



Exxon Mobil posts record profit for any U.S. company

IRVING (AP) — Exxon Mobil Corp. posted record profits for any U.S. company today — \$10.71 billion for the fourth quarter and \$36.13 billion for the year — as the world's biggest publicly traded oil company benefited from high oil and gas prices and demand for refined products. The results exceeded Wall Street expectations and Exxon shares rose

nearly 3 percent on premarket trading.

The company's earnings amounted to \$1.71 per share for the October-December quarter, up from \$8.42 billion, or \$1.30 per share, in the year ago quarter. The result topped the then-record quarterly profit of \$9.92 billion Exxon posted in the third quarter of 2005.

Exxon's profit for the year

was also the largest annual reported net income in U.S. history, according to Howard Silverblatt, a stock market analyst for Standard & Poor's. He said the previous high was Exxon's \$25.3 billion profit in 2004.

The results for the latest quarter included a \$390 million gain related to a litigation settlement. Excluding special items,

earnings were \$10.32 billion, or \$1.65 per share. The result topped Wall Street's expectations. Analysts surveyed by Thomson Financial predicted earnings of \$1.44 per share.

Exxon shares rose \$1.79, or 2.9 percent, to \$63.08 in premarket activity.

Quarterly revenue ballooned to \$99.66 billion from \$83.37 billion a year ago but came in shy

of the \$100.72 billion Exxon posted in the third quarter, which was the first time a U.S. public company generated more than \$100 billion in sales in a single quarter.

By segment, exploration and production earnings rose sharply to \$7.04 billion, up \$2.15 billion from the 2004 quarter.

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Back on track

Chancery SMS system bugs all worked out

By **STEVE REAGAN**

Staff Writer

Big Spring school district officials have gone a long way toward taming the beast that was Chancery SMS.

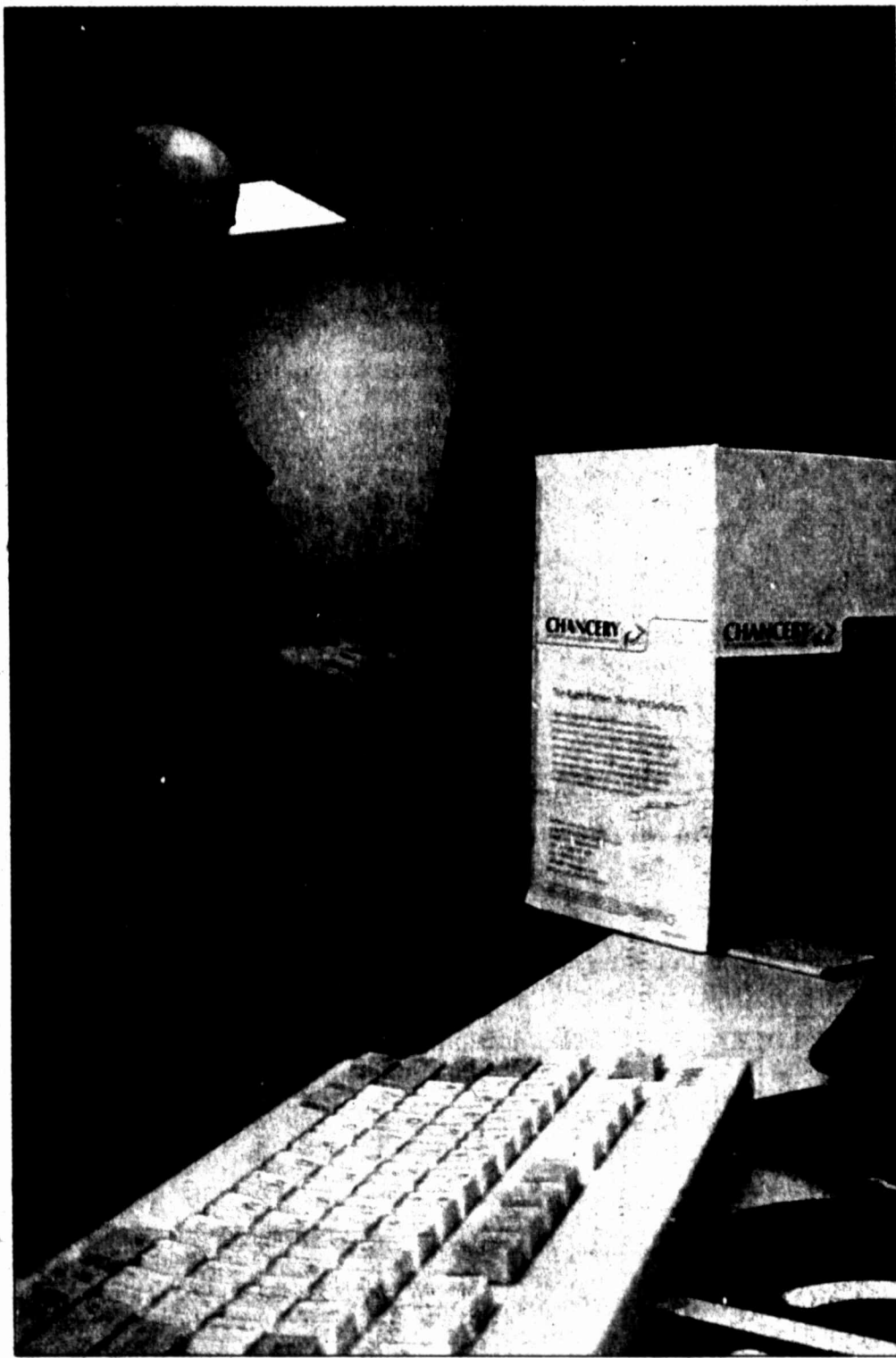
When BSISD adopted the Chancery Student Management System software package in 2004, it was heralded as a dream.

Instead, it became more of a nightmare.

The software was supposed to streamline a variety of student-management records, such as grade posting, scheduling, attendance and transcripts.

In reality, however, almost none of those functions operated smoothly under the Chancery system last school year. The result was a barrage of phone calls, upset students and parents and loads of extra man-hours from district personnel to get needed records out on

See **ISD**, Page 3A



Corey Wood, technology director for the Big Spring Independent School District, is shown at the district's technology office Friday. Wood said the Chancery student management system software, the cause of so many problems in 2005, is operating much more smoothly this year.

Big Spring crime rate soars in 2005

Most of upswing can be attributed to juvenile offenses, PD chief says

By **THOMAS JENKINS**

Staff Writer

A rise in criminal activity reported among area juveniles may have taken a serious toll on the city of Big Spring in 2005, as crime statistics for the past year rose across the board.

The city saw major increases in the number of burglaries and criminal mischief cases in 2005 when compared to totals amassed during 2004.

According to statistics released this week by the Big Spring Police Department, burglaries

were up 85 percent with 337

reports compared to 182 in 2004. Criminal mischief cases also rose 39 percent, with 412 reported last year and 251 the previous year.

Lonnie Smith, BSPD chief of police, said the increase is directly tied to the upswing in juvenile offenses in 2005.

"When you look at the overall totals, those include the juvenile offenses as well," said Smith. "Juvenile offenses increased in several different areas, including a 79 percent increase in burglaries. That took a heavy toll on the final percentages.

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Big Spring crime statistics 2005 vs. 2004

Charge	2005	2004	Percent +/-
Murder	0	1	-100 percent
Sexual assault	18	16	13 percent
Robbery	13	10	30 percent
Burglary	337	182	85 percent
Larceny	482	549	-12 percent
Criminal mischief	412	251	39 percent
Family violence	190	178	7 percent
Public intoxication	330	337	-2 percent
Unlawful weapon	16	8	50 percent
Driving while intoxicated	98	83	18 percent
Drug Possession	100	122	-18 percent
Assaults	83	67	24 percent
Arrests	1599	1614	-9 percent

Annual Good Turn food drive planned Saturday

By **THOMAS JENKINS**

Staff Writer

Lead by example.

That's exactly what local Boy Scouts will be doing Saturday, as they prepare to hit the streets for their annual Good Turn for America Food Drive.

The drive, slated from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m., calls for area residents to place canned goods and non-perishable food items in plastic grocery bags which will be left on porches and door

steps for the community-wide collection.

"Area residents will find a note explaining the food drive, along with a plastic bag, at their home prior to Feb. 4," said David O'Neill, district executive for the West Texas Buffalo Trail Council of the Boy Scouts of America. "We wanted to make sure we reach out to the people in the community and ask for their help with the food drive. It's all part of the Good Turn for America program the

Boy Scouts of America have been sponsoring for a number of years."

O'Neill said the scouts will collect the food items from different parts of the community, bringing them back to a central drop-off point.

"Our collection point will be set up at the Wal-Mart Supercenter's east entrance," said O'Neill.

"We're having the drop off point at Wal-Mart in hopes people who see us there will also

make a donation, or maybe even purchase something especially for the drive while they are doing their grocery shopping."

O'Neill said the food drive is an important part of being a scout and learning the ethics and morals that come so heavily into play with the national organization.

"It just goes to show the boys are out there doing a good turn and trying to help others. Those are things they live by on a

daily basis, so we want to make sure they practice that in some way. This has been a good project for us in the past and has been sort of a tradition for the past few years, so we wanted to continue it."

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

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

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Please call 263-7331. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you miss your paper, please call (432) 263-7335 before 7 p.m. weekdays and noon Sunday.

QUICK NOTIFICATION

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — High school students aren't waiting for the mail each day to find out if they've been accepted at Creighton University — they're looking at their cell phones.

Since November, 700 students — or 44 percent — of those admitted to Creighton have been notified through a text message. The school added the option on application forms last fall.

The university is trying to respond to the needs of its students, said Mary Chase, director of admissions and scholarships at Creighton.

"Students are so interested in having instant information," she said.

WHAT'S GOING ON?

Outreach Health Services will sponsor a free flu clinic for individuals 19 and older from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday in the Big Spring Mall.

The Mobile Meals program that delivers meals to the elderly and homebound needs volunteers.

If you can spare one hour per week to deliver eight or 10 meals, your help would be appreciated.

About 85 to 90 meals are prepared, packaged and delivered to recipients within the city limits of Big Spring.

If you can volunteer, please call 263-4016 before 3 p.m.

RELAY FOR LIFE EVENTS

Valentine's Day cakes are available from the Relay For Life Yellow Dog Dare Devils team.

Delivery is available. Eight-inch cakes are \$5 and 5-inch cakes are \$3.50.

Call Angel Sosa at 264-4108 or Georgia Torres at 267-1312.

Applications for the Fourth Annual Relay for Life Razzmatazz are being accepted through Feb. 13.

The event is 10 a.m. Feb. 18 in the Big Spring Municipal Auditorium. Entry forms are available at the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce.

Obituaries

Eunice Irene Page



Eunice Irene Page, 96, passed away at her daughter's home in Brown County Jan. 28, 2006. She was born in Brown County April 5, 1909, to Luther and Zula Mae Cobb. Eunice married Alph Wesley Page April 21, 1926, in Snyder. He preceded her in death July 18, 1992.

She is survived by her daughter and son-in-law, Alphene and Chuck Gressett of Brownwood; three grandchildren, Mike Gressett and wife Margaret of Brownwood, Cindy Rogers and husband Bill of Fort Worth and Debbie Hiddemen and husband Bill of The Woodlands; nine great-grandchildren and five great-great-grandchildren; a beloved brother-in-law, Ellis Porter of San Angelo; and a sister-in-law, Mildred Cobb of New Jersey; and several nephews.

She was also preceded in death by her parents; a sister, Lois Porter; and two brothers, L.D. and Turner Cobb.

Eunice was a life-long servant of God, working in her church, Baptist Temple. She was a loving wife, mother, grandmother and friend.

Her years of service at Baptist Temple involved being a charter member, a devoted Sunday School teacher for 72 years, a Girls Auxiliary and youth group leader, a member and past-president of the Women's Missionary Union, a singer in the choir and a librarian.

Mrs. Page enjoyed reading her Bible and Sunday School lessons. She also enjoyed sewing, tending her roses and visiting with her many beloved, special friends. Eunice used her life for the Lord — she truly loved the Lord, her family and her church.

Graveside funeral services are scheduled for 11 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 31, 2006, at the Peace Chapel at Trinity Memorial Park with the Rev. Don Snipes, pastor of Baptist Temple, officiating.

Honorary pallbearers are the deacons of Baptist Temple Church.

The family suggests memorials to Baptist Temple Church, 400 E. 11th Place, Big Spring 79720; HRA Village, 905 Highway 3 North, Texas City 77591; or Vista Care Hospice, 402 N. Bryant Blvd., San Angelo 76903.

