UIL, ranking the paper in the top 25 in Texas.

The Corral staff traveled to Austin Friday through Sunday of last week for the Interscholastic League Press Conference (ILPC) Convention for writing workshops and the awards ceremony.

"It's a fun but very stressful trip," Corral Editor Tony Emerson said. "The classes are entertaining, we go play laser tag and go to

arcades, but in the back of my mind the whole time was, 'Are we going to win the award?'"

More than 250 papers from Class 1A-5A Texas schools were selected as finalists for a Bronze, Silver or Gold Star Award.

Star awards are selected according to the publication ratings from the University Scholastic League.

Then the publication is reviewed by a judge, who evaluates it on the publication's coverage of students, community, mark of professionalism and the overall design of the paper.

"The win was bitter-sweet at the time," Corral junior editor Taylor Parks said.

"We were placed in the top 10 percent of all high school newspapers, but we still could have done better. Seeing others receiving Silver Stars and Gold Stars really made me want to succeed next year."

Advisor Leland Mallett said he is proud of the distinguished honor his students' earned as well and feels it portrays more than just an award.

"The best part of my job is watching the students win awards for all of their hard work," Mallett said.

"Not only do they prove themselves with awards, but they also have a publication they can be proud of that is well read in our school and the community."

The publication, under the direction of adviser Leland Mallett, has excelled in many other ways in the past five years. The UIL journalism team consists of The Corral's editor staff and holds the title of 2004 state UIL champions.

"Last year my three seniors who earned the winning state points received over \$30,000 in scholarships from the UIL," Mallett said. "I

think scholarship money is far more important than any award they won."

UIL journalism students compete with the academic team this weekend at the regional academic meet in San Angelo.

Editor Tony Emerson will compete in News Writing, Feature Writing and Headline writing. Sophomores and Junior Editors Alyssa Rains, Nathan Booth and Taylor Parks will compete in one event.

Michelle McMurtrey, the freshman on the team, will also attempt to make her first state appearance in Feature Writing.

VAMC

Continued from Page 1A

sense of the quality care that the Big Spring VA Hospital provides and the role it plays in the community."

Sen. John Cornyn, who also participated in the meeting, said he feels Nicholson is working with the best interest of veterans in mind.

"This meeting was a good opportunity to highlight the importance of the Big Spring medical

facility to Secretary Nicholson," said Cornyn. "He is well informed on the needs of Texas veterans and has hit the ground running in his efforts to improve access to health care for all veterans."

After being unanimously confirmed by the Senate, Nicholson was sworn into office Feb. 1, 2005, to serve as the fifth Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

In December 2002, former Secretary Principi established the Capital

Asset and Realignment for Enhanced Services (CARES) Commission to provide an independent review of the draft national plan to realign the DAV's health care system. The commission suggested a feasibility study concerning the Big Spring facility be conducted.

Principi approved the award of the contract in January to conduct the business plan studies at 18 sites, including Big Spring and Waco, identified by the CARES decision made in May of 2004.

According to information released by the VA, study recommendations — including those from stakeholders — will be reviewed by the VA Under Secretary for Health and CARES Implementation Board, consisting of senior VA officials who will make recommendations to the secretary.

The Big Spring VAMC serves a population of approximately 62,300 veterans and provides health care services to 17,000 annually. Its market area

encompasses roughly 74,000 square miles, an area larger than 35 states.

The Big Spring VAMC employs more than 500 full- and part-time workers with an annual payroll of \$32.5 million.

Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison and Congressman Chet Edwards (D-Waco) also attended Wednesday's meeting.

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

VOLUNTEERS

Continued from Page 1A

Moughon reiterated Sanchez, appreciation for the volunteers and stressed that the new leader over the 10 state mental health facilities is compassionate about providing mental health care for Texans.

"I believe that his leadership really focuses on the patients and the families. I really believe that Dr. Sanchez will lead us to some very productive places."

"His compassion for vol-

unteers is authentic. I know my compassion for volunteers is authentic," he said.

Moughon presented volunteers with umbrellas as their gift for donating their time.

Emblazoned across the edge was the theme of the luncheon 'Volunteers, Plant the seeds of kindness.'

"It's a gift to you as a volunteer," he said. "One more year of above normal rainfall, and we'll all be OK."

Murline Williams earned her 22,500-hour pin and her 23,000-hour pin at the ceremony.

Volunteers are given pins for hours of service as they reach particular benchmarks.

Those receiving bars for 100 hours were: Sharon Gutierrez, 312; Patsy Stokes, 100; and Missy Mikeska, 207; 200 hours, Gutierrez; Nancy Kimbell, 211, and Mikeska; 300 hours, Mary Jo Finch, 445; Gutierrez, and Mary Hughes, 351; 400 hours, Finch, Jay Jarmes, 501; and Judy Jarmes, 507; 500 hours, Tommy Corwin, 582; Jay Jarmes and Judy Jarmes; 600 hours, Bea Webb, 648; and Cyneather Woodruff, 648; 700 hours, Margaret

Ray, 806; 800 hours, Ray, Carol Scott, 846; Sheppard, 1,051; 1,000 hours, Pat Dickenson, 1,058; Ruth Nanny, 1,255; Sheppard; 1,200 hours, Nanny; 1,300 hours, Suzanne Markwell, 1,469; 1,400 hours, Markwell, 1,469; Nancy Patric, 1,420; 1,800 hours, Jobeth Corwin, 1,900 hours, Corwin; 2,000 hours,

Doris Huibregtse, 2,355; 2,100 hours, Bernadette Martinez, 2,186 hours; 3,000 hours, Shirley Bodin, 3,076 hours; 5,000 hours, Robin Hall, 5,326 hours; Bill Wallace, 5,107 hours; 6,000 hours, Lou Vincent, 6,147 hours; 6,500 hours, Ruth Stephenson, 6,832 hours; 22,500 hours, Williams, 23,080; 23,000 hours, Williams.

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Katie Knox, 80 died Sunday. Memorial Services will be at 11:00 AM Friday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Burial will be at Trinity Memorial Park.

Johnnie "Sparky" Turner, Jr., 54, died Monday. Memorial Service will be at 10:00 AM Saturday at Myers & Smith Chapel.

Edith Jean George, 86, died Tuesday. Graveside Services will be at 2:30 PM Saturday at Hagerman Cemetery, Hagerman, New Mexico.

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CINEMA 4

Beauty Shop (PG-13)
Mon.-Thurs. 4:50, 7:10 Fri. 4:50, 7:10, 9:40
Sat. 2:20, 4:50, 7:10, 9:40 Sun. 2:20, 4:50, 7:10

Ice Princess (G)
Mon.-Thurs. 7:00 Fri. 7:00
Sat. 2:10, 7:00 Sun. 2:10, 7:00

Miss Congeniality 2 (PG-13)
Mon.-Thurs. 4:30 Fri. 4:30, 9:30
Sat. 4:30, 9:30 Sun. 4:30

***A Lot Like Love (PG-13)**
Mon.-Thurs. 5:00, 7:20 Fri. 5:00, 7:20, 9:50
Sat. 2:30, 5:00, 7:20, 9:50 Sun. 2:30, 5:00, 7:20

Sahara (PG-13)
Mon.-Thurs. 4:40, 7:30 Fri. 4:40, 7:30, 10:00
Sat. 2:00, 4:40, 7:30, 10:00 Sun. 2:00, 4:40, 7:30

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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
Publisher

John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

Bill 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:

- The 50 or so people who took part in the Master the Mountain Fun Run and Walk at the Big Spring State Park on Saturday.
- All those who took part in the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce Health Fair at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum on Saturday.
- The Howard County high school students who took part in the Texas Expedition workshop, a cooperative effort between Howard College and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to encourage students toward careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.
- Members of the Howard County Bar Association who held a come-and-go reception Tuesday for members of the 11th District Court of Appeals who heard cases in Big Spring this week.
- Myra Robinson, owner of Robinson Drilling of Texas, who was inducted into the Petroleum Museum's Hall of Fame, becoming the first Howard County resident and only the second woman to be so honored.
- The members of the Forsan High School band, who for a seventh consecutive year earned the Sweepstakes Trophy in UIL competition.
- Howard College sophomore Vanessa Parra, named the Outstanding Student of the Year at Howard College, as well as the 230 students honored for special achievements during the colleges annual awards convocation on Tuesday.

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.

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

LETTER POLICIES

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

GOP rare breed at Harvard

In my personal contacts with Harvard students this semester, I have found that many stereotypes about them are untrue: They not snooty, they are not all from wealthy families, and they do not have a sense of entitlement. At least one stereotype is true, however: Most of them are liberal. There are conservatives here, just like there are Republicans here, but mostly the kids are liberal and Democratic.

One of my liaisons — an undergraduate student assigned to keep me out of trouble — does a guest column about this topic today. He is Andrew Laitman, 19, a sophomore and math major from Brooklyn, N.Y.:



ROGER SIMON

By Andrew Laitman
When I first came to Harvard, I expected to find some Republicans to debate. While Republicans do exist at Harvard, they are indeed a rare breed. However, most Republicans that I encounter are too timid to discuss their views. In fact, most don't even want to admit that they are Republicans. One evening in the dining hall, I was sitting with a friend from California and we were discussing Hillary Clinton. He wasn't a big fan of hers, and I asked why. "I'm a Republican," he whispered. "What?" I responded, not because he's a Republican, but because I simply couldn't hear

him. He interpreted that to mean that I hate Republicans, which I quickly denied. But his fear somewhat surprised me. Recently, Douglas Feith, the former under secretary of defense who was a chief architect of the Iraq war, came to speak on campus. During his speech, he was heckled and interrupted frequently. An even more chilling example occurred just last week, when the CIA and the Department of Homeland Security came to recruit on campus. The representatives from these institutions didn't come to Harvard to make a political statement, but rather to hold sessions in which students could learn about careers at the two agencies. Not only did audience members heckle the speakers, they staged a mock deportation of an immigrant and someone vomited into a bag. A year and a half ago, Harvard's pro-life campus group had its posters and displays torn down. While a good portion of the student body disapproved of the destruction of the posters, there was still a contingent that supported the act because, in its view, the posters were very offensive. No wonder many Republicans are afraid to show their faces on campus. This is very troublesome to me because it hinders honest and open debate. It's unfortunate that I can make the assumption that almost anyone that I run into at Harvard is a Democrat. These assumptions give people the liberty not only to launch attacks on Republican policies, but also personal ones on Republicans in con-

versation among themselves. But isn't asking people to back off personal attacks censorship of debate? Yes. But if people feel so passionately about their views, shouldn't they feel confident enough to make an argument based on facts, rather than on personal attacks? It puzzles me why there are still so many students on campus who feel like one-sided protests are more effective than open discussions. Even though I am a registered Democrat, these "chilling effects" have influenced me. During the controversy involving Harvard President Larry Summers, I had some opinions that I was afraid to express out of fear of backlash from some of my female friends. My opinions were rather nuanced, and I thought that they could be interpreted to mean that I agreed with Larry Summers and wholeheartedly supported him. Yet, I openly expressed these opinions around my male friends. I don't know whether or not my fear was a reasonable justification in hiding my opinions from women, but I hope that my fellow classmates will accept my opinions regardless of who they are. There are plenty of outlets for open and no-holds-barred debate on campus. I just wish that we could have these conversations outside of the traditional outlets. 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. © 2005 CREATORS SYNDICATE INC.

AKREN PEACON JOURNAL 05



I'M CONFUSED. DOES LEVEL RED MEAN SEVERE RISK OF TERRORIST ATTACKS, OR EAT MORE FRUIT?

CASA volunteers: True friends

CASA programs, volunteers important for abused children. For an adult victim, crime is overwhelming; for a little boy or little girl, it can be unbearable. Crime harms children physically, mentally and emotionally. But even more sinister, when crime enters a child's world it robs them of hope for the future. April is Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness Month and a good time to remember that all of us have a role in protecting our children and restoring that hope. That's why I ask you to join me in supporting the work of Texas CASA, the Court Appointed Special Advocate program. Local CASA programs throughout Texas train community volunteers to serve as advocates for children who are in foster care because of abuse and neglect. These advocates provide a constant in a child's disrupted life and a voice when they are unable to speak for themselves. A CASA volunteer serves as a friend dur-

ing the overwhelming and often traumatic process of navigating the court system, with the goal of helping each child find a safe, loving, permanent home. Most important, CASA volunteers become friends who are the embodiment of caring, commitment and compassion - all qualities too often missing in the life of an abused or neglected child. As Attorney General, it is an honor to assist CASA programs in their commitment to helping children. For almost 10 years, the Texas Legislature has provided support from the Crime Victims' Compensation Fund - which is administered by my office - for Texas CASA. In turn, Texas CASA funds local programs throughout the state, with oversight provided by my office. Last year, \$3 million helped more than 4,000 volunteers advocate for the best interests of tens of thousands of children. With the continued commitment of my office and other supporters of child victims, CASA services are expected to reach even more chil-

dren during this year. Yet, the need is still great. Almost half of the children in foster care still need a CASA volunteer by their side. I ask that you support efforts to give CASA programs the financial and human resources they need. As the state Legislature and their federal counterparts contemplate how to best spend limited dollars, consider that by utilizing volunteers, CASA programs provide a cost-effective means of protecting our communities' most vulnerable citizens. Together, we can help ensure that victims of child abuse receive the care, love and permanency that all children deserve. Through partnerships involving the Office of the Attorney General, Texas CASA and others concerned about children, we will continue to help these young victims become young survivors. Greg Abbott is Attorney General of Texas. For more information about CASA programs please contact the CASA Texas Web site at http://www.texascasa.org.

Calvary Baptist Church

Calvary Baptist welcomes all those who are looking for a worship. Calvary is located at 1 Fourth Street. Pr services are at 11:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. Sunday school is at 9:45 a.m. Wednesday Bible at 5 p.m.

Cornerstone Church

Cornerstone Church Every Nation Mission church, invites children in kindergarten through fourth grade to activities. Sunday, the church ministry continues study of the Sermon on the Mount. The New Testament study of the Commandments is each Wednesday. Cornerstone is located at the corner of 12th and streets. Morning worship begins at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday worship at 7 p.m. Childcare available. Call Pastor Cheryl Cherise Felty at 263-7331 with any questions.

Pentecostals of Big Spring

The Pentecostal Church of Big Spring, located at the corner of East 11th and Locust Street, will have two exciting and intensive services with international evangelist Mahaney of Little Rock. Mahaney has traveled to Israel 35 times, and has written many articles. He has been the guest on numerous radio and television interviews exposing Christianity's roots. April 29 at 7:30 p.m. Evangelist Mahaney will direct the church Christian Passover. Mahaney will show how Jesus Messiah is represented by the elements of the Passover. We will explore the meaning of the Passover as the Lord's Supper and how it is practiced in church practices. May 1 at 2:00 p.m. Evangelist Mahaney will tell his life story. Mahaney has charmed the lives of many people over the world. Mahaney was convicted of drugs, crime, and was in jail and horribly addicted to alcohol and drugs, it

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Church News

Calvary Baptist Church

Calvary Baptist Church welcomes all those who are looking for a place to worship. Calvary Baptist 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.

Cornerstone Church

Cornerstone Church, an Every Nation Ministries church, invites children in kindergarten through fourth grade to Sunday activities.

Sunday, the children's ministry continues a study of the Sermon on the Mount.

The New Youth, for grades 5 and 6, continue a study of the Ten Commandments at 7 p.m. each Wednesday.

Cornerstone is at the corner of 12th and Owens streets. Morning worship begins at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday worship is at 7 p.m. Childcare is available.

Call Pastor Craig or Cherise Felty at 263-3072 with any questions.

Pentecostals of Big Spring

The Pentecostals of Big Spring, located at the corner of East 11th Place and Locust Street, will host two exciting and informative services with international evangelist Charles Mahaney of Little Rock, Ark.

Mahaney has traveled to Israel 35 times, written many articles and has been the guest on numerous radio and television interviews explaining Christianity's Hebrew roots.

April 29 at 7:30 p.m., Evangelist Mahaney will direct the church in a Christian Passover and will show how Jesus the Messiah is represented in the elements of the Passover.

We will explore and understand the true meaning of the Lord's Supper as the Lord instituted it and how the church practices it today.

May 1 at 2 p.m., Evangelist Mahaney will tell his life story. His testimony has changed the lives of many people all over the world.

Mahaney was converted to Christianity from a life of drugs, crime, satan worship, jail and prison. Horribly addicted to alcohol and drugs, it seemed

like he could not find a way out. One day in prison, a minister brought him the message of salvation. You will laugh, cry, and shout, but you must hear it all.

Mahaney is the director of Christian Prisoners Fellowship, a prison ministry with more than 640 chaplains. He has appeared on the 700 Club, worked with members of the Manson family and others on death row.

The Rev. Michael A. Mahaney has brought this life-changing ministry to Big Spring as the capstone of a month of intensive prayer for the city.

Every young person, a parent and grandparent needs to hear and experience these services. The way to change our city is by changing one life at a time.