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

Paid obituary

LaVerne Kimzey

LaVerne Kimzey, 79, of Midland, formerly of Big Spring died Saturday, Jan. 28, 2006, at her residence. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday at Myers & Smith Chapel with Derrick Looney officiating. Burial will be at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

She was born June 26, 1926, in Brownwood to Mamie and Lloyd Kinman. She moved to Big Spring in 1929 from Brownwood. She married Robert M. "Bob" Kimzey March 11, 1950, in Big Spring. He preceded her in death Jan. 28, 1991. She was a homemaker and a member of Hillcrest Baptist Church. She moved to Midland eight years ago. She adored her grandchildren and her dog Sourby. She loved baseball, especially the Cincinnati Reds.

She is survived by two daughters, B.J. Statham and her husband Don of Midland and Terri Nichols and her husband Bruce of Ackerly; one brother, James Kinman and his wife, Katie of Lubbock; three sisters, Loyce Looney and her husband, Bob of Granbury, Net Place of Godley and Dean Kraus of Big Spring; six grandchildren, Lesa Stover, Chad Statham, Patrick Nichols, Cara Hamblin, Lori Osburn and Kyler Nichols; and three great grandchildren, Morrow Nichols, Jeffrey Osburn and Aeryn Hamblin.

In addition to her parents and husband she was preceded in death by one sister, Betty Dixon. Pallbearers will be Patrick Nichols, Howard Osburn, Chad Statham, Brandon Hamblin, Russell Burt and Robby Hankins.

The family suggests memorials to Home Hospice, 111 E. 7th St., Suite A., Big Spring 79720.

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

Paid obituary

Weather

Tonight...Mostly clear. Lows in the lower 30s. South winds 10 to 15 mph.

Tuesday...Increasing clouds. Highs in the lower 70s. South winds 15 to 25 mph.

Tuesday night...Partly cloudy. Not as cool. Lows in the lower 40s. Southwest winds around 15 mph shifting to the west after midnight.

Wednesday...Mostly sunny. Highs in the upper 60s. West winds around 10 mph.

Wednesday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 30s.

Thursday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 70s.

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

Friday...Partly cloudy in the morning then clearing. Highs in the upper 60s.

Friday night...Mostly clear. Lows in the lower 30s.

Saturday...Mostly sunny. Highs in the upper 60s.

Saturday night...Mostly clear. Lows in the upper 30s.

Sunday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 70s.

Ervin A. "Cris" Crisman Jr.



Ervin A. "Cris" Crisman Jr., 69, of Stanton, died Saturday, Jan. 28, 2006, at his residence. A memorial service will be held at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 31, 2006, at the Belvue Church of Christ in Stanton, with Bill Welsh officiating.

Cris was born Sept. 12, 1936, in Brady and married Evelyn Ann Betterton Aug. 21, 1956, in Midland. She preceded him in death Oct. 18, 1999. He graduated from Midland High School.

Cris moved to Stanton in 1970. He worked for Roberts Machine Shop in Midland for 16 years, was owner of M.L. Engine Service for 10 years and worked for McClatchy Trucking for 11 years, retiring in 2002.

He was an active member of Belvue Church of Christ.

He is survived by two daughters and a son-in-law, Nancy Chambers and Eva and Louis Howell, all of Stanton; one sister, Marjorie Jo Haley of Amarillo; and two grandsons.

He was also preceded in death by his parents and a son, Ervin A. Crisman III.

Arrangements under the direction of Gilbreath Funeral Home of Stanton. Online condolences can be made at: www.npwelch.com

Margaret Faye Morgan



Funeral services for Margaret Faye Morgan, 85, of Andrews were Sunday, Jan. 29, 2006, at the Andrews Presbyterian Church with the Rev. Bob Zap officiating. Burial was in the Andrews Old Cemetery under the direction of McNett Funeral Home in Andrews.

She died Friday, Jan. 27, 2006, at Heart of Texas Memorial Hospital in Brady.

She was born Oct. 26, 1920, in Big Spring to Lafayette Franklin Keisling and Margaret Ferrier Keisling. She graduated from Big Spring High School in 1936. She married Lloyd Winfield Morgan March 25, 1944, in Fort Worth and they moved to Andrews in 1946.

She was a founding member of the Andrews Presbyterian Church in 1954 where she was an elder and taught Sunday School.

She was preceded in death by her parents; one brother; and her husband Sept. 5, 1980.

She is survived by her three daughters, Marsha McBee of Dallas, Susan Horton of Brady and Nancy Morgan of Austin; one son, Mark Morgan of Big Spring; and 10 grandchildren.

Memorials may be sent to the Andrews Presbyterian Church, 305 NW 7th Street, Andrews 79714; or Friends of the Library, 109 NW 1st Street, Andrews 79714.

To register, send condolences or view the obituary, go to www.mcnettfuneralhome.com

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 10 a.m. Saturday and 8 a.m. today:

• **MORGAN LOPEZ**, 24, of 2501 Barksdale, was arrested Saturday on three local warrants and a Howard County warrant.

• **JOHNNY SANCHEZ**, 23, of 1002 N. Main Street, was arrested Saturday on a charge of interfering with a police officer.

• **VICTOR JOE TODD**, 41, of New Mexico, was arrested Saturday on a local capias warrant and a charge of driving while intoxicated with a child passenger.

• **MARTIN CASTANEDA**, 19, of 505 S. Goliad, was arrested Saturday on a charge of minor in consumption of an alcoholic beverage.

• **JONATHAN MENDOZA**, 17, of 1401 N. Highway 87, was arrested Saturday on a charge of driving while license invalid.

• **JETON THOMAS GILKEY**, 27, of Midland, was arrested Sunday on a charge of driving while license invalid.

• **GAIL MARY MURPHY**, 60, of California, was arrested Sunday and held for the HCSO.

• **BONNIE RICO ANDERS**, 50, of 538 Westover Road, was arrested Sunday on a charge of interfering with a police officer.

• **MELVETT GENE FORD**, 49, of 538 Westover Road, was arrested Sunday on charges of resisting arrest and interfering with a police officer.

• **EARNEST CLARK**, 65, of 1901 S. Scurry, was arrested Sunday on a charge of public intoxication.

• **REBECCA LYNN GARZA**, 27, of Pampa, was arrested Monday on eight local warrants.

• **THEFT** was reported:
- in the 400 block of Fourth Street.
- in the 400 block of Birdwell Lane.

• **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported in the 700 block of Douglas.

• **BURGLARY OF A BUILDING** was reported in the 1200 block of Third Street.

• **BURGLARY OF A HABITATION** was reported:
- in the 1700 block of Young.
- in the 4200 block of Hamilton.

• **ASSAULT CLASS C/FAMILY VIOLENCE** was reported:

- in the 300 block of Ninth Street.
- in the 600 block of Douglas.
- in the 800 block of FM 700.

Sheriff's report

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

• **JAMES WAYNE HINES**, 24, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a charge of driving while license invalid.

• **ANGELA CASTANEDA**, 45, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a charge of criminal mischief.

• **TERRI RODRIGUEZ**, 40, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a charge of assault - family violence.

• **SUZANNE MARIE IRVIN**, 27, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while license invalid.

• **OLEGARIO MELENDEZ JR.**, 18, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on charges of unlawfully carrying a weapon and possession of a controlled substance.

• **MARCO ANTONIO GONZALES**, 36, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on charges of failure to appear - probation violation and possession of a controlled substance for sale.

• **HENRY RODRIGUEZ**, 38, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on charges of failure to identify as a fugitive from justice, driving while intoxicated - third or more offense and an Austin parole warrant.

• **MICHAEL TODD DEEVER**, 34, was arrested Friday by DPS on charges of operating an unregistered motor vehicle an overweight group of axles.

• **DAN LUCAS BUDRO**, 34, was arrested Friday by DPS on a charge of failure to appear - non-support of a child.

• **GUSTABO ALFREDO RIOS**, 24, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on charges of speeding, no fishing license and issuance of a bad check.

• **MANUEL RAMOS**, 17, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of bondsman off bond for possession of marijuana - two ounces or less.

• **TEOFILO RUEDA JR.**, 19, was arrested Saturday by the HCSO on charges of public intoxication and consumption of an alcoholic beverage by a minor.

• **JASON EARNEST KEY**, 23, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while license invalid.

• **TONY LEON JETTON**, 29, was arrested Sunday by the HCSO on charges of public intoxication and disorderly conduct.

• **TONY RAY BINGHAM**, 24, was arrested Sunday by the HCSO on charges of issuance of a bad check and possession of a prohibited weapon - switchblade/knuckles.

• **RICARDO CASTILLO**, 27, was arrested Sunday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for theft.

• **JETON THOMAS GILKEY**, 27, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while license invalid.

• **JONATHAN BLAKE MENDOZA**, 17, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while license invalid.

• **MORGAN LOPEZ**, 24, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of failure to identify - giving false information.

• **JOHN R. STILWELL**, 42, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on charges of delivery of a controlled substance, possession of a controlled substance, bail jumping and domestic assault and battery.

• **GAIL MARY MURPHY**, 60, was arrested Sunday by DPS on a charge of theft of livestock.

• **VICTOR JOE TODD**, 40, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated with a child passenger.

• **TRAFFIC ACCIDENT** was reported on U.S. Highway 87 a half-mile north of Big Spring.

Fire/EMS

The Big Spring Fire Department and Emergency Medical Services reported the following activity:

• **TRAFFIC ACCIDENT** was reported near the intersection of FM 700 and Goliad. Service was refused.

• **TRAUMA** was reported in the 300 block of Veterans Boulevard. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **MEDICAL** was reported at the Flightline Unit. One person was transported to the VAMC.

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 500 block of Sunset Boulevard. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **TRAUMA** was reported in the 3900 block of East Highway 350. Service was refused.

• **TRAFFIC ACCIDENT** was reported near the intersection of U.S. Highway 87 and Todd Road. Service was refused.

• **TRAUMA** was reported in the 1300 block of Madison. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **TRAUMA** was reported in the 1700 block of Donley. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 3200 block of Parkway. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 1200 block of East 16th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

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Water district names top employees for 2005

Special to the Herald

The Colorado River Municipal Water District has named its employees of the year for 2005, recognizing six individuals for their contributions and dedication to the mission of the District.

"The Board gets the credit but it is the employees of this District who do the work and make sure the water flows," said CRMWD President Charles Perry. "We thank all of the 80 or so employees for making us look so good and I especially thank the six who are honored this year for their good example and hard work on behalf of this organization."

Employees are nominat-

ed by their peers or supervisors from each of six areas and then selected through a competitive

"The Board gets the credit but it is the employees of this District who do the work and make sure the water flows."

—Charles Perry, CRMWD president

process. John Dominguez, lead man for the District's Big Spring area crew, was selected as eastern operations division Employee of the Year (EOY) and was also

recognized as the overall EOY.

Dominguez has been employed with CRMWD since 1991 and is an accomplished pipeline welder, equipment operator and trainer. He was commended by Operations Manager Ralph Truszkowski for consistently making the right decisions under pressure, working safely and having a "positive attitude that is contagious to everyone else, even at 2 a.m. on a leak site in bad weather."

Also honored from the operations division were western division EOY Don Meeks and southern division EOY Pat Percifull. Meeks is the Ward County lead man, employed since 2000 and Percifull is a pumper who



Courtesy photo

Receiving Employee of the Year Awards from the Colorado River Municipal Water District are, left to right, Patrick Percifull, Debbie Butts, Roger Myer, John Dominguez, Joe Longoria and Don Meeks.

joined CRMWD in 2002. Mechanic Roger Myer was selected as EOY from the crews that have operations division responsibilities across the entire service area of the District, the roving and

electrical/electronics crews. Myer has worked for CRMWD since 1984. Spence Ranger Matt Longoria, employed since 1979, was selected as the Natural Resources Division EOY and

Human Resource Specialist Debbie Butts was selected as the EOY representing administration, central control and engineering. She has been employed by CRMWD since 2002.

Two Texas cities launch red-light cameras

PLANO (AP) — Police in Plano and Richardson have a new tool to discourage drivers from rushing through red lights.

The two cities north of Dallas planned to activate newly installed red-light cameras on Monday. They're among several cities to employ the cameras as a tool to decrease red light running and side-impact accidents.

The cameras take photos of the license plates of offending vehicles, which enables police to send citations to the vehicles' registered owners.

Opponents of the cameras argue the cameras increase rear-end collisions, serve as a "cash-cow" for cities and encroach on motorists' privacy rights. During last spring's legislative session, lawmakers unsuccessfully tried to pass a bill that would have banned the use of such cameras.

Plano and Richardson have identified the intersections where the cameras are placed, but Plano Lt. Jeff Wise said he hopes drivers will be more careful in all locations because they'll be unsure of the cameras' exact locations.

Both cities have a one-month warning period before they start charging \$75 civil fines for red-light infractions.

Plano City Council member Sally Magnuson said most residents she's heard from support the cameras. She said privacy concerns aren't an issue for people who follow traffic laws.

"If you don't run the red light, nobody will take any pictures," she said.

Midland oilman and philanthropist Deane Stoltz dies

MIDLAND (AP) — Deane Stoltz, a Midland oilman and philanthropist, died Sunday following a lengthy illness. He was 76.

Stoltz was former president and chairman of Tipperary Oil and Gas and more recently was an independent producer.

"He was a great friend of the industry," Morris Burns, executive vice president of the Permian Basin Petroleum Association, said.

"He was one of the most self-confident people I've known and very optimistic, which you have to be in the oil business," Arden Grover, a friend of Stoltz's, told the newspaper. "This community has a lot to thank him for."

Friends and colleagues remembered him Sunday night for his efforts on behalf of Midland.

"He had a great heart for Midland and Midland's citizens more importantly," U.S. Rep. Mike Conaway, R-Midland, told the newspaper.

Stoltz was a former chairman of the United Way of Midland and a life-time board member.

'Baby Jessica' weds at age 19

MIDLAND (AP) — "Baby Jessica," whose dramatic rescue from an abandoned well 18 years ago was televised across the country, got married Saturday, People Magazine reported on its Web site.

Crews struggled for 58 hours to rescue Jessica McClure, now 19, from an 8-inch-wide pipe in October 1987.

The celebrity magazine reported that McClure married Daniel Morales, 32, at a rural church outside Midland. A sign on the door instructed guests not to take pictures or video, the magazine said.

The two met at a day-care center where Morales' sister worked with McClure, according to the magazine.

The case of 18-month-old Jessica created a nationwide sensation. Emergency crews rescued her — a dramatic moment covered on live television — after digging a parallel shaft and then breaking through the wall of the well.

CRIME

Continued from Page 1A

"We recently made several juvenile arrests for criminal mischief, and once the cases were investigated were able to clear several burglaries. So I really think the two things are closely linked."

While the number of burglaries nearly doubled in 2005, the estimated value of the stolen property actually fell, with an estimated \$290,560 lost this past year and \$310,447 lost in 2004. Criminal mischief reports also followed the same curve, with \$227,881 in damages last year and \$269,568 in 2004.

Robberies also saw an increase, rising 30 percent with 13 reported in 2005, compared to the 10 reported the previous year. Robberies saw the same trend as burglaries,

however, with the value of the stolen property estimated at \$1,223, down from the \$3,256 reported in 2004.

Murder in Big Spring dropped 100 percent in 2005, with no homicides in comparison to the previous year's single report. Sexual assaults also stayed fairly stable, up only 13 percent with 18 reports in 2005 and 16 the previous year.

Larceny was one of the few categories to see a decrease in 2005, down 12 percent with 482 reports last year and 549 in 2004. Public intoxication reports also dipped 2 percent, with 330 in 2005 and 337 the previous year.

Motor vehicle thefts rose in both number and value, with 45 vehicles valued at an estimated \$339,228 in 2005 and 34 estimated at \$228,527 in 2004. Reports of family violence also rose slightly, with 190 reports in 2005 and 178 the previous

year. While reports of crime rose in 2005, patrol statistics also took a dip, a problem Smith attributes to a shortage of officers most of the year.

"There were three officers in training and two in academy in 2005, putting us five officers short pretty much the whole year," said Smith. "That's certainly going to take its toll on those numbers."

Total miles driven by officers was down 6 percent, while the amount of gas used by the BSPD dropped 10 percent compared to 2004. Overall arrests dropped 4 percent in 2005, although the number of citations issued by officers rose 9 percent when compared to the previous years.

Smith said he expects to see lower crime statistics in 2006, thanks to more feet hitting the pavement in Big Spring.

"We have two narcotics

officers who will be coming back to us since we're no longer with the West Texas Narcotics Task Force," said Smith. "We also have officers with our street crimes units to help with the juvenile problems, so I think we'll see a difference this year."

While more officers is a definite plus for the BSPD, Smith said area parents can help lower the crime rate as well.

"A lot of these problems — especially the juvenile issues — go back to the family environment," said Smith. "Parents have to keep their kids off the streets and know what they're up to. That's where it begins."

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

ISD

Continued from Page 1A

time. That was last year.

Today, BSISD Technology Director Corey Wood feels almost as lonely as the Maytag Repair Man — comparatively speaking.

"So far this year, I've had one call from the community (about SMS)," Green said. "Last year at this time, I probably had about 40."

Wood said any new software package — especially one that handles as many functions as SMS — is bound to go through a rough start-up period. And, despite all the troubles experienced last year, he is quick to point

out that all necessary paperwork was completed on time.

"Even though there was a lot of heartache and pain and hard work, not one deadline was missed last year," Wood said.

The biggest problem last year — the posting and reporting of grades — was overcome when district officials installed a SMS-compatible program known as Gradespeed to handle those specific functions.

Chancery officials also worked overtime to fix the bugs in their system, sending Wood constant software upgrades. Finally, the separate pieces of SMS started falling together.

"Every upgrade they sent us fixed something,"

Wood said. "It just took several upgrades to get most of the problems fixed."

Evidence of the system's improvement came Friday. Transcripts which high school seniors need to apply for college admission — and which were another major headache last year — were completed ahead of time, and are now available through the high school counselors' office.

"By my calculations, we are either ahead of schedule or right on time (with the reports)," Wood said.

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

EXXON

Continued from Page 1A

reflecting higher crude oil and natural gas prices. Production decreased by 1 percent

due to the lingering effects of hurricanes Katrina and Rita, which battered the Gulf Coast in August and September.

The company's refining and marketing segment reported \$2.39 billion in earnings, as higher refin-

ing and marketing margins helped offset the residual effects of the hurricanes.

Exxon's chemicals business saw earnings, excluding special items, decline by \$413 million to \$835 million.

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Clara Ferguson, 69, died Thursday. Funeral Services will be at 10:00 AM Monday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

Elvira Nunez, 78, died Saturday. Funeral Mass will be at 2:00 PM Monday at Sacred Heart Catholic Church with burial at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

Laverne Kimzey, 79, died Saturday. Funeral Services will be at 2:00 PM Tuesday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.



Prayer to the Virgin Mary

Pray nine Hail Mary's during nine days with a lit candle and ask for three favors, one economic, two impossible and on the eighth day publish. On the ninth, let the candle be consumed. Even without faith they shall be fulfilled.

YM

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18006

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

Peng Peng a 'must-see' here Saturday

One of the most celebrated young pianists of our times will highlight a performance of the Big Spring Symphony Saturday evening at the Municipal Auditorium. You won't want to miss it.

Peng Peng, who was well-received in concert here in October 2004, returns at age 13 to play "Piano Concerto No. 20," among other pieces. It is all part of a special "Happy Birthday, Mozart" performance that is sure to please everyone.

Friday, Peng Peng will entertain students from Big Spring Independent School District at the auditorium. It's a special arrangement between the school district and Big Spring Symphony Association that offers students a unique, close-up look at performers and their music.

Tickets for Saturday's symphony are \$15 for adults, \$10 for senior citizens and \$5 for students and may be purchased at the *Big Spring Herald*, 710 Scurry; Blum's Jewelers in the mall; the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce at Third and Gregg; Faye's Flowers at 1013 Gregg; First Bank of West Texas at 1810 FM 700; and the Heritage Museum at 510 Scurry. Tickets can also be purchased at the auditorium, Third and Nolan, the night of the performance.

"Happy Birthday, Mozart," celebrating Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's 250th birthday, will be under the direction of Dr. Keith Graumann. It promises to be a wonderful experience. We hope to see you there.

YOUR VIEWS

Leave it alone, already

To THE EDITOR:
I sure hope T-P Rainroad and the Texas Highway Department are

tired of messing with N. Birdwell.

You know we have businesses out here and no one seems to care.

PAUL ALEXANDER
BIG SPRING

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@bigspringherald.com.
- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

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- 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

Enough already, with the distortions

When talk about the Democrats' conspicuous lack of a policy agenda as proof they are a party in decline. But I think there's even better evidence of the phenomenon: They habitually misrepresent what they stand for and what Republicans stand for, and constantly mischaracterize President Bush's actions.

If they had confidence in the salability of their ideas, would they need to play word games, resort to euphemisms, revise history, distort facts and repeat patently false charges? I long for the days when the worst you could expect from a liberal was the articulate but good-faith presentation of wrongheaded ideas. Today, the political exponents of liberalism reside predominantly in the Democratic Party, which — on the national level — is on the verge of intellectual and moral bankruptcy.

C... issue after issue, they dissemble — grossly and shamelessly. They aren't honest about their positions on abortion, the Iraq War, their criteria in confirming judges and "values" issues, to name a few. They must believe they can't afford to be.

Worse, they paint President Bush as a liar and miscreant at every opportunity. The most egregious example is their unconscionable charge that the president lied about Iraqi WMD. I honestly don't know how President Bush has been able to withstand the libels with such dignity and class, except for, in his words, "family, faith and friends."

Consider Hurricane Katrina. They couldn't be satisfied merely to criticize President Bush for failing to coordinate a multi-layered government response in New

Orleans, which, in my view, would have been unfair enough, given the obstacles he faced with state and local leaders. But they had to go further and accuse him of racism because of the hurricane's allegedly disproportionate impact on blacks, a presumption that was later discredited.

How about "torture?" When isolated incidents of abuse of enemy combatant terrorists were reported, they insisted on imputing the charges to Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, Vice President Dick Cheney and President Bush. It didn't matter a whit to them that the administration has not authorized illegal techniques in dealing with captured terrorists. What mattered was that this was an opportunity to taint them as sadistic ogres.

More recently, they've latched on to the administration's eavesdropping of Al Qaeda without a warrant, which they insist on misportraying as the president's "domestic spying program." They intend to leave the impression that the "power-mad" president has a perverse interest in monitoring private communications between innocent citizens.

Can someone please tell me what motive President Bush would have — other than laudably trying to prevent further terrorist attacks — to listen in on private citizen's phone calls? Can they produce just one innocent victim of the NSA surveillance program? Better yet, can anyone explain why the administration should need to demonstrate probable cause to listen in to a suspected terrorist's communications when time is of the essence? Do we really want to hamstring our intelligence agencies when going after the enemy in war — as opposed to pursuing suspected criminals for law enforcement purposes?

More importantly, does anyone really believe Democratic leaders oppose the blanket practice of monitoring Al Qaeda, and, if so,

why? Or are they just grandstanding, as usual, to score political points?

How about their deliberate attempts to smear Judge Sam Alito as unethical for not initially recusing himself in a case involving Vanguard, a company in which he owned an amount of stock whose value couldn't conceivably have been effected by the outcome of the case? Even after Alito's eminently credible explanation for sitting on the case, Sen. Ted Kennedy tirelessly repeated the charge, as if Alito had confessed to flagrant misconduct.

Also consider their hand wringing over President Bush's evil scheme to "pack the court" with judges who will conspire with him to emasculate Congress. The charge is almost too absurd to repeat in respectable circles. They know full well the president's fulfillment of his duty to appoint justices to the Supreme Court does not fall within the definition of "court packing," which was a term used to describe FDR's plan to wholly restructure the court to obtain a rubber-stamp majority. Then there's their deliberately misleading description of the president's court appointees as ideologues, when those appointees were chosen precisely because of their commitment to judicial restraint, a judicial philosophy that eschews "ideological" jurisprudence.

On the bright side, as a conservative, it is fairly comforting to realize that Democratic leaders do not have sufficient confidence in the popularity of their ideas to sustain a consistent position on Iraq or to present the truth to the people on a host of other issues. Until they reacquire that confidence, we can expect more negativity, hyperbole and scandal mongering, which is hardly a formula to win elections.

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DAVID LIMBAUGH

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Bush administration total disaster

Several great minds were asked to help think up interview questions for George W. Bush. I liked, "Are you the worst president since James Buchanan, or have you never heard of him?"

Sorry about the snarkiness quotient, but is there anything these folks can't screw up — and then refuse to own up to? Iraq is the most difficult to judge because it's so far away. I can find no indication — from hours of electricity available to amount of oil being pumped to number of dead people — that hints at any improvement. On the other hand, even though I don't think it's my job, I can't prove that pulling out won't make things worse. Judging the good news-bad news volume from Iraq took such an exceptional lurch to ludicrous, it's now difficult to even try to judge it with a straight face.