For more information, call 432-263-0050.

First Church of the Nazarene

A gospel concert featuring Buddy Lilies, former bass singer of the Florida Boys Quartet, is Sunday at 6 p.m. at the First Church of the Nazarene, 1400 Lancaster. For more information, call 432-267-7015.

Life Church

Life Church, at 600 E. FM 700, offers two morning worship services Sunday, the 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.

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. Special fundraisers will be announced.

For more information, call leader Shelly Warren at 264-1234.

Friends of Unity

Friends will be honoring Planet Earth on Earth Day by refreshing the Railroad Plaza. They will gather at 1 p.m. Friday. Other friends of God's creation are welcome to come and help.

The weekly gatherings

for study, prayer, meditation and fellowship are open to all. They are at 1 p.m. Sunday and noon Tuesday.

St. Paul Lutheran Church

SonRise Walkers, the church Relay for Life team, will have a booth at the Keep Big Spring Beautiful Community Flea Market Saturday at the Big Spring Mall East parking lot. The team will also have a Casserole Sale Sunday morning after church service.

The Wednesday noon Bible study group is starting a new session. A study of the book of Philippians, titled "Be Joyful," begins May 4. The ladies study group meets each Wednesday from noon to 1 p.m. in the Parish Hall at St. Paul Lutheran Church.

Interested in participating in the study? Call the church office at 267-7163 to order a study guide. Worship Sunday is 9 a.m. with Bible study for all ages at 10:15 a.m.

East Fourth Street Baptist Church

East Fourth Street Baptist Church, 401 E. Fourth, invites the Big Spring community to Sunday services. Sunday School starts at 9:45 a.m. for all age groups and the morning worship service begins at 11 a.m.

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 at 5 p.m. Sunday and the evening worship service begins at 6 p.m.

Wednesday, adults are invited to worship in the Beth Moore Women's Bible Study or Men's Bible Study from 7 p.m. until 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

United Methodist Heritage Sunday, the Rev. Dr. Dave Ring's sermon is titled "Our Unique Heritage." The Old Testament scripture comes from Proverbs 4:1-13. Third graders will receive Bibles at worship services at 8:30 a.m. and 10:50 a.m. Chancel Choir

rehearses at 2 p.m. and Children's Choir rehearses at 4 p.m. Combined Youth meet at 4:30 p.m.

At 6 p.m. the Joint Worship Service will be at North Birdwell Lane United Methodist Church. Kid's Club has its final meeting Tuesday. A special Kid's Club celebration for children and parents is from 5:15 p.m. until 6:30 p.m.

April 30, members are invited to celebrate National Scrapbooking Month with a special workshop to learn how to save photos and keepsakes. This is a come and go workshop from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. in the Partee Building. A creative memory consultant will be on hand to help.

First United Methodist Church is located at 400 Scurry. Call at 267-6394.

Iglesia Bautista Central

Carlos Montano will perform at Iglesia Bautista Central April 29 and 30 and May 1 at 7 p.m.

Midway Baptist Church

Sunday Morning, Bro. Jim will be bringing the message "The Testimony of Jesus."

Sunday evening after the worship service is a monthly ice cream social. Bring a favorite ice cream, dessert or finger food.

Sunday School is 9:45 a.m.; worship and Children's Church is 11 a.m.; Team Kids, RAs, GAs, Cross Training is 5

rehearses at 2 p.m. and Children's Choir rehearses at 4 p.m. Combined Youth meet at 4:30 p.m.

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Wednesday evening services are: fellowship meal, 5:30 p.m.; children's choir and Solid Rock, 6 p.m.; Little Dribbler's Basketball, 7 p.m.; Youth Drama and Choir 7 p.m.; Adult Bible Study, 7 p.m.

Midway Baptist Church is located at 6200 S. Service Road. Call 263-6274 for more information.

Birdwell Lane Baptist Church

The members of Birdwell Lane Baptist Church invite everyone to worship at 1512 Birdwell Lane. This is a friendly church family.

The ladies will have their monthly fellowship in the Multi-Purpose Center Saturday from 10 a.m. until noon. They will discuss the upcoming Mother-Daughter Banquet.

Sunday from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. is youth night. The youth will present devotions, sing specials and serve the church afterwards a Mexican-food dinner, with donations going toward buying a van.

Sunday worship is at 10:55 a.m. and at 5 p.m. Midweek services are at 7 p.m. Wednesday. For more information on any of these services or activities, call 267-7157 or 267-8214.

First Presbyterian Church

The Rev. Matthew Miles, minister, will

speak on text taken from John 14:1-14 at worship service Sunday at 11 a.m. Sunday school begins at 9:45 a.m. and Take 10 is 10:35 a.m.

Mother's Day cards are still available from the Presbyterian Women to support Networkers, a malaria prevention program for women and children in Africa. These cards are available at a cost of \$10 each and may be obtained by calling the church office. Money raised goes to purchase mosquito nets for expectant mothers.

Plans are being made to have a church-wide outing weekend at Davis Mountain State Park June 17-19. Contact the church office if you are interested in attending.

Opportunities for the week include a potluck lunch after church Sunday, Tuesday at 10 a.m., the Presbyterian Women will have their Spring Cleaning, the Working Women's Bible Study is at 7 p.m. Tuesday and choir practice is Wednesday at 6 p.m.

Everyone is always welcome at First Presbyterian Church, located on Rannels between Seventh and Eighth streets.

North Birdwell United Methodist Church

North Birdwell United Methodist Church hosts the Area-wide Methodist worship at 6 p.m. Sunday. The speaker for the gathering is the Rev. Dr. Dave

See CHURCH NEWS Page 6A

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► Club News

Big Spring Cruisers

The Big Spring Cruisers is a new, reorganized car club. There are no limitations on the car or year model.

Club meetings are at 7 p.m. the first Monday of every month at the Texas RV Park meeting room. The next meeting will be May 2.

Cruises are on Gregg Street and at the Sonic Drive-In on the first Saturday night of every month at 6:30 p.m.

TOPS TX 21

Members recited the TOPS and Keep Off Pounds Sensibly pledges and sang the fellowship song and two readings were given.

Wanda Lee read, "The Blessing I Have Received" and Martha Christy read one of her original writings, titled, "My Mother's Apron."

Joyce Chelette was the TOPS best loser and Jennifer Shaffer was the best loser of the five KOPS present.

The weekly program was presented by Pat Aaron titled, "Lose That Weight — a Five-Step Program to Success."

A hand-out was presented to each member with the five steps listed in detail.

May-July, members will be given a turtle if they maintain their weight each week.

TOPS meet Monday starting at 5:30 p.m. with weigh-in beginning at 5 p.m.

There is no charge for the first visit. For more information call 1-800-392-8677 or locally 263-0391 or 263-1758.

Mary Jane Club

The Mary Jane Club met April 14, 2005, at Lucy Griffith's home for a salad luncheon.

Eleven members answered roll call by naming their favorite spring flower.

Officers elected for the 2005-2006 year are Sue Tindol, president, Patricia Barr, vice president, Marie Ethridge, secretary, Jo Evans, treasurer, Joyce Choate, reporter and Nan McKinney, scrapbook.

Diane Wood reported on her recent trip to Australia.

Church News

Continued from Page 5A

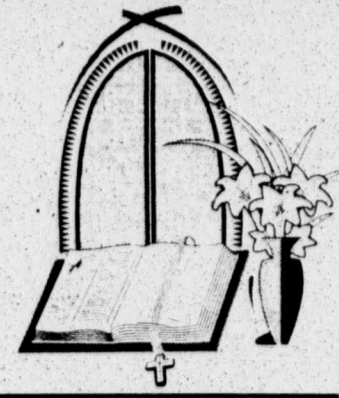
Ring, pastor of First United Methodist Church in Big Spring. A time of fellowship and refreshments will be provided in the Fellowship Hall following the worship service.

At 5:30 p.m. April 30, North Birdwell UMC has the annual chili supper. Everyone is invited to come and enjoy homemade chili, hot dogs and desserts. Offered to everyone free of charge, this is considered a gift to the community. There will be door prizes awarded throughout the evening and a sale of books for donations.

The Rev. Joel Miller and the congregation of North Birdwell UMC invite everyone to any of these worship opportunities. Sunday worship is 9:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. Sunday school for all ages is offered at 10:30 a.m. Bible study is the first and third Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. and the United Methodist Women meet the second and fourth Thursday of each month at 4:30 p.m.

North Birdwell UMC, located at 2702 N. Birdwell Lane, is a small church with a big heart. Call 263-2536.

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John 15:13

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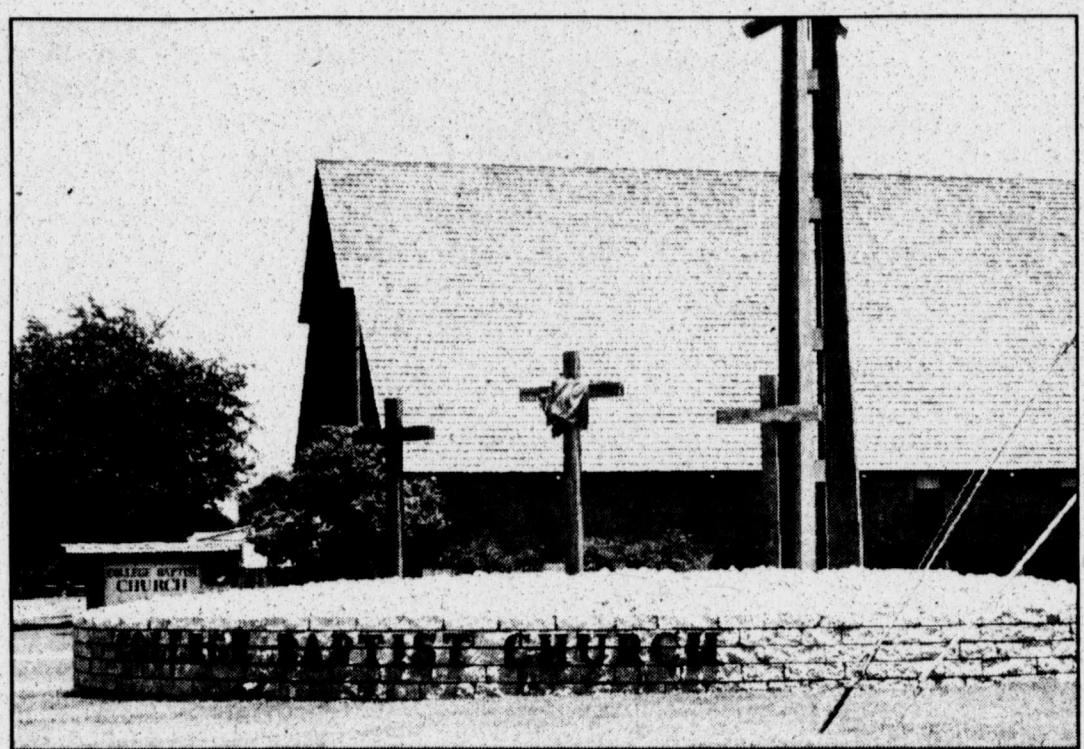
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6:00 PM.....Evening Worship
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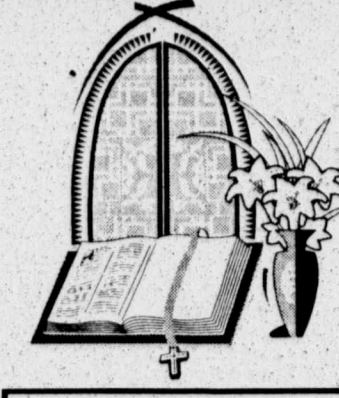
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Hebrews 11:1

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If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal.
1 Cor. 13:1

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IN E

West Texas Golf Championship

The West Texas Golf Championship is a place where the tournament begins at 8 a.m. For more information or to call Greg, call 528-5076.

Cornell sets up Dodge ball

Cornell has set up Dodge ball to benefit Life. The take place the YMC. tration m by April 2. The tour 9 a.m. and person an have eight male and

Forsan IS all-sports

Forsan announce sports b take pla May 3, school. Tickets letes and \$10 and purchased 28.

McMahon big bass

McMahon big bass Lunker B 2005 year eighth Sh to come Alan Hen The b 13.03 p Share A gram is a and Wild which weighing pounds help re lakes.

Big Spring Club set

The Country up its Scramble ment. The tou place S Sunday. The p benefit Cancer Relay Fo Teams up of fou the field ed by fir Prizes ed to the and thr in each f The en per play car fee. For m tion, cal club at 2

IN BRIEF

West Texas Disc Golf Championship tourney announced

The West Texas Disc Golf Champions Tournament will take place Saturday and Sunday at Comanche Trail Park.

The tournament will consist of three 27-hole rounds. Two rounds will be played Saturday and one round will be played Sunday. Registration begins at 7 a.m. and a player's meeting follows at 8 a.m.

For more information or to pre-register call Greg Brooks at 432-528-5076.

Cornell Corrections sets up second dodge ball tourney

Cornell Corrections has set up a second dodge ball tournament to benefit Relay For Life. The tourney will take place April 30 at the YMCA and registration must be done by April 28.

The tourney starts at 9 a.m. and costs \$10 per person and teams must have eight people — male and female.

For more information, contact Phyllis Turney 267-2004.

Forsan ISD sets up all-sports banquet

Forsan has announced that its all-sports banquet will take place Tuesday, May 3, at the high school.

Tickets for non-athletes and parents are \$10 and they must be purchased before April 28.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call the Forsan High School Office at 457-2223. Tickets may also be purchased at the high school office.

McMahon catches big bass at Share A Lunker Bass 2005

Jim McMahon of Big Spring caught the 22nd Budweiser Share A Lunker Bass for the 2005 year, and the eighth Share A Lunker to come out of Lake Alan Henry this year.

The bass weighed 13.03 pounds. The Share A Lunker program is a Texas Parks and Wildlife program which takes bass weighing more than 13 pounds to breed and help restock Texas lakes.

Big Spring Country Club sets scramble

The Big Spring Country Club has set up its 2005 Cancer Scramble golf tournament.

The tourney will take place Saturday and Sunday.

The proceeds will benefit the American Cancer Society and Relay For Life.

Teams will be made up of four players and the field will be flighted by first round score.

Prizes will be awarded to the first, second and third place teams in each flight.

The entry fee is \$75 per player plus a \$20 cart fee.

For more information, call the country club at 267-5354.



HERALD photo/Troy Hyde
Howard freshman Jed Headley tries to take down a steer during the steer wrestling competition last week at the Howard College rodeo. The Hawks began rodeo action at Tarleton State University Thursday.

McDowell, Stoney lead Hawks rodeo team at Tarleton

By TROY HYDE
Sports Editor

STEPHENVILLE —

Howard College sophomore Danny McDowell still has a fighting chance at advancing to the College National Finals Rodeo, but must score lots of points in Stephenville this weekend at the Tarleton State University Rodeo.

McDowell, who needs about 90 points to work his way into the top three of the region, fought his way to a 79 in the bull riding competition Thursday, which is currently first place after night No. 1.

If McDowell wins the first round he can earn 40 points and then can add another 80 points to his total if he wins both the finals round and the average.

"We still need some luck," said Howard coach Greg Kernick, who hinted that Danny kept himself alive after his first ride. "He can get a total of 120 points at this rodeo, but things are going to have to go our way."

Things did not go McDowell's way in the bareback riding portion of the rodeo Thursday as both he and Jeremy Russell came away with zero points after starting off the rides in good shape.

Howard's second best finisher Thursday was Sierra Stoney as she

currently sits in second place in goat tying after claiming an 8.4 second run.

Freshman Jed Headley scored himself a 65 in the saddle bronc competition and has a chance to advance to the finals Saturday, but Kernick said the score may not hold up.

Howard's other two competitors received scores in their respective events, but both will most likely not be good enough for the finals.

Wayne Schaffeld went a little long in the steer wrestling competition as he scored an 8.2, while Sarah Proctor turned in a 16.07 in the barrel racing.

Entering the Tarleton State rodeo, sophomores Brent Walden and Zach Cobb still had shots at the CNFR, but like McDowell, would need several points to do so. Walden needs around 80 points to and Cobb needs about 105 points as both competitors attempt to advance in steer wrestling.

"These kids are here to win and they are going to represent us well and do all they can," said Kernick.

The rodeo in Stephenville continued slack today at 9 a.m. and started the night's round at 7 p.m., but results were unavailable at press time.