(For those of you who missed it: The Pentagon is now investigating itself to find out why it was paying American soldiers to write phony stories about how well things are going in Iraq and then paying a politically connected Republican public relations firm to in turn bribe Iraqi news outlets to run the phony stories. Presumably, this fooled a lot of Iraqis.)

In matters closer to home, however, it is not that hard to miss total disaster when you see it. The Medicare prescription drug benefit comes to mind. As governmental screw-ups go, it ranks up there with Katrina, which in turn is the latest in a parade of fiascos inspiring the administration to an impressive level of dishonesty. Following its usual m.o., the

administration's first step on Katrina was to clam up on all the information possible about how the government handled it. Why should a congressional committee have any right to question the Bush administration? Whom do they think they represent?

I couldn't even bring myself to snicker at poor Joe Lieberman, chair of the committee trying to find out what went wrong, as he forlornly announced a "near total lack of cooperation." Despite his record as a Bush toady, Lieberman couldn't get enough information to even start on the problem.

The committee had one interesting item — Bush had claimed that "no one anticipated" New Orleans would be leveled. Turns out they not only expected it, but the Department of Homeland Security sent an urgent warning to the White House situation room, saying Katrina will likely leave "the New Orleans metro area submerged for weeks or months."

Meanwhile, the White House informed Louisiana reps it would not be supporting legislation for a federally financed reconstruction program for the area, despite Bush's promise to make it the grandest reconstruction since the Marshall Plan.

Looking on the bright side, this may yet turn out to be a good thing, since a new audit of the federally financed reconstruction in Iraq indicates — well, a great deal left to be desired. That would be counting untold billions of dollars

wasted, millions left lying around in footlockers and filing cabinets, millions gambled away and — here's a note — three Iraqis who fell to their death in a repaired hospital elevator that had been certified as safe.

I also like the one about the contractor who got \$100,000 to refurbish an Olympic-sized swimming pool (clearly a high priority in war-torn Iraq) but only polished the pumps. Well, polished pumps are nice.

Governance in this administration is like Casey Stengel with the early Mets: "Doesn't anybody here know how to play this game?" But lest you think I do nothing but pick on the Bushies, let me devote some loving attention to the best Congress money can buy.

Last month, in a closed-door, Republican-only "conference committee" meeting, a \$22 billion change was inserted at the last minute.

The taxpayers were supposed to get \$26 billion in relief over 10 years by altering a formula for Medicare reimbursement. But lo, many insurance lobbyists for the HMOs knew about the committee meeting attended only by Republicans, who helpfully lowered the savings estimate of the formula to \$4 billion and handed the other \$22 billion back to the insurance industry.

We can certainly see how serious the Republicans are about "reform" — we can't wait to pay, er, hear more. One sign to look for would be if they stop calling it "lobby reform" and call it "congressional reform," instead.

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CARACA (AP) — C who gained fame when outside P Texas ran war protester

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Sheehan plans new protest at Bush's ranch, may run for office, she says

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — Cindy Sheehan, who gained international fame when she camped outside President Bush's Texas ranch in an anti-war protest, plans to pitch her tent again, Venezuela's president said Sunday as he urged activists worldwide to help bring down "the U.S. empire."

Hugo Chavez, an arm around Sheehan's shoulders, told a group of activists that she had told him "she is going to put up her tent again in front of Mr. Danger's ranch" in April.

In some of his strongest recent comments aimed at Washington, Chavez condemned the Bush administration and said his audience should work toward ending U.S. dominance.

"Enough already with the imperialist aggression!" Chavez said, listing countries from Panama to Iraq where the U.S. military has intervened. "Down with the U.S. empire! It must be said, in the entire world: Down with the empire!"

Chavez said Sheehan had invited him to join her April protest at Bush's Crawford, Texas,

ranch. Sheehan, whose 24-year-old soldier son Casey was killed in Iraq in 2004, held a vigil outside Bush's ranch during the president's vacation in August, attracting some 12,000 peace activists and reinvigorating the national anti-war movement.

"Maybe I'll put up my tent also," Chavez said, to applause from an audience invited to his weekly broadcast on the final day of the World Social Forum, an annual gathering of anti-war and anti-globalization activists.

Chavez said his government would help protest the war in Iraq by supporting a drive to gather petitions and delivering them to the U.S. Embassy in Caracas. Chavez, who before the war in Iraq had friendly relations with Saddam Hussein, has been a frequent and strident critic of the war.

Sheehan thanked Chavez for "supporting life and peace." She said earlier that she was impressed by his sincerity when they met privately on Saturday.

"He said, 'Why don't I run for president?'" she said. "I just laughed." Sheehan also noted that

singer and activist Harry Belafonte recently called Bush "the greatest terrorist in the world," and said, "I agree with him. George Bush is responsible for killing tens of thousands of innocent people."

Sheehan, who lives in Berkeley, Calif., said Saturday that she is strongly considering challenging Democratic Sen. Dianne Feinstein of California because the lawmaker will not support calls to immediately bring the troops home.

Sheehan, 48, who was visiting Venezuela for the six-day forum, said running in the Democratic primary in June would help "bring attention to all the peace candidates in the country." She said she will decide whether to run after talking with her three adult children in California.

Feinstein's campaign manager, Kam Kuwata, said the senator did not support Bush and felt she had been misled by his administration. But with troops committed, Feinstein believes immediate withdrawal is unworkable, he said.

"Senator Feinstein's position is, 'Let's work

toward quickly turning over the defense of Iraq to Iraqis so that we can bring the troops home as soon as possible,'" Kuwata said in an interview Saturday.

Also joining Chavez on Sunday was Elma Beatriz Rosado, the widow of slain Puerto Rican nationalist Filiberto Ojeda Rios. Holding back tears as she stood at Chavez's side, Rosado accused the United States of killing her husband, a 72-year-old militant independence activist.

Rios was slain in a September FBI raid on a Puerto Rican farmhouse where he was living in hiding while being wanted for the 1983 robbery of \$7.2 million from a Wells Fargo armored truck depot in Connecticut — funds intended for the independence cause.

"They murdered him," Chavez said. "Viva Filiberto!... Let's follow his example."

Co-anchor Woodruff, cameraman seriously injured in Iraq explosion

NEW YORK (AP) — Surgeons removed shrapnel from ABC News anchor Bob Woodruff's head and neck, a family friend said Monday, and a hospital official said body armor likely saved the journalist's life.

Woodruff and cameraman Doug Vogt were seriously injured when a roadside bomb exploded Sunday while they standing in the open hatch of an Iraqi military vehicle. They underwent surgery in Iraq, then were flown to a U.S. military base in Germany for further treatment.

"They're both very seriously injured, but stable," said Col. Bryan Gamble, commander of the Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in western Germany. He said both men were heavily sedated and under the care of the hospital's trauma team.

Their body armor likely saved them, "otherwise these would have been fatal wounds," Gamble said.

Woodruff, the new co-

anchor of "World News Tonight," had serious head wounds and broken bones, and Vogt also suffered head injuries, ABC News said. The network said the mens' wives were at the hospital and talking with doctors Monday.

Former "NBC Nightly News" anchor Tom Brokaw said Monday that he had spoken with Woodruff's wife, Lee, and said the family told him they had received "some encouraging news."

"The doctors had told them once they arrived that the brain swelling had gone down. In Bob's case, that had been a big concern. Yesterday they had to operate and remove part of the skull cap to relieve some of the swelling," Brokaw said on NBC's "Today" show.

The family also learned some details about the explosion from people who were there, Brokaw said.

"Immediately after the explosion he turned to his producer and said 'Am I alive?'"

National, world briefs

Four kidnapped oil workers freed in Nigeria

YENAGOA, Nigeria (AP) — Four foreign oil workers held hostage by a militia in southern Nigeria for more than two weeks were released Monday, a regional government spokesman said. "They have been released," said Ekiyor Welson, spokesman for the regional Bayelsa state government. "They are now with the governor," he added.

Welson said the four men — an American, a Briton, a Bulgarian and a Honduran — were currently at the state government headquarters. No further details were immediately available.

The oil workers were captured by armed gunmen at a Shell offshore oil rig on Jan. 11.

Palestinian gunmen take over EU office

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP) — Masked gunmen on Monday briefly took over a European Union office to protest a Danish newspaper's publication of cartoons deemed insulting to Islam's Prophet Muhammad, the latest in a wave of violent denunciations of the caricatures across the Islamic world.

The gunmen demanded an apology from Denmark and Norway, and said citizens of the two countries would be prevented from entering the Gaza Strip.

"We are calling on the citizens of the two countries to take this threat seriously because our cells are ready to implement this all over Gaza," one militant said.

The 12 drawings — published in

September by the Danish newspaper Jyllands-Posten and republished in a Norwegian paper this month — included an image of the prophet wearing a turban shaped as a bomb with a burning fuse. Islamic tradition bars any depiction of the prophet, even respectful ones, out of concern that such images could lead to idolatry.

The cartoons have touched off protests, flag burnings and boycotts of Danish products.

throughout the Muslim world. On Sunday, Palestinian protesters burned Danish flags in two West Bank towns.

Jury selection to begin in Enron trial

HOUSTON (AP) — Fair or not, Enron Corp. founder Kenneth Lay and former CEO Jeffrey Skilling are used to being called crooks and liars in the aftermath of the scandal-ridden implosion of the company they once ran. What counts is whether a dozen people chosen as jurors in their fraud and conspiracy case agree.

More than 100 potential jurors were slated to pack a cavernous federal courtroom in Houston Monday for the opening of biggest criminal trial to emerge from the most sprawling corporate scandal in recent years.

"If we get 12 people who haven't made up their minds, we like our chances," Daniel Petrocelli, Skilling's lead trial lawyer, said after a flurry of failed defense efforts to move the trial elsewhere to escape a potentially hostile jury pool.

Michael Ramsey, Lay's lead lawyer, was less optimistic, calling Houston a "bad venue to try to pick a jury."

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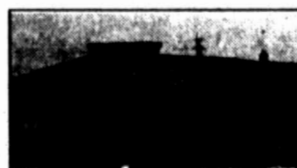
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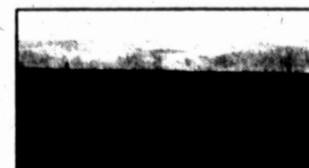
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Back on their feet

Through new therapy, some partially paralyzed patients approach walking

By MICHAEL PRECKER

The Dallas Morning News

DALLAS — It takes a body harness, a sophisticated exoskeleton and a quarter-million-dollar treadmill, but Albert Pruitt walks.

Pruitt, who has been partially paralyzed since 1976, is taking small steps, literally and figuratively, at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center's Spinal Cord Injury Lab.

"It's almost like having a sense of freedom," says Pruitt, 44, who works for a software design company in Dallas. "It makes me feel better all around. Just feeling the sensation of walking is such a confidence-builder."

But that's not all. New research at UT Southwestern shows that the exercise can help regenerate the message system between the legs and the brain.

"We saw improvement in the cerebellum, the part of the brain that plays an important role in motor functions," says Dr. Patricia Winchester, professor of physical therapy at the medical center. "This suggests the cerebellum has an important role in the recovery of walking."

Winchester, who led the study published in the December issue of the journal *Neurorehabilitation and Neural Repair*, is careful not to promise miracles.

In the case of a spinal cord injury where nothing is transmitted to the brain, nothing can help. For spinal cord injuries where patients may have some sensation and movement below the spot of the injury, any progress is usually slow and incremental.

But in a study of four patients suffering from partial paralysis, three showed improvement. Each received a functional magnetic resonance imaging, known as fMRI, to assess brain function, before beginning therapy on a robotic treadmill called the Lokomat.

After three one-hour sessions a week for three months, they underwent another fMRI.

For three of the patients, Winchester said, improved function, such as more mobility



Kye R. Lee/Dallas Morning News/KRT
Albert Pruitt, who suffered a spinal cord injury 28 years ago, has been making progress with the Lokomat, a robotic treadmill that helps people with spinal cord injuries regain function.

and the ability to support more of their own weight, was mirrored by more activity in the cerebellum.

"We think the therapy helps to rewire the brain and learn how to regain function," she said.

One of the patients in the study was David Cunniff, the Dallas man who was severely beaten in July 2004 by several men in a nightclub. Despite initial fears he would be paralyzed, Cunniff progressed to the stage where he can walk with a single-point cane.