Texas Girls Coaches Association State Softball Rankings (as of 4-19-05)

Class 2A		Class 4A	
1. Franklin	2. Poth	1. McKinney North	2. Brenham
3. Elkhart	4. Clifton	3. Big Spring	4. Dripping Springs
5. Prosper	6. Coahoma	5. Elgin	6. Kilgore
7. Woden	8. Leon	7. El-Campo	8. Burkburnett
9. Van Vleet	10. Danbury	9. Waco Midway	10. Texarkana Texas

WJCAC Standings - 4/17

Softball				Baseball			
Midland College	27-3	45-11		New Mexico JC	16-4	38-8	
Odessa College	26-6	41-20		El Paso C.C.	11-8	27-20	
El Paso C.C.	16-12	21-21		Howard College	11-9	30-11	
Western Texas	12-16	23-25		Odessa College	11-9	28-13	
Howard College	11-15	14-24		Clarendon College	10-9	21-14	
Frank Phillips College	4-24	9-27		Frank Phillips College	9-10	30-15	
Clarendon College	4-24	4-36		Midland College	6-14	32-14	
				Western Texas	4-15	13-29	

Today and Saturday's games
Odessa @ El Paso C.C.
Howard @ Frank Phillips
Western @ Clarendon
Midland — does not play

Today and Saturday's games
Howard (home today) vs. Odessa
El Paso vs. Western Texas
Midland vs. Frank Phillips
New Mexico JC vs. Clarendon

OFF the BENCH

With all the excitement of the NFL draft this weekend, I thought it would be fun to do a mock draft of my own and see how close I get to so-called experts of the NFL.

Here is a look at my mock draft at this point as draft day nears.

1. San Francisco — The

popular pick here is either California's Aaron Rodgers or Utah's Alex Smith. The 49ers need to trade down and better their team all-around, but not many teams feel the need to trade up. If they can't trade they need to take a sure bet.

Who they will probably take: Alex Smith ... Who they should take: Braylon Edwards.

2. Miami — New head coach Nick Saban just expressed the notion that he wanted to trade down and acquire more picks and that may be smart. If they can't get a trade to go through, I expect them to address the need of a running back.

Who they will most likely pick: Ronnie Brown ... Who they should take: Cedric Benson.

3. Cleveland — They have expressed major interest in Smith and Edwards and either one could help their offense. Who they will probably take: Braylon Edwards ... Who they should take: Derrick Johnson.

4. Chicago — I have thought all along that this was Edwards' spot to go in the draft, but after the Bears signed Mushin Muhammad to a large free agent contract, I am not so sure that is the smart pick.

Who they will probably take: Cedric Benson ... Who they should take: Cedric Benson.

5. Tampa Bay — I think Jon Gruden is pulling off a major smoke screen with quarterback talk. He may try to trade up for Rodgers or Smith, but if he selects here I think he goes running back.

Who they will probably take: Cadillac Williams ... Who they should take: Cadillac Williams.

6. Tennessee — They were able to score points last year, but couldn't really stop anyone on defense.

Who they will probably take: Antrel Rolle ... Who they should take: Rolle.

7. Minnesota — They lost Randy Moss to the Raiders this year and will want to replace him, but could also trade up.

Who they will probably take: Mike Williams ... Who they should take: Mike Williams.

8. Arizona — With Emmitt Smith retiring and Alex Smith and Cedric Benson most likely off the board by the time the Cardinals pick here, expect them to try to fix their quarterback position.

Who they will probably take: Aaron Rodgers ... Who they should take: Aaron Rodgers.

9. Washington — Wide receiver was my first thought, but I think they

can afford to build on their defense here.

Who they will probably take: Adam Jones ... Who they should take: Adam Jones.

10. Detroit — The Lions don't really have much needs on offense. I think they will take the best player available.

Who they will probably take: Derrick Johnson ... Who they should take: Derrick Johnson.

11. Dallas — Switching to a 3-4 on defense will force Dallas to use the first pick and maybe even the second pick on defense.

Who they will probably take: Shawne Merriman ... Who they should take: Shawne Merriman.

12. San Diego — I am sticking with the defensive theme for the Chargers because they have the quarterback(s) and running back.

Who they will probably take: Marcus Spears ... Who they should take: Dan Cody.

13. Houston — They still need an offensive lineman to protect David Carr from getting sacked tons of times.

Who they will probably take: Alex Barron ... Who they should take: Alex Barron.

14. Carolina — They must fill the void left by Muhammad.

Who they will probably take: Troy Williamson ... Who they should take: Mark Clayton.

15. Kansas City — The Chiefs should go defense here because they didn't stop much last year.

Who they will probably take: Carlos Rogers ... Who they should take: Carlos Rogers.

16. New Orleans — Yep you guessed it, I am going with more defense here.

Who they will probably take: Travis Johnson ... Who they should take: Travis Johnson.

17. Cincinnati — Head coach Marvin Lewis has been reluctant to take what he should have taken in the past, but I think he goes with his heart this year.

Who they will probably take: Dan Cody ... Who they should take: Dan Cody.

18. Minnesota — After fixing their receiver need, they must go defense.

Who they will probably take: Thomas Davis ... Who they should take: Fabian Washington.

19. St. Louis — I would think the Rams should try to go defense here because they usually don't have much trouble scoring.

Who they will probably take: Jamaal Brown ... Who they should take: Marlin Jackson.

20. Dallas — They still need another pass rusher in the 3-4.

Who they will probably take: Erasmus James ... Who they should take: Erasmus James.

21. Jacksonville — The Jags should try to build a suspect O-line, but won't.

Who they will probably take: Marlin Jackson ... Who they should take: Khalif Barnes.

22. Baltimore — They must find a weapon on offense.

Who they will probably take: Mark Clayton ... Who they should take: Mark Clayton.

23. Seattle — They will try to strengthen their defense with this pick as they try to compete with the offensive minded Rams.

Who they will probably take: Demarcus Ware ... Who they should take: Matt Roth.

24. Green Bay — Uh...they have to compete against Daunte Culpepper and Minnesota in the division and Brett Favre makes them dangerous enough on offense.

Who they will probably take: Fabian Washington ... Who they should take: Marlin Jackson.

25. Washington — The Redskins just traded up recently to acquire this pick and there is only one reason why.

Who they will probably take: Jason Campbell ... Who they should take: Andrew Walter.

26. Oakland — In a trade Wednesday, Oakland got the first round choice they lost in the Moss deal. Expect them to go defense.

Who they will probably take: David Pollack ... Who they should take: Matt Roth.

27. Atlanta — They don't need a lot at one spot so expect the Falcons to take the best available player here.

Who they will probably take: Matt Jones ... Who they should take: David Pollack.

28. San Diego — LaDainian Tomlinson is the franchise in San Diego so expect the Chargers to give him help.

Who they will probably take: Khalif Barnes ... Who they should take: Dave Baas.

29. Indianapolis — They will obviously go defense here because that is what it will take for Peyton Manning to get to the next level. I think they could go secondary, but the best available player is the way to go.

Who they will probably take: Matt Roth ... Who they should take: Matt Roth.

30. Pittsburgh — They have a great defense and don't need much on offense, but could use an upgrade at tight end.

Who they will probably take: Heath Miller ... Who they should take: Heath Miller.

31. Philadelphia — They won't get rid of Terrell Owens and will still need someone on the other side.

Who they will probably take: Roddy White ... Who they should take: Roddy White.

32. New England — The Patriots are rumored to like Odell Thurman, but character issues could make Bill Belichick hesitant.

Who they will probably take: Shaun Cody ... Who they should take: Shaun Cody.

Expect most of these picks to be wrong come Saturday, but there's my two cents. I can't wait to see how it all goes down.

Sports Editor Troy Hyde can be reached at 263-7331 ext. 237 or sports@bigspringherald.com.

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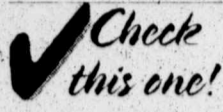
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LOOK FOR the Big Spring Symphony's booth at the KBSB Flea Market this Saturday at the Mall. All proceeds benefit the Big Spring Symphony Assoc.

BACKYARD SALE, 3701 Hamilton, Saturday, 8:00 til? Ladies plus clothes, men's 38 & 42, XXL shirts, lawnmowers, and much more.

FIVE FAMILY Garage Sale, 2613 East 25th. Friday & Saturday 8:00-? IBM Selectric typewriters, camper, furniture, household items.

GARAGE SALE, 1507 East 17th. Friday & Saturday, 8:00-4:00. Baby & adult clothes, furniture, high chair, decors, Chevy side step.

GARAGE SALE: 1410 Scurry, Saturday 7:30-2:30. Stove, linens, glassware, dining table w/chairs, lamps, chairs, desk.

Garage Sales

GARAGE SALE: 1709 Alabama, Saturday 7:30-2:30. Daybed, women's clothing, baby clothes, lots of toys, car amps, kitchen items, deco. items and lots more.

GARAGE SALE: 321 West 22nd Street #3 (in the rear), Saturday 8:00-1:00. Too many items to list.

GARAGE SALE: 721 Baylor, Friday & Saturday 8:00-5:00. Sofa set, recliner, water cooler, exercise bicycle, DVD player, printer, linens, Snackmaster dehydrator and lots of misc.