"He did much better than we expected," Winchester says.

For Pruitt, who is involved in an ongoing follow-up study, the changes have not been so dra-

matic. It's just another milestone in a journey he will never abandon.

"You're not going to wake up one morning and suddenly everything is better," he says. "It's something I have to work toward continually."

He has backed that up for 29 years.

At 15, Pruitt was severely injured in a motorcycle accident in his hometown of Ardmore, Okla. He spent three months in a rehabilitation hospital and came home in a body cast. With a spinal cord injury between his 11th and 12th vertebrae, he had some sensation in his legs but almost no motor control.

"They told me everything I

can't do," he says. "You'll never walk again, you'll never father kids. I kind of took the attitude of trying to prove everyone wrong."

His parents, who ran a cafe in Ardmore, set up parallel bars in the house to build up his arms and rigged up a stationary bike to exercise his legs, with his dad turning the pedals. He preferred crawling around the house to using a wheelchair.

"I just always stayed active and tried to do as much as I could," Pruitt says. "My idea was that when new techniques came around, I wanted to be able to take advantage of them."

The path wasn't always smooth. He dropped out of high school, married young ("We took off in a '73 Monte Carlo with hand controls") and had two sons. But he got his GED, took drafting courses and studied computer design in college.

Then Pruitt was recruited by Texas Instruments, which brought him to Dallas in 1982. He got around on crutches, swinging his legs in tandem, and swam and stretched for exercise.

Busy with work and family, he didn't bother with formal therapy.

"I lived an active life, but maybe I got kind of lazy," he says.

That changed in 1995, when he was spraying fire ants around his Garland home. He hooked his foot between rocks, fell and broke his tibia and fibula, the two bones in the lower leg.

Doctors sent him to Winchester, who started him on a device called Parastep. The system combines crutches, leg braces and electrical stimulation to enable some paraplegics to stand and walk.

"I can do a reciprocal gait, which means putting one leg in front of the other," he says.

The system was too bulky and time-consuming to use in daily life, Pruitt says, but the exercise helped his muscle tone and flexibility.

The connection to the clinic took him in another direction.

"I'd never even bought a wheelchair, till somebody said you ought to play basketball," he says.

That led to a couple of seasons on a wheelchair basketball team, as well as hydrofoiling (a form of water skiing where you sit on a chair), snow skiing and scuba diving.

"They really got me involved in sports," he says. "It opened up a whole new world."

Winchester says her goals extend beyond research. "We want people to have as full a life as possible," she says. "Being in a wheelchair doesn't preclude that. Albert really took advantage of it a lot."

After the initial research that was published last month, Winchester added two dozen people to an ongoing study that should last about two years.

Among other things, she hopes to amass data to pinpoint areas of the brain that can be affected by the exercise, and find ways to predict which people can benefit most.

"But new questions always arise, and we'll probably go off in another direction," she says.

Three days a week, Pruitt slips on a body harness and is lowered onto the robotic treadmill. The contraptions on his legs mimic a normal walking motion, while computer screens show how much of the work his legs are doing and how much weight he can support.

"I can definitely see improvement," he says. "It's really helped my stamina and my cardio ability. I notice a lightness on my feet and a little better movement in my legs. It's not magic, but it's a ray of hope."

Pruitt says he's never stopped hoping he'll walk again on his own, but he's also realistic.

With the current state of science and technology, Winchester says, his injuries are too severe and too much time has gone by to expect a full recovery.

Another part of Pruitt's dream is to retire early and go back to school to work on the genetic side of spinal-cord research.

But none of his dreams cloud his appreciation of what the day brings.

"I don't wake up in the morning and say, 'I'll never be better,'" he says. "I wake up and say, 'Thank goodness I'm breathing.'"

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BSHS sends 14 swimmers to regional meet

By TROY HYDE
Sports Editor

Led by sophomore Lauren Sage, the Hughey brothers and senior Daniel Pike, the Big Spring swim team sent 14 swimmers to the regional meet during the District 4-4A contest at the Big Spring YMCA this past Friday and Saturday.

Of the 14 swimmers, eight will swim at regionals in the maximum four events. The Big Spring girl's team took fourth overall behind Andrews, Pecos and Monahans, while the boy's took third, trailing Pecos and Andrews.

The lone winner at the district meet this week-



SAGE

end was Sage, who came in first place in the 100-yard butterfly as she hit the wall in 1:09.54. Sage also qualified in the 200-yard Individual Medley (IM) as she took second and will also swim at regionals in two relays — the 200-yard medley relay and the 200-yard freestyle relay.

The Hughey brothers — Ryan and Cameron — each finished second and third twice. Both will be a part of two regional relay teams as Big Spring will swim in the 200- and 400-

yard freestyle relays. Andrews came in just two seconds faster in the 200-yard freestyle relay.

Ryan Hughey, a junior, also qualified in the 200-yard IM (third) and the 100-yard backstroke (second), while Cameron Hughey, a freshman, will compete at regionals in both the 50- and 100-yard freestyle as he finished third in each event.

Another teammate of the Hughey brothers in the 200- and 400-yard freestyle relay event will be Pike. He also qualified for regionals in the 200- and 500-yard freestyle, where he placed fourth and fifth, respectively. Also qualifying in four



R. HUGHEY

events was sophomore Ashley Oliver, junior Amber Sleight, senior Kasey Pointon and senior Steven Lucas. Lucas is the fourth boy's member of the two freestyle relays and will also participate with Cameron Hughey in both the 50- and 100-yard freestyle as he took five and fourth, respectively.

Sleight and senior Anita Guette will be paired with Sage in the 200 medley relay and 200 freestyle relay as the girls took

fourth in each event. Pointon is the fourth member of the medley relay team, while the fourth member of the 200-yard freestyle relay team is Oliver.

Sleight qualified individually in the 200-yard IM (fourth) and the 100-yard breaststroke (fifth), while Pointon qualified for regionals in the 200-yard freestyle (sixth), 500-yard freestyle (fifth) and 400-yard freestyle relay (fifth).

Besides the 200-yard freestyle relay, Oliver will also be taking part in the 400-yard freestyle relay and both freestyle indi-

See SWIM, Page 2B



Howard College sophomore Richard Forbes, middle top, gets fouled on his way to the basket during the Hawks' 12-point win Thursday on the road against Odessa. The top-ranked Hawks host rival South Plains tonight at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. Both teams are 4-0 in conference play.

Howard attempts to 'pack house' for WJCAC battle

By TROY HYDE
Sports Editor

Howard College would like to "pack the house" tonight at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum as both Howard basketball teams play host to Western Junior College Athletic Conference rival South Plains.

The school is asking everyone to wear red and doing so will get you a free ticket to watch the game. The women tipoff at 5:50 p.m., while the top-ranked Hawks begin around 7:50 p.m.

The men are battling for first place as South Plains, like the Hawks, carries a 4-0 WJCAC record into the game.

The Plainsman are 17-3 overall and are coming off a win at Clarendon. South Plains is led by one of the conference's best scorers in Steve Harley and Tavon Nelson, who is second on the team in scoring and the top rebounder.

The Hawks will play against South Plains

without two players. Louis Rodgers is continuing to serve out his indefinite suspension, while Herve Banogle will also miss the game after being ejected out of the last game against Odessa College Thursday for picking up

See HOWARD, Page 2B

WJCAC Standings

Women			Men		
Odessa	4-0	19-0	Howard	4-0	20-0
Midland	3-1	18-4	South Plains	4-0	17-3
Clarendon	2-2	10-12	Midland	3-1	17-3
South Plains	1-2	14-4	Clarendon	2-2	11-8
Frank Phillips	1-2	13-6	Odessa	1-3	13-7
New Mexico	1-2	10-8	Frank Phillips	1-3	12-8
Howard	0-3	6-15	New Mexico	1-3	11-9
			NMMI	0-4	4-14

Forsan JV splits against rival Wink

By JEFF LANE
Special to the Herald

WINK — The Forsan JV boys and girls teams were in action Friday night, both out of town and taking on Wink.

The Buffs ran their record to 15-1 as they took care of business against the Wildcats, winning 42-29. The ladies dropped their match with the

Lady Cats, 55-24.

Jeremy Robbins led the Buffs with 12 points and Nathan Ackerson finished with 10 as Forsan led the entire game.

Forsan JV boy's coach Brad Batla said the Buffs were not at their best, but except for a small second-quarter run, controlled the game well.

The Lady Buffs had

their hands full as Bristen Creech, dropping down from Wink's varsity team, exploded for 27 points.

Sandi Golleher led the ladies with 12 points, but they were never able to establish themselves, falling behind early.

Both squads will host McCamey Tuesday at 4:45 p.m.

Federer wins third straight major title

• World's No. 1 wins seventh major overall

By JOHN PYE
AP Sports Writer

MELBOURNE, Australia — Always in control on the court, Roger Federer was overcome with emotion while accepting his Australian Open trophy from one of the few people he's still trying to match.

The top-ranked Federer fulfilled overwhelming expectations by beating unlikely finalist Marcos Baghdatis 5-7, 7-5, 6-0, 6-2 in Sunday's final to claim his seventh Grand Slam title and third in succession.

He tearfully embraced tennis great Rod Laver while receiving his trophy. Laver twice swept the Grand Slams, a feat Federer will try to emulate this season — if he finally can win a French Open.

Federer wept and was stuck for words at the award presentation.

"I was so happy," he said. "Then I had to go up on stage and speak. This is really too much for me sometimes. It's just a dream come true every time I win a Grand Slam. I can't block it out — I'm also just human."

Federer maintained his perfect record in seven major finals. And, at 24, he's halfway toward Pete Sampras' all-time record of 14 Grand Slam titles. Sampras also was 24 when he won his seventh.

Federer, who is the first since Sampras to win three consecutive majors, said he was unusually nervous as an overwhelming favorite against the 54th-ranked Cypriot, a former junior world champion.

"The whole fact of being such a huge favorite. And if I lose, a huge upset since I don't know when," Federer said. "The whole thing was building up and waiting all day for the night session — that is nerve-racking on top of it. It was really tough for me mentally."

An 11-game winning streak from 5-5 in the second set eased Federer's nerves and took the match away from Baghdatis, who said his problems started when he began to think a huge upset was within reach.

Baghdatis' raucous fans, who grew in number as he ousted second-seeded Andy Roddick, No. 4 David Nalbandian and two other seeded players in the tournament, chanted between points.

Dressed as if for a soccer match, they waved flags, cheered and whistled to the end.

"I wanted to continue being aggressive ... not to give Federer time to play his game," Baghdatis said. "Maybe I was a bit scared of him. Maybe I didn't really believe it. Things were happening so fast."

Federer acknowledged being concerned about a massive upset after falling a set and a break behind.

"I was struggling so much to hold my serve ... I was sweating like crazy," he said. "I thought, 'Well, if this is going to continue, I'll probably lose and (only) a miracle is going to save me.'"

Baghdatis had three game points at 5-6 to force a tiebreaker in the second, but Federer rallied to break on a Baghdatis forehand that was ruled just long.

Federer then lifted his level of play, winning 27 of the 37 points in the third set to take control.

Baghdatis had cramps in his left calf in the fourth set, and treatment didn't help. He later said they probably were due to nerves.

Federer set up match point with a forehand crosscourt, his 50th winner, and sealed the 2 3/4-hour victory when Baghdatis netted a backhand.

Federer's next career goal is a French Open title. A win at Roland Garros would give him four consecutive majors across two seasons, and he'd be halfway to a proper Grand Slam — last accomplished by Laver in 1969.

"Absolutely, there's some pressure there. I feel it already," Federer said.

Laver twice won all four majors in one season — the first time before turning pro in 1962.

Federer's seven major titles tie him with eight other players — including John McEnroe, John Newcombe and Mats Wilander — and leave him one behind Andre Agassi, Jimmy Connors, Ivan Lendl, Fred Perry and Ken Rosewall.

He passed childhood heroes Boris Becker and Stefan Edberg, who had six apiece.

"I left my idols behind me now. That means something, I'm very pleased," he said. "But

See FEDERER, Page 2B

HOWARD

Continued from Page 1B

a flagrant foul. Expect freshman Phil Murphy to start the game for Howard. Freshman Bougari Konate started for Rodgers Thursday, but picked up a technical foul against the Wranglers and may start the game on the bench.