GARAGE SALE: Saturday 9:00-2:00, 1106 1/2 Hickory. Refrigerator, small & large appliances, furniture, 12x10 roll up door, deco items and lots more. No Checks Please.

INSIDE SALE, 1903 Gregg. Tues.-Thurs. 1-5, Fri. 10-5 & Sat. 8-12. Baby hi-chair, collectors knives, record albums and lots of misc.

INSIDE SALE: 1001 Goliad, St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Saturday 8:00-1:00.

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DIESEL TRUCK Mechanic. Experience helpful in clutch, gears, brakes & drivelines. No engine work. Vacation, holidays and 401k. Please apply to Drive Train Specialists, 1308 W. 2nd St., Odessa, Tx. 800-456-3241, (432)333-3241.

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FLAT ROCK Services. Needing Drivers. Must have Class A CDL. Top Pay. Must pass Drug test. Call (432)270-8612 or 1-866-744-3706.

HELENA CHEMICAL is now hiring class A-CDL truck driver. Pay depends on experience. Apply in person to Helena Chemical, 100 S. St. Peter, Stanton, Tx 79782.

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LOCAL CPA firm seeking Full-time **Secretary/Bookkeeper.** Position to include general receptionist duties. Computer experience required. Salary negotiable. Mail resumes to Personnel, PO Box 949, Big Spring, TX 79721.

MARTIN COUNTY Hospital Home Health taking applications for Full-time LVN. Bilingual Preferred. Applications to (432)756-4510 or call 756-3259. Ask for Allison Williams, R.N.

Help Wanted

NEED DOZER Operated with 5 years experience. For Big Spring Dirt Contractor. Must pass drug screen. Benefits available. Send resume c/o P.O. Box 1431/120, Big Spring, TX 79721-1431.

NEED GANG Pusher, Roustabout and Truck Driver with CDL License. Must pass drug test. Apply at Cowboy Construction, 9400 South Service Rd., Coahoma.

NEED SECRETARY with at least 5 years experience & very good computer skills. Benefits available. Send resume c/o P.O. Box 1431/119, Big Spring, TX 79721-1431.

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

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1996 DODGE Aversen (White). Clean, 96,000 miles. \$3,000.00. Call (432)816-1550.

Legals

Notice to Creditors of Appointment of Personal Representative
NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF GEORGIA ETHEL CAUBLE

On April 18, 2005, original letters testamentary were issued by the County Court of Howard County, Texas, acting in Cause No. P-13268, styled IN THE ESTATE OF GEORGIA ETHEL CAUBLE, and in which court the matter is pending, to Fern Walton. The place of business of the Executor is in Brazos County, Texas, the post office address is: Fern Walton P.O. Box 1267 Bryan, Texas 77803. All persons having claims against the estate of GEORGIA ETHEL CAUBLE are required to present those claims to the estate at the address shown below prior to the expiration of the limitations period on the claims, before the estate is closed, and within the time prescribed by law. Dated: April 19, 2005 Respectfully Bill Ballard State Bar #01653550 P.O. Box 1267 Bryan, Texas 77803 (979)775-5491 Fax (979)822-3292 #4530 April 22, 2005

NOBODY ASKS FOR IT

Help STOP Sexual Assaults
Call 263-3312
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Tomorrow's Horoscope

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS
The moon void interferes with our sense of purpose. Nothing seems urgent, and maybe nothing is. We're forced to consider whether our pursuits are truly worthy. The ones that aren't will stick out like obvious intruders, unable to motivate us to accomplish them. In this way, laziness actually has benefits! It's much better than wasted energy!



HOLIDAY MATHIS

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You fear that a certain flirtation you have going has been a luscious fabrication. No, it wasn't in your head. It's just that this type of thing has a shelf life. Caution: Tonight, being fashionably late won't do.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Your gift for storytelling is featured and you blur the lines between entertainment and, well, just plain lying. Some people want to be fooled, and it's hard not to give them what they want ... but you must try!

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You're the designated rebel. Someone has to wake up the sleepy crowd!

In the words of the inimitable Mae West, "People who get shocked easily should be shocked a little more often."

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Every painful event that has happened to you either brought or will bring you a gift. Part of today is spent going into the pain to find that gift. P.S.: The gift can never be found by avoiding the pain.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). The next best thing to being deliciously happy is being deliciously annoyed! This afternoon, it's fun to make a fuss. Hopefully, loved ones know to take it with a grain of salt.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). To want more is noble because when you stop and think about it, your quest will benefit many other people besides yourself. You'll be surprised at who is on your side, anxious to see you advance.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). If you're still hurting from a past injury, be it physical or mental, it's now time to call a professional to help along your healing process — that's one of the many ways you can be good to yourself.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Stars align to help you fulfill your creative potential. You can turn neutral events into opportunities. A Gemini or Libra has tips to boost your performance to the peak of your ability.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). There's work to be done, but nothing that can't be put off. A full life includes spending special time with friends.

Develop friendships that make you actually want to rearrange your schedule. You can count on Virgo.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). The adventure of the day includes a conflict — the kind that only you could get into — perhaps because only you could get out of it. What would you be doing if not for all the complications?

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You're sophisticated and careful not to lose that childlike curiosity that drives you toward discovery. Experimentation brings back the old sense of wonder, which is very attractive. Love is exotic, unusual, mind-opening.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Jack Nicholson was raised to believe his grandmother was his mother, and his mother was his sister. It was a magazine reporter who broke the news to him! Perhaps his family sensed that the information would be too disturbing for such a volatile youngster, and with the sun, Mercury and Uranus in comfort-seeking, slow-to-change Taurus, they were probably right!

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

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XLS - CD - Sport Group
Step Bar - Power Equipped

Total Available Savings **\$7,170**

MSRP - \$28,965
Customer Cash - 4,000
Ford Credit Cash - 1,000
Brock Discount - 2,170

Sale Price +TTL **\$21,795**

2005 Ford Taurus 4-DR
SEVERAL TO SELECT FROM
SE - CD - All Power - Automatic
Aluminum Wheels

Total Available Savings **\$4,885**

TBD - \$22,480
Pkg. Discount - 335
MSRP - \$22,145
Customer Cash - 2,000
Ford Credit Cash - 1,000
Brock Discount - 1,550

Sale Price +TTL **\$17,595**

Blueoval Certified

Bob Brock
Ford Lincoln Mercury
500 W. 4th 267-7424

Annie's Mailbox

Dear Annie: Two years ago, my brother, "John," came to visit from another country. We hadn't seen him in a very long time.

During John's stay, he made inappropriate sexual advances toward my daughter's 12-year-old girlfriend late one night after a party. The girls were horrified and told me of the incident. My husband and I confronted John, who admitted it and left our house immediately. He went back to his home country with a sincere promise that he would get therapy. When he reneged, I told him I would no longer keep this a secret and would tell my sisters, who also have young daughters.

The problem is the rest of my family. They sympathize with my daughter's friend, but in the next breath they tell me "nothing actually happened" and they pressure me to reconnect with John.

How can I get through to my family that I do not want to have anything to do with my brother? I spent six months on an exhausting mission to help him get therapy, but finally realized I can't do anything unless he admits there is a problem. I won't put up with this type of inappropriate, deviant behavior again. Nothing actually happened, but it could have. Am I overreacting? —



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BIG SPRING HERALD

able. This is the general definition used in determining eligibility to many — but not all — VA benefits. Under this definition, your son is a veteran. Be proud of him."

Dear Annie: This is about "Hannah," who wrote you about the guy who stopped calling her after three dates. It might just be me, but I don't think this guy qualifies for the title of "jerk" quite yet.

Three dates do not make a commitment. This guy is free to stop things right there if he wants to, just as Hannah would have. Tactically speaking, however, I think Hannah erred when she kept calling this guy to see why he wasn't calling her. If he had any doubts about his decision, her calls took care of that completely.

But you are right that dating often is a hurtful experience. Hannah should be OK though. She'll find her bearings and, if she concentrates on the basics (honesty, good faith, fidelity, love), there will be a nice group of guys (not to mention friends) there for her. — Jim in NW Pennsylvania

Dear Jim: We agree Hannah should not have continued calling after the guy distanced himself. However, it would have been nice if he'd said it was over and not left her hanging. Thanks for the male perspective and your words of encouragement.

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

6:30	News (6)
7:30	NBA Tr Videos
8:30	Hope & Hope 8
9:30	20/20 (6)
10:30	News (6) Nightline
11:30	Ent. To Jimmy
12:30	Live (6) News (6)

DENNIS

"THAT M... DUSTY"

BC

DID YOU KNOW DOGS CAN LOW BLOOD PRESSURE ADD YEARS TO

WIZARD

AGNES

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Golf Insider

IT'S GOOD FOR YOUR GAME

Putting enemy No. 1: Rotation

By T.J. TOMASI
Universal Press Syndicate

There are few things more frustrating than hitting the edge of the cup and watching your putt "lip out." If this is a common occurrence, you have a case of "liprosy." It's more than just bad luck — it's your stroke.

Chances are you're over-rotating the club face, a mistake that effectively reduces the size of the cup by putting side spin on the ball. With your ball cutting or hooking, you have to hit it dead center to make it.

The rotation of the hands (and therefore the club face) is a valuable ingredient in a full swing, but it's a killer when it comes to the flat stick.

To cure liprosy, you must stop rotating your hands, and this begins with the grip. First, place the left side of the putter handle against the lifeline of your left hand (diagonally through the palm of your hand) so that the shaft forms a relatively straight line with your left forearm. LPGA professional Heidi Papoosha, at the top of her backstroke in the first photo below, is clearly demonstrating this placement.

Next, in the same manner, apply your right hand just beneath your left hand, placing the palm against the right side of the putter handle. Done properly, your palms are facing each other in a configuration called "opposing palms." The back of your left hand, the palm of your right hand and the putter face all point in the same direction — toward the target. Now you are ready to stroke the putt with the idea that your "hands are the club face," a key concept for good putting.

Look again at Heidi in the first photo. See how the back of her left hand, palm of her right hand and the putter face are in perfect alignment. Now check out the second photo, taken at the finish. See how she has maintained this alignment relationship.

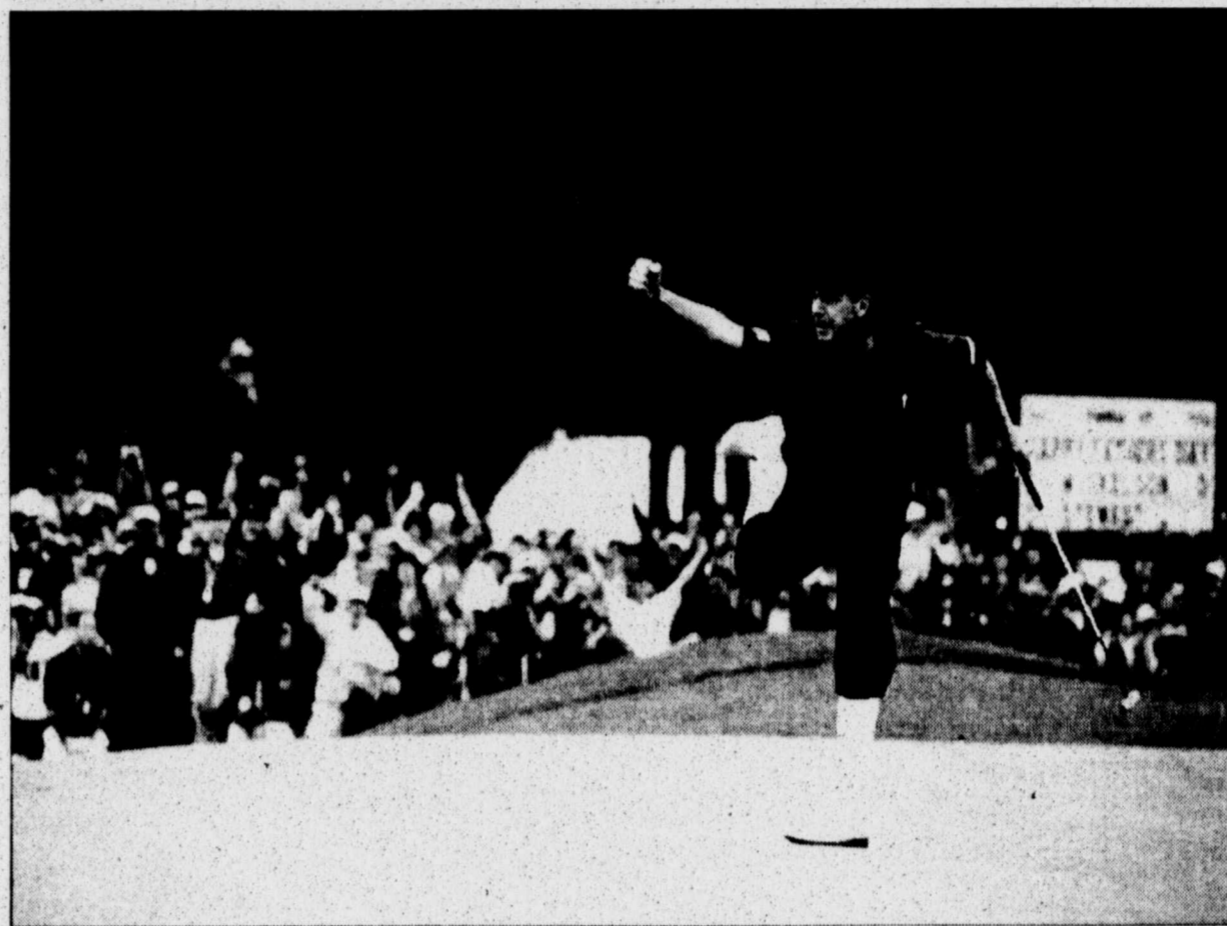
Discerning observers may say: "Yes, but there is some rotation of the putter face. I can see in the photos that the toe of the putter has turned more than the putter heel." This is true, but the key is that the hands-and-putter-face relationship is intact.

There is a slight rotation only because the shoulders, the master movers of a solid putting stroke, have rotated slightly. However, there is no lower body turn, no cocking of the wrists, and no rotation of the forearms or hands — all necessary elements of the full swing, but any one of which is the enemy of good putting.

Take the proper grip and practice with the idea that your hands are the club face. You'll impart less side spin and be able to watch the ball fall in from the edges — liprosy cured.



Heidi has the back of her left hand, palm of her right hand and the putter face in perfect alignment and maintains this alignment through her stroke.



USGA

Payne Stewart won the 1999 U.S. Open at Pinehurst with a nerve-wracking putt on 18. His famous celebration pose has been commemorated at the course with a bronze statue.

Pinehurst preps for U.S. Open

By TRAVIS SAWCHIK
Cox News Service

Pinehurst, N.C.
Just hours after Tiger Woods marked his return to championship golf with a playoff victory in the Masters recently, the golf world turned its attention to Pinehurst, a small, serene North Carolina town shrouded by tall pines some 70 miles southwest of Raleigh.

Preparation had already begun on the No. 2 course that will host the 105th U.S. Open June 16-19 at the Pinehurst Resort before Woods connected on his playoff putt. Paint crews manned ladders recently, touching up the white exterior of the clubhouse, and a dozen corporate tents had already been constructed on the driving range with a handful of other aluminum skeletons just awaiting their tarpaulin skin.

The U.S. Open returns to Pinehurst, just one of its three public sites — Bethpage Black and Pebble Beach are the others — after a brief six years.

United States Golf Association officials joked at the media day that they were just making up for lost time by returning quickly to a site that had been neglected despite its history — Pinehurst was described by the great golfer Bobby Jones as the St. Andrews of United States golf.

"It was more like a dream than reality," said Pinehurst President Don Padgett II, of hosting the 1999 U.S. Open, which was won by the late Payne Stewart with a nerve-wracking putt on 18. "In 2005 we will be even more proudful because we know it's real."

David Fay, the USGA's executive director, said it was not until recently that America's championship traveled to courses far from metropolitan areas. That was mostly due to a concern of not being able to fill corporate tents and grandstands.

It certainly wasn't due to a lack of appearance.

The Pinehurst complex is one of 200 resorts and clubs worldwide owned by Dallas-based ClubCorp, which has \$1.6 billion

2005 U.S. OPEN

• **When:** June 16-19
• **Where:** Pinehurst Resort (No. 2 Course); Village of Pinehurst, N.C.

• **Par and yardage:** Pinehurst's No. 2 Course is set up at 7,214 yards and plays to a par of 35-35-70.

• **Added distance:** This layout is 39 yards more than was laid out for the 1999 U.S. Open at Pinehurst.

• **The winner's share:** First-place money for this Open will be more than \$1 million. The total purse in 2005 will be more than \$6.25 million.

• **TV:** Thursday and Friday (June 16-17): 10-3 p.m. on ESPN, 3-5 p.m. on NBC, and 5-7 p.m. on ESPN. Saturday and Sunday (June 18-19): 12:30-7 p.m. on NBC.

in assets and has invested more than \$100 million in Pinehurst's renovation and restoration.