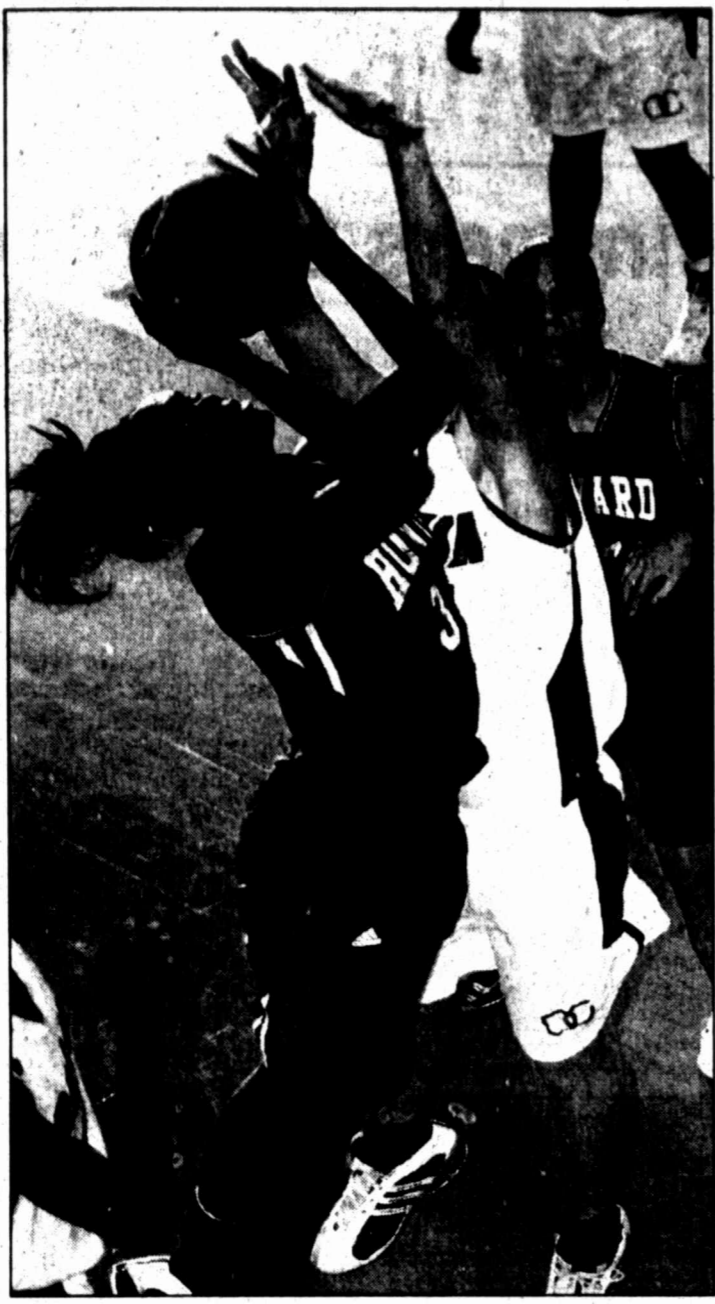
Howard (20-0) will have to rely even more on solid play from sophomores Charles Burgess and Dezmon Harris and must have a good shooting night from freshman Benny Valentine if it wants to keep their winning streak and top ranking alive.

The Hawk women are coming off a disappointing loss to No. 3 Odessa Thursday in which they committed 27 turnovers and couldn't get going offensively in the second half.

Howard (6-15) is looking for its first win in league play and freshman Chanel Jones-Delas will return to the lineup after missing Thursday night's game due to what head coach Earl Diddle said "not going to class."

Freshman Tomisha Martin will not play as she has been indefinitely suspended until further notice for conduct detrimental to team.

South Plains enters the game with a 14-4 record, but is coming off an 11-point road loss to Clarendon, a team which Howard defeated earlier this season. The Lady Plainsman are led by Dominic Seals, the team's leading scorer and rebounder. Fallon Thomas and Alana



HERALD photo/Troy Hyde
Howard sophomore Latoya Fairley, left, goes up strong inside against a defender from No. 3 Odessa College. Fairley and the Hawk women hosts South Plains tonight at 5:50 p.m. at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

Rumph. Seals averages 19 points per game and scored 16 against Howard earlier this season.

The Hawk women had 32 turnovers against No. 25 South Plains in the first meeting.

Howard trailed 42-39 with 3:13 to play in the game before turning it over seven times after

that. South Plains, which is 1-2 in WJAC play, closed out the game on an 8-0 run.

"If we take care of the ball and limit their second shots we should be fine," said Howard assistant coach Eric Rodewald. "South Plains also likes to run the floor so we'll have to transition on defense."

Texas stockpiled talent, just not at quarterback position

By JIM VERTUNO

AP Sports Writer

AUSTIN — This is the time of year few college football coaches can compete with Texas' Mack Brown.

Long before winning a national championship on the field, he built a reputation as a master recruiter who could lure almost any player he wanted to Austin.

But years of stockpiling talent still leaves Brown with a startling lack of depth at quarterback that will force Texas to defend its title with an untested freshman.

How does that happen?

Two reasons: For all his charm and savvy in signing high school all-stars and all-Americans, Brown suffered a two-year drought at quarterback. Then, Vince Young decided to leave school early for the NFL.

When Brown signs his 2006 class Wednesday — another bumper crop of prep talent — it will include Stephenville's Jevan Snead, one of highest-rated QBs in the country.

Snead has already enrolled in classes. Starting with spring drills next month, he'll compete with redshirt freshman Colt McCoy for the starting role.

Another quarterback, Sherrod Harris of Arlington Bowie High School, is also expected to sign with Texas, although he won't join the team until the summer.

"Big and strong. He's a winner," is how Brown describes Snead. "Colt is a guy who is very athletic and a very accurate passer."

The irony is the player who had biggest role in winning Brown's first Big 12 and national titles is also a big reason why

Texas might not defend them.

Young was the top recruit in the country when he signed with Texas in 2002. He red-shirted his first season and told his coaches he planned to stay through 2006. That likely scared off some recruits in 2003 and 2004, Brown said.

"Vince was such an intimidating guy at that position," Brown said. "A lot of guys didn't want to come and sit behind him for that long."

Texas didn't sign a quarterback in 2003 or 2004. Not for lack of trying.

While the position was not a big priority in 2003, Texas pushed hard for Rhett Bomar in 2004, only to lose out to rival Oklahoma.

Having missed there, the Longhorns were too late getting into the race for other top in-state recruits such as Stephen McGee (Texas A&M) and Bobby Reid (Oklahoma State).

A last-minute push in Florida for Xavier Lee (Florida State) also didn't work, said Jeff Ketchum, recruiting analyst for Rivals.com.

"It was one of the few times in Mack's tenure that Texas dropped the ball and then got led on a wild goose chase," Ketchum said.

Last year, the Longhorns pushed hard for Ryan Perrilloux of Reserve, La., one of the highest-rated players in the country. Perrilloux orally committed to Texas, then switched at the last minute to sign with Louisiana State.

Both Lee and Perrilloux might have been better off signing with Texas. Florida State's Drew Weatherford set an Atlantic Coast Conference

freshman passing record last season. Perrilloux is stuck behind a couple of upper classmen at LSU.

Had either signed with Texas, they'd have a chance to take over a team with 20-game winning streak and 15 returning starters.

Like all good recruiters, Brown keeps his eyes on the future. He wanted to sign a quarterback in 2003 or 2004 to give him time to nurture Young's replacement.

But Brown says he won't offer a scholarship to a marginal player just as an insurance policy.

"We sure didn't want to take an average quarterback just to get one," Brown said. "A quarterback without talent is not going to be able to win all the games."

Despite losing out on Perrilloux, the Longhorns snagged McCoy, who posted some of top career passing marks in Texas high school history at Class 2A Jim Ned High School in Tuscola.

McCoy was 34-2 as starter and his 9,344 yards and 116 touchdowns rank fourth and second, respectively, in any class in state history.

He spent last season running plays against the Longhorns' first-team defense. He also sometimes ran the No. 2 offense in practice.

Snead originally committed to Florida, then switched to Texas, a recruiting coup that came at a critical time, said Ketchum, the recruiting analyst.

"Three years and they had signed only one body. Then Vince Young turns pro early," Ketchum said. "Had they not gotten Snead, they'd be going into this spring with only one scholarship quarterback."

Wade leads Heat past Houston

By CHRIS DUNCAN

AP Sports Writer

HOUSTON — Dwyane Wade had 32 points and nine assists to lead the Miami Heat to a 101-95 win over the Houston Rockets Sunday.

Shaquille O'Neal added 24 points and 14 rebounds for the Heat, who've won eight of their last 11. O'Neal also hit a season-high 12 free throws, although he missed five of his last six attempts.

Tracy McGrady scored 37 points, grabbed 12 rebounds and had six assists for the Rockets, who dropped to 4-15 at the Toyota Center. Rafer Alston added 26 points, but had only 10 points after a 12-point second quarter.

The Rockets got off to a typically bad start at home, trailing by as

many as 11 in the opening 10 minutes.

McGrady missed four of his first five shots and quickly shed the plastic facemask he's worn since Charlotte's Jake Voskuhl elbowed him in the nose Wednesday.

Houston trailed 23-16 heading to the second quarter, the 12th time the Rockets have trailed after one period in 19 home games.

Antoine Walker had a jumper, a 3-pointer and a driving layup early in the second as Miami pushed the lead to 13.

But with the Heat's defense preoccupied with McGrady, Alston got open and sparked a Houston rally. Alston hit four of five 3-pointers and scored 16 points in the first half, helping the Rockets cut the lead to 45-41 at half-

time.

The Heat opened the second half by attacking inside, exploiting the absence of 7-foot-6 Yao Ming, who missed his 21st game since undergoing toe surgery on Dec. 19. Yao is expected back this week, but missed the chance to face the 7-1 O'Neal on the first day of the Chinese New Year.

With 39-year-old Dikembe Mutombo, struggling to guard him, O'Neal had two dunks and sank four free throws during a 10-2 Heat run.

O'Neal hit 11 of his first 12 free-throw attempts, including 10 in a row.

The Heat outscored Houston 33-20 in the third quarter. McGrady sank two deep 3-pointers in the final 30 seconds, but finished 4-of-15 from 3-point range.

FEDERER

Continued from Page 1B

they're still my heroes from back in the day,

Becker and Edberg."

Sampras won his seventh major in his 22nd try. Federer was playing in his 27th. Their birthdays are four days apart, and they won their sev-

enth Grand Slam titles at the same age.

"It's quite scary if I compare it," Federer said. "I'm on the same road, but I've got to maintain it."

SWIM

Continued from Page 1B

vidual events at regionals. She finished third in the 500-yard freestyle and grabbed fifth in the 200-yard freestyle, but held third after the preliminaries Friday.

Guette also swam in the 50-yard freestyle, but did not qualify (top six in each event) after finishing ninth.

Senior Tawna Mills is the fourth member of the 400-yard freestyle relay team. She also took part in the 50-yard freestyle at the district meet, but did not qualify after coming in 14th.

Antonette Tubera participated, but did not

qualify, in both freestyle events. She placed 10th in the 200- and 100-yard events.

The final four members to advance to regionals after this weekend was

Daniel Budke, Daniel Shanahan, A. J. Ritchey and Deshae Green. The foursome clinched a spot at

regionals together in the 200-yard medley relay after finishing fourth. Ritchey qualified individually, as well, after taking sixth in the 100-yard backstroke. Shanahan placed ninth in the 100 butterfly and Budke participated in

the 200 freestyle, but neither was able to qualify for regionals in either event.

Ryan Hughey and Pike hope to return to state this year after each took part in a relay event last season in Austin.

Sage's best shot at state should come in the 100 butterfly as she was way ahead of the competition at the district meet.

The meet in Big Spring this past weekend was delayed more than two hours Saturday due to troubles with the horn which starts the races.

The regional meet will take place in Lubbock at Texas Tech University Feb. 9-11.

The state meet in Austin will be held Feb. 24-25.



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HazMat Tanker Endorsement Home Daily, 5 on, 2 off schedule. Steady Paycheck, Strong Customer Base. \$500 Cash bonus for exp. gas haulers. Will train qualified driver w/hazmat. On Board Dispatch & E-log. Well-maintained low mileage equipment. Apply at FST, 1003 West Co. Rd South, Odessa. Or call (432)617-1100 X-404.

HIRING HEAVY Equipment Operators - dozer, backhoe, and blade - MUST HAVE VALID DRIVER'S LICENSE. Call (432)267-6006.

Help Wanted

IF YOU enjoy a teamwork approach to nursing & have a passion to ensure high quality care to the elderly, we want to meet you!
Parkview Nursing & Rehabilitation. Now Hiring for Charge Nurse Position. Please apply in person at 3200 Parkway.

JOB FAIR
Tuesday, January 31, 2006
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Kelly Services @
Stoneville Seed Plant
4701 North Hwy. 87
Big Spring, Texas
Seeking: Forklift drivers, baggers and quality assurance personnel.
* Immediate employment
* Pass drug test
* Serious candidates should apply
Never an applicant fee.
Equal Opportunity Employer

MAINTENANCE POSITION AVAILABLE
The Colorado River Municipal Water District has an opening for a Maintenance Worker for the Lake Thomas area. A CDL license and mechanical experience are helpful. District benefits include paid vacation and holidays, sick leave, retirement plan, and group insurance. The District is an equal opportunity employer.
Applications are required to be considered for employment and are available at the District's office, 400 East 24th Street, Big Spring, Texas.

Help Wanted

MARTIN CO. Hospital Home Health is looking for a full-time RN and a PRN to join their energetic staff. Must be willing to travel to surrounding areas. Bilingual preferred and salary DOE. Interested parties may call Allison @ (432)756-3259 or fax resume to (432)756-4510.

MIDWESTERN SERVICES, Inc.
Tank Cleaners needed. In & out of state travel & work 60+ hrs. per week. Transportation to and from job site. Hotel paid & \$175 a week per diem. Hourly wage & bonuses. 100% drug free. EOE. Apply at 749 South County Rd. 221, Snyder, Texas.

NATIONAL GREETING CARD Company needs part-time Greeting Card Clerk. For the Big Spring Area. Must have on phone and transportation. Respond to agmechandise@yahoo.com or PO. Box 52543, Midland, TX 79705.

NEED RECEPTIONIST with general office duties. Full time, benefits. Call (432)354-2569 for appointment.

NEEDED CLASS A or B CDL Driver will be driving Pole Truck. Will train for position. Call (432)267-6006 or come by 1807 N. FM 700 for an application.

P/T MOBILE Home Inspector Internet access and digital Camera required. Fax name, phone number, e-mail address, city and state to (770)345-9287.

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\$1.89 Per Day; 6-Month Contract \$1.58 Per Day

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More than 20 years of experience. Stump grinder available. For Tree Trimming and Removal.
Call Lupe Villalpando 432-268-6406

Help Wanted

NOW ACCEPTING applications for:

- 1. RN - Mitchell County Hospital 7AM to 7PM
2. CNA - Mitchell County Hospital 7 PM to 7 AM
3. LVN - Wallace Prison Medical Clinic - 3PM to 11PM
4. Cook - Dietary Department at Mitchell County Hospital.
These are full time positions with benefits. Contact Human Resources at (325)728-3431, ext 7105

NURSING OPPORTUNITIES

Earn up to \$5,018 per month (DOE) All Shifts Flexible Schedules Flexible Shifts Full Time/Part Time Positions Our benefit package includes: Paid Vacation, Sick Leave, Holidays, Insurance, Retirement and Nursing Educational Stipends.

Contact our Job Center (432)268-7341 or 268-7298 Big Spring State Hospital 1901 North Highway 87 Big Spring, TX 79720

PARKVIEW NURSING & Rehabilitation Now Hiring for CNA position. 2pm-10pm Shift. Please apply at Parkview Nursing & Rehabilitation, 3200 Parkway.

PART-TIME or FULL-TIME RN or LVN position available with growing home health agency. Will train. Great opportunity for advancement. Send resume: c/o P.O. Box 1431/136, Big Spring, TX 79721-1431.

PEDIATRIC OFFICE Receptionist. Friendly. Excellent phone and communication skills. Good knowledge of computers. Submit resume: P.O. Box 1654, Big Spring, TX 79721.

SEA CONTAINERS now in stock - great for storing cotton tarps 20ft and 40ft available local company. Call (432)267-6006.

WESTSIDE DAY Care needs (2) FT Workers. Call (432)263-7841 for more information. Must be 18 yrs, GED/Diploma, 1 year DC experience, Child Development a plus.

ATTENTION

THE BIG SPRING HERALD APPRECIATES YOUR BUSINESS Here are some helpful tips and information that will help you when placing your ad. After your ad has been published the first day we suggest you check the ad for mistakes and if errors have been made we will gladly correct the ad and run it again for you at no additional charge. If your ad is inadvertently not printed advance payment will cheerfully be refunded and the newspaper's liability will be for only the amount received for publication of the advertisement. We reserve the right to edit or reject any ad for publication that does not meet our standards of acceptance.

Help Wanted

WAITRESSES NEEDED

Also Dishwasher Split Shift Must be 18 Monday-Saturday Apply in person, Red Mesa Grill 2401 Gregg

Instructional

PIANO & VOICE LESSONS

Beginners through Advance. 2607 Rebecca. Call (432)263-3367

Items for Sale

HD SPORTSTER M/C 2003 \$6500, 2 Canoes and trailer \$500 for each, 20 HP Tractor with front loader, 3000 implements - JD single seeder, cultivator, mold board plow, grader blade, box blade, heavy duty 5' disc, 3-bladed plow. Call (432)466-0485.

KITCHEN CABINETS w/matching utility cabinets, stainless steel sink. Fireplace-Electric. Bath room vanity, sink and 1995 Toyota Avalon (Grey) with sun roof. Call (432)393-5279, 393-5712.

Jobs Wanted

EXPERIENCED SITTING with excellent references desires caregiving position with elderly or infirmed. Willing to work nights and weekends. Call (432)213-5953.

Miscellaneous

\$195. QUEEN PILLOW-TOP Set. New, NEVER used, full factory warranty. Call (806)549-3110.

FREE PALLET. Good for do it yourself wood projects. Pick up behind the Big Spring Herald's office at 710 Scurry.

National Ads

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ARE YOU making \$1,710 per week? All cash vending routes with prime locations available now! Under \$9,000 investment required. Call Toll Free (24-7) 800-276-6903.

BANK FORECLOSURES! Homes from \$10,000! Reps, REOs, etc. These homes must sell! For Listings Call 1-800-298-1768 ext. 3011.

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CONSOLIDATE BILLS/LOANS. Bad Credit Welcome. From \$3,000 - \$150,000. 8% APR. Save Money Now. 1-800-966-7458.

DRIVERS - A earn as you learn career! England Transport offers on the job CDL training. No credit check, no co-signers. No down payment Toll Free 1-866-619-6081.

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\$500 POLICE Impounds! Tax Reps, US Marshall sales! Also Trucks, SUV's, and more! For Listings Call 1-800-425-1730 ext. 1012.

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BLOWN HEAD GASKET? Repair yourself for under \$100.00. State of the art 2-part carbon metallic chemical process. 100% GUARANTEED. 1-866-780-9041.

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EARN EXTRA income assembling CD cases from home. 1-800-267-3944 Ext. 117 www.easywork-greatpay.com

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Cable TV Free! Playground No Water Bill Paragon Security 24 Hour Laundry On-Site Mgr. & Maint Family Friendly 2 BR \$285 1 BR \$185 Call Rhonda (432)263-2292

104 WEST 13TH. Between Main & Scurry. 1 Bedroom, 1 bath, carpet. \$250. month, \$200. deposit. Call Pierce Group at (432)264-6611.

Real Estate for Rent

Knollwood Heights Apartments

1900 Martin Luther King Blvd. (432) 264-1735

Now Leasing! Brand New 1, 2 & 3 Bdr. Apts \$385 - \$520 monthly New Appliances & Full Size Washer & Dryer in Apartments On Site Maintenance Swimming Pool Fitness Room 2 Playgrounds HUD Accepted

1208 BLACKMON. 2 Bedroom, 1 bath, \$300. month, \$150. deposit. 1807 YOUNG Brick, 2/1, CHA, carport. \$385. month, \$150. deposit. (432)263-1792, 816-9984.

1308 BIRDWELL. 2 Bedroom, 1 bath, carpet, garage, stove & refrigerator, fenced yard No Pets!!! \$300.00 month \$200.00 deposit. Call (432)263-7850 leave message.

1407 1/2 SETTLES. Clean two bedroom, one bath, stove & refrigerator, fenced yard. \$300. month, \$150. deposit. Call (432)267-1543.

1505 TUSCON. Four bedroom, two bath, CHA. \$600.00 Month, \$400.00 deposit. Call (432)270-3848.

2 Thru 6 Bedroom Homes. Pool, 24 hour maintenance, Central Heat and Air, stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, furnished. Washer/ dryer connections. (432)263-3461-Tom.

3912 Parkway, 3 bedroom, 1 bath. New CHA. Remodeled. Double carport. \$400.00 month, \$250.00 deposit. Call (432)263-0122.

602 1/2 GEORGE- Close to College. 1 Bedroom House. Stove & refrigerator, carport, CHA. \$350.00 month plus deposit. No pets. No HUD. Call (432)267-2296.

712 GOLIAD. 2 or 3 Bedroom. Stove and refrigerator furnished. Washer & dryer connections, CHA. \$500. month, \$275. deposit. No HUD. Call (432)267-2296.

802 1/2 Nolan- 1 bedroom. \$400.00 All Bills. 2528 Fairchild 2 or 3 bedroom. \$350/\$450.. 3/2 Trailer- 5600 South Service Road. Call (432)264-9907.

805 ROSEMONT., 3/2, fenced backyard, carport, \$400/month, \$250/deposit + 1 year lease. No HUD. Call (432)268-5956 or 268-9180.

900 SCURRY very clean/ quite apartment. 3 Bedroom, 1 bath, CHA, washer/ dryer connection. Appliances furnished/ covered parking. \$385. month, \$250. deposit. No HUD. (432)213-2681.

BUILDING FOR LEASE for retail or office. 1712 Gregg. Approximately 5,000 sq. ft. \$600. month +deposit. Call WESTEX Auto Parts (432)263-5000.

FOR LEASE 1515 Hwy. 350. Building with overhead door. On one acre of fenced land. \$350. Month, \$350. deposit. Call (432)263-5000.

HEIGHTS APARTMENTS 1 Bedroom - \$400. month \$200. deposit. All Bills Paid 403 East 8th Call (432)267-2771

MIDWAY AREA. Two bedroom mobile home, water & gas paid, \$375. month. Spring, Three bedroom, bath. \$350. month. Deposit & References required. (432)267-5952.

VERY CLEAN. Three bedroom, one bath, CHA. No Pets! References. \$500. month, \$250. deposit. Call (432)213-2319.

Real Estate for Sale

2 Thru 6 Bedroom Brick Homes. No Down Payment. Owner Financing. Bad Credit OK. 6 Month warranty. Call Maria (432)263-3461.

OWNER FINANCE 2005 Runnels. Three bedroom, two bath. \$27,300. Easy Terms. Call (325)893-1973.

OWNER FINANCE 506 State 2 bedroom 1 bath, large kitchen. \$1500 down, payment approx. \$240/month for 12 yrs. Call (432)263-8005 or 816-1330.

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Drive into the New Year with a new career. Schneider National has unlimited driving opportunities available, choose the one right for you! Experience rewarded but not required Company-provided CDL training for qualified candidates \$84,800-\$87,800 (depending on experience) Immediate benefits for experienced drivers Sign-on bonus may apply Apply Online @ schneiderjobs.com Or Call 1-800-44-PRIDE (1-800-447-7433)

Real Estate for Sale

4109 DIXON. 4/2, refrig. air/gas heat, storm windows, large back yard with steel fence, work/storage bldg. Much more. \$39,000.00. Call 1-979-324-2072 or 267-3074.

5770 FM 2319 (Loraine) \$197,000. 2511 N. Old Gail Hwy. \$160,000

2411 Allendale \$132,500 1313 Oil Mill Rd \$69,900 3309 Duke \$68,000 1405 Nolan \$59,900 1411 Sycamore \$2,500 1904 Runnels \$20,000 627 Ridgela \$20,000 306 E. 6th (Colorado City) \$18,000

Call Tammy or Lana at Coldwell Banker EPR (432)270-5570, 264-8166

"AS IS" 609 Holbert. \$285.00 per month for 180 months. Call 1-800-804-7110.

BRECK MOBILE Home 2 bedroom, 2 bath to be moved. Located 3 miles South of Lake Thomas. Needs work \$500 negotiable. Sold as is where is. Call (432)268-3802 or 270-4820.

BY OWNER 1906 Morrison. 4 Bedroom, 2 bath, dining room, CHA, utility room, storage building, tile brick fence, circle drive. \$70,000.00. Call (432)466-2066.

FISH PEACEFULLY or launch your boat from the privacy of your own backyard! Water Front on Lake Colorado City. 3 Bedroom, 2 bath, 2 living areas, CHA. Partially furnished. Needs some repair. \$29,500. Call (432)270-8438.

FIXER-UPPER BARGAINS- 1 Bedroom \$2000., 4 bedroom, 2 bath \$7000., 2 bedroom, 2 story \$3000., 2 bedroom with \$5000. fence all around, \$3000.. Call (432)264-0510.

NEAR ELBOW School, 2 bedroom 2 bath with 3 car garage on 10 secluded acres. Shade trees, good water well plus 2 irrigation wells. A barn and two storage buildings. \$89,000 firm. Call (432)213-1800 after 5pm.

OWNER FINANCE. 1960S North Hwy. 87 in Ackerly, 2.64 acres. 3 Bedroom, 1 bath w/barn. On 87 and 2230. \$26,000.00, \$3,000 Down. Toll Free 866-894-4591, 325-650-5900.

PRETTY HOME with hard wood floors, new paint and carpet. 3 Bedroom, 2 bath with single car garage. Pretty yard with inground pool needs liner & deck. 40's. Call Joe Hughes Home Realtors (432)263-1284 Cell 270-7877 Home 353-4751.

WESTBROOK BRICK home on 2 lots. 3/2, large living with formal dining, newer carpet, 50x24 workshop/ garage, storage building with metal privacy fence. Call (432)267-3074.

OWNER FINANCE 1804 Main. Two bedroom, one bath. \$18,900. Easy Terms. Call (325)893-1973.

20 ACRES on Hwy 176. Set up for Mobile Home. 43K, \$4,000.00 Down, assume \$270.00 monthly @ 7.4% for 29 years. No Credit Check. (817)312-6322.

1990 CHEVY Pickup. 3/4 ton extended cab. Good Condition. \$3500.. Call (432)264-6960.

1997 OLDS Regency. Excellent condition. All options. \$3,500. Call (432)267-6406.

Several New 2005 Fords, Lincolns, Nissans Available At Huge Savings Bob Brock Ford 309 W 11th 267-7124

Legals

PUBLIC NOTICE Sale of District Surplus Equipment The Howard College District has contracted with the Big Spring State Hospital Recycling Program to sell the District's Surplus property. Please contact the Big Spring State Hospital Recycle Program at (432)263-0618 for the dates and times to view and bid. Auction Location: Big Spring Recycling Program 1405 North Hwy. 87 Big Spring, TX 79720 #4856 January 29, 30 & 31, 2006

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS
If you haven't yet decided what you're doing this year to help out your fellow humans, the Aquarius moon provides new incentive to commit to a philanthropic course. It's a kind of cosmic "matching" system as the universe will double up on your efforts. Any gesture brings good fortune. However, the best luck goes to the anonymous giver.

ple will slow progress to a grinding halt, so give your intuition a workout. Help people tell you the truth by making sure you are willing to hear it. TAURUS (April 20-May 20). The stars open your eyes to the intangibles that make your life great. You have clutched a portion of the rainbow, and nobody but you knows how beautiful it really is. GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Negotiations are featured. Share something personal. It makes you more human, and it's difficult to say no to you once people realize what an interesting individual you are. CANCER (June 22-July 22). There is a marvelous structure to your home life — one that you take for granted. When an out-

sider sees your domestic situation, you get a glimpse at the wonderful way it works. LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). There's no need to hide or change. You're enough as is. In fact, without much effort at all, you'll make a first-rate contribution to what your partner is working on, and in doing so, you can help this person get ahead. VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). What is already complex only gets more complicated when you have to explain it. On days like today, it's better to drop it and move on to something else. Every conversation has its perfect time, and this isn't it. LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Today is like a jigsaw puzzle: It doesn't make sense until you put a few pieces

together. So, do some work in your little corner of the world, and soon, others thank you for defragging the universe. SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). There is nothing sadder than what could have been. Intuitively, you know this, and so you're on top of your potential, making your life into all it can be and should be. SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Important people work at building friendships, and you're that kind of important person. Take initiative, even if you think a potential friend is out of your league. There is no such thing! CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). It's hard for you to say no. But it's the very word that will magically make your life better now.

Say no to the loved one who takes too much and gives back so little. AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Try not to see your work as an endless system of rewards and punishments but as a spine-tingling journey. In the end, rewards can be punishing, and so-called punishments can have clear benefits. PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). It doesn't take a brain surgeon to keep business running well (unless, of course, you are actually in the business of brain surgery). Cater to the obvious needs. By doing so, you prevent more complex issues from surfacing. CELEBRITY PROFILES: "Don't bother" trying to pinpoint sassy singer and shaker Shakira in 2006.

This musical Aquarian will be all over the map, promoting her two recent hit records with a massive world tour. An unconventional lifestyle suits innovative Aquarians, so time on the road will do this glamorous girl nothing but good, both spiritually and artistically. Expect another recording of new material by the year's end. 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 visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com. © 2006 CREATORS SYNDICATE, INC.

Annie's Mailbox ®: Advice for those in need

Dear Annie: I am at the end of my rope. My husband will not commit himself to anything, and I mean anything. I cannot even get a "yes" or "no" out of him. He usually says "maybe." When I ask him to be precise, he gets mad and clams up or accuses me of nagging him. He is so afraid of any confrontation that he would rather lie than be the "bad guy." This has been going on for years, but lately, it has gotten worse. We recently had some construction done on our home and had a problem with some of the work.



KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

man when he came to the house. I finally had to do it myself. Other people have noticed his inability to take a stand and have commented on it. Don't suggest counseling. I know he would refuse. I had counseling 15 years ago and begged him to come with me. He did, once, and just sat in the chair. He would only respond when the therapist asked him a direct question. The therapist even had to tell him to hug me when I broke down and cried. What can I do? — Lost in Indiana

Obviously, decisions are so stressful for your husband that he becomes paralyzed with uncertainty and chooses instead to do nothing. We suspect this behavior is rooted in his childhood, and although therapy would probably be very beneficial to him, you cannot force him to go. Can you discuss this without accusing him? Perhaps he might consider treatment if you ask him if this behavior makes him unhappy, explaining that therapy can help him work on it. If not, we suggest you either accept this part of his personality and work around it, or go back to your counselor on your own for help deciding the best way to deal with the problem.

Any suggestions? — Sober by Choice in Montana
Dear Sober: Some people who drink like to see you with alcohol in your hand because it means you aren't judging them. You can avoid the questions by drinking soda water, ginger ale, etc., so they can't tell the difference, or you can simply smile politely and reply, "I'm the designated driver."

believe I am overreacting. My husband, by the way, agrees with me that these outside relationships are dangerous. Am I way off base on this? — Hoping I'm Right in the Midwest
Dear Hoping: What kind of "interests" does Rusty have that he can't enjoy them with either his wife or his male friends? It's OK if Rusty has an extra ticket to a play and the only person available to go with him is a female friend, or if he's a member of a choir or volunteer organization that Cathy isn't interested in. But if he makes a regular habit of attending events with women other than his wife, yes, he is more vulnerable to an affair. We hope his wife's trust is not misplaced.

Dear Annie: I, too, am a rather unwilling Army wife. My husband, a lawyer, sent in his application packet to the Army Reserve on Sept. 11, 2001. By the time he returns from Iraq, he will have been gone for 18 months of our five-year marriage. Every time I start thinking, "I didn't sign up for this," I remind myself of the wives and children of previous wars. During WWII, my grandfather was gone for three years. I am fortunate enough to talk to my husband nearly every day and have e-mail contact the rest of the time. I wear a "Support Our Troops" bracelet and a yellow ribbon, and fly an American Flag and a Service Flag at our house. I have a bumper sticker that reads "Half My Heart is in Iraq." The Army Reserve has a wonderful family support system, and my husband's employer makes up the difference in his salary. The Soldiers and Sailors Relief Act helps with a multitude of financial concerns. Our neighbors have been wonderful, and my church has been there for me. Men with a service history nearly always want to jump back into the fray. "North Carolina's" husband should have discussed his decision with her, but right now her support is vital. — A Proud Army Wife in Alabama
Dear Proud Wife: Regardless of how a husband or wife feels about the spouse enlisting, you are right that it is important to be as supportive as possible once the deed is done. Thanks for saying so. Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to annies-mailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, P.O. Box 118190, Chicago, IL 60611. © 2006 CREATORS SYNDICATE, INC.

Legals
Notice of Public Meeting
Proposed US 87 Truck Relief Route West of Big Spring
The Abilene District of the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) will conduct a Public Meeting on February 7, 2006. The meeting will be held at the Dora Roberts Civic Center, 100 Whipkey Drive in Big Spring. Registration will begin at 6:30 PM with the meeting beginning at 7:00 PM. The purpose of the meeting is to gather input from the public on the proposed project to construct a truck relief route West of Big Spring from US 87 North to US 87 South. The final alignment of the relief route has not been determined at this time. Input gathered at the scheduled public meeting will be used along with TxDOT design, and environmental criteria to develop and alignment to be presented at a future public meeting. Exhibits showing the proposed project location, potentially impacted properties, and proposed construction will be available for public viewing at the meeting. The proposed project would consist of acquisition of right-of-way, construction of the new roadway and bridge structures in order to remove through truck traffic from US 87, through downtown Big Spring. Included in the project would be construction of the roadway, drainage structures, bridge structures, and landscaping. At this time the first phase of the project is scheduled for letting in the year 2008 at an estimated cost of 16 million dollars. There will be an opportunity at the conclusion of the proposed project presentation by TxDOT personnel, for the public to ask questions and make oral comments. Written comments will also be accepted at the meeting and for ten days following the meeting date. Citizens not able to attend the public meeting may submit comments to the TxDOT, P.O. Box 511, Big Spring, Texas 79721, Attention Roy Dill, P.E. If there are any questions concerning the meeting location and time please contact Mr. Roy Dill, P.E. at (432)363-4768. All interested citizens are invited and encouraged to attend the Public Meeting. The meeting room is handicap accessible. Anyone wishing to attend the meeting with special needs please contact Mr. Dill at the number above at least five days prior to the meeting date. La nota de la Reunion del Publico Propuso EEUU 87 Oeste de la Ruta del Alivio de Camion de la Primavera Grande El Distrito del Abilene del Departamento de Tejas del Transporte realizara un Publico que Encuentra en el 7 de febrero de 2006. La reunion se tendra en el Centro Municipal de Dora Roberts, 100 Whipkey Maneja en la Primavera Grande. La matricula empezara a las 6:30 de la tarde con la reunion que empieza a las 7:00 de la tarde. El proposito de la reunion es reunir la entrada del publico en el proyecto propuesto construir un Oeste de la ruta del alivio de camion de la Primavera Grande de EEUU 87 al norte a EEUU 87 al sur. La alineacion final de la ruta del alivio no se ha determinado en este momento. La entrada reunion en la reunion planificada del publico sera utilizado junto con el diseno de TxDOT, y los criterios ambientales para desarrollar una alineacion para ser presentada en una reunion futura del publico. La exhibiciones que muestran la ubicacion propuesta de proyecto, potencialmente impresionen las propiedades, y la construccion propuesta estara disponibles para ver de publico en la reunion. El proyecto propuesto consistiria en la adquisicion del derecho de via la construccion de la estructura nuevas de calzada y puente para quitar por el trafico de camion de EEUU87, por el centro la Primavera Grande. Incluido en el proyecto seria la construccion de la calzada, de las estructuras de desague, de las estructuras se puente, y de ajardinar. En estos momento la primera fase del proyecto se planifica para el dejar para entrar el ano 2008 en un costo estimado de 16 millones de dolares. La construccion total del proyecto se espera exceder 90 millones de dolares. Harba una oportunidad en la conclusion de la presentacion propuesta de proyecto por el personal de TxDOT, para el publico de hacer preguntas y hacer los comentarios orales. Los comentarios escritos se aceptaran tambien en la reunion y siguiendo durante diez dias la fecha de la reunion. Los ciudadanos no capaz de asistir la reunion publica puede someterse los comentarios al TxDOT, P.O. La caja 511, la Primavera Grande, Tejas 79721, Eneldo de Atencion Roy Dill, P.E. Si hay cualquiera pregunta concieniendo la ubicacion de la reunion y el tiempo contactan por favor Sr. Eneldo de Roy Dill, P.E. en el (432)363-4768. Todos ciudadanos interesados son inbitados y encouraged a asistir la Reunion del Publico. El espacio de la reunion es la desventaja accesible. Cualquiera deseandoo asistir la reunion con necesidades especiales contacta por favor Sr. Eneldo en el numero encima de por lo menos cinco dias antes de la fecha de la reunion. #4833 January 8 & 30, 2006

Legals