But the U.S. Open has achieved pilgrimage stature allowing it to transcend geography. For the 19th consecutive year it is a sellout, with 38,000 tickets sold for each day of the championship. Ticket buyers include residents of 25 foreign countries.

And those in attendance will be able to see 1999's historic theatre now commemorated with a bronze statue portraying Stewart perched on one leg, throwing his right fist forward in jubilation behind the 18th green.

Recently, in one of several bunkers that protect the finishing landing pad, Peter Mason, a St. Andrews official, deposited a few cups of sand from St. Andrews' famous 13th hole bunker.

The symbolic act referenced St. Andrews as the spiritual home of golf, and Pinehurst as its American caretaker, corroborating Jones' sentiments.

If care-taking characterizes a challenging golf course that will make the world's best golfers

struggle to meet par, Pinehurst appears to be an excellent choice.

Fay said that many wonder if the USGA will become kinder and gentler at Pinehurst after last year's U.S. Open at Shinnecock, which featured fairways and greens that played like supermarket parking lots on Saturday and Sunday.

Don't bet on it. "No one was happy," said Fay of the lightning quick conditions of the 2004 U.S. Open. "But I wasn't happy after Friday Shinnecock basically had its teeth taken out."

Pinehurst's Bermuda rough will be grown to three inches of height for the championship, and that should give the USGA what it wants — a theoretical half-stroke penalty for an errant drive that comes to rest in the rough. Fay said the tall grass should be "vexing."

In addition, Pinehurst's fairways will be reduced by an average of four yards in width from its dimensions in 1999, countering the annual improvement of driving accuracy.

"There was a solution last year and it was tough," Fay said. "But (Retief) Goosen solved it and (Phil) Mickelson solved it for 16 holes."

Goosen, the defending Open champion who was struck by lightning while playing golf as a teenager, struggled at Pinehurst in 1999.

The course is now set up at 7,214 yards and plays to a par of 70 (35-35). The layout is 39 yards longer than it was when Stewart won.

"I wasn't particularly fond of it the first time I played it," Goosen, a South Africa native, said in a taped interview. "But I'm in a different frame of mind now than I was then and I feel like I can hit any shot I need to hit on championship courses like that. So I'm very much looking forward going back there this time and giving it a shot and winning it again."

The USGA and Pinehurst will attempt to cool that type of confidence, and make the next U.S. Open champion earn the \$1 million winning share of the \$6 million purse by solving the brillo-like rough and pencil-thin landing areas.

SCHEDULE

All Times EDT

PGA TOUR

Houston Open

- **Site:** Humble, Texas.
- **Schedule:** Today-Sunday.
- **Course:** Redstone Golf Club, Jacobsen/Hardy Course (7,508 yards, par 72).
- **Purse:** \$5 million. Winner's share: \$900,000.
- **Television:** USA (Thursday-Friday, 4-6 p.m.) and CBS (Saturday-Sunday, 3-6 p.m.).

LPGA TOUR

Corona Morelia Championship

- **Site:** Morelia, Mexico.
- **Schedule:** Today-Sunday.
- **Course:** Tres Marias Residential Golf Club (6,763 yards, par 72).
- **Purse:** \$1 million. Winner's share: \$150,000.
- **Television:** None.

CHAMPIONS TOUR

Legends of Golf

- **Site:** Savannah, Ga.
- **Schedule:** Friday-Sunday.
- **Course:** Westin Savannah Harbor Resort and Spa (6,967 yards, par 72).
- **Purse:** \$2.4 million. Winner's share: \$360,000.
- **Television:** ESPN (Friday, 1-3 p.m.) and ABC (Saturday-Sunday, 1-3 p.m.).

PGA EUROPEAN TOUR

ASIAN TOUR

Johnnie Walker Classic

- **Site:** Beijing.
- **Schedule:** Today-Sunday.
- **Course:** Pine Valley Golf Resort and Country Club (7,056 yards, par 72).
- **Purse:** \$2.35 million. Winner's share: \$391,625.
- **Television:** The Golf Channel (Thursday, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.; Friday-Sunday, 1:30-5:30 a.m., 9 a.m.-1 p.m.).

NATIONWIDE TOUR

Virginia Beach Open

- **Site:** Virginia Beach, Va.
- **Schedule:** Thursday-Sunday.
- **Course:** TPC of Virginia Beach (7,432 yards, par 72).
- **Purse:** \$450,000. Winner's share: \$81,000.
- **Television:** None.

LEADERS

WORLD RANKINGS

1. Tiger Woods, USA	13.74
2. Vijay Singh, Fiji	12.06
3. Ernie Els, SA	10.35
4. Phil Mickelson, USA	9.36
5. Retief Goosen, SA	7.79
6. Padraig Harrington, Ire	5.45
7. Chris DiMarco, USA	5.31
8. Sergio Garcia, Spn	5.01
9. David Toms, USA	5.00
10. Adam Scott, Aus	4.92
11. Mike Weir, Can	4.67
12. Stewart Cink, USA	4.67
13. Luke Donald, Eng	4.65
14. Davis Love III, USA	4.48
15. Kenny Perry, USA	4.37

MONEY LEADERS

PGA TOUR

Player	Money
1. Phil Mickelson	\$3,842,456
2. Tiger Woods	\$3,687,090
3. Vijay Singh	\$2,936,413
4. David Toms	\$2,256,643
5. Fred Funk	\$1,841,200
6. Luke Donald	\$1,766,427
7. Retief Goosen	\$1,698,408
8. Adam Scott	\$1,657,748
9. Chris DiMarco	\$1,541,278
10. Tom Lehman	\$1,346,893

LPGA TOUR

Player	Money
1. Annika Sorenstam	\$660,000
2. Lorena Ochoa	\$307,717
3. Cristie Kerr	\$290,197
4. Rosie Jones	\$249,412
5. Jennifer Rosales	\$193,834

CHAMPIONS TOUR

Player	Money
1. Hale Irwin	\$746,606
2. Dana Quigley	\$459,247
3. Mark McNulty	\$408,689
4. Wayne Levi	\$405,501
5. Des Smyth	\$302,506

THE GOLF DOCTOR

Knee flex is taken in stride

Knee flex is one aspect of the swing that can be confusing if you copy the pros because some flex their knees a lot, and others a little. What is correct? They both are because knee flex is a function of your body build: Craig Stadler has minimal knee flex; Tiger Woods has much more.

While it is true that the pros differ quite a bit, they are all the same in that they have found their correct "balance point" based on their body type. To find yours, take a normal stride, allowing your back heel to rise as you plant your front foot on the ground.

Stop at this point and check the amount of bend in your front knee. This is your optimum balance position, the one you automatically go to with each step you take.

Now bring your back leg parallel to your front as you would in a golf stance and match the amount of flex in your front knee. Then, bending from your hip joints, stick your fanny out. Now you're in your perfect knee-flex position.

ASK THE PRO



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 wonder why Michelle Wie continues to list as one of her goals that she wants to play on both the men's and women's tours. She should be happy to just compete against the women. — T.W., from Buffalo, N.Y.

A: If you read Associated Press sports columnist Tim Dahlberg's recent article on Annika Sorenstam, you'd understand why Sorenstam recently won her fifth tournament in a row (a major — the Nabisco Championship), but as Dahlberg points out, "... it's hard to find anyone not associated with the women's tour who really cares. Sorenstam's win in the Nabisco Championship was the stuff legends are made of, but legends simply aren't made in women's golf anymore, at

least not since the days of Babe Didrikson Zaharias. (Sorenstam) will likely end her career before receiving the acclaim for her accomplishments that she deserves."

I think Wie realizes this and understands that to become a legend she must break the mold for women athletes by beating not only women, but also men. It's just a matter of time before she wins an LPGA event. I predicted she would win this year on the women's tour, and she's already finished second.

If she's good enough, why not take a shot at doing something no woman has ever done — winning a PGA Tour event and then playing in the Masters. That's stuff of which legends are made.

This is not to be confused with the debacle of two years ago when a female

club pro playing from the forward tees won her PGA section event and thus qualified for the Hartford Open.

Because of political correctness, not much was said about the inequity of competitors playing from different tees, but behind the scenes, the PGA of America (governing body for club pros) moved quickly to pass a rule ensuring that anyone called "champion" plays from the same tees as everyone else.

At 15, Michelle Wie has her goals, and like all successful people, she knows where she is now and where she wants to end up. One day people will talk of Zaharias and Wie as legendary figures while the others, if talked of at all, will be remembered simply as great players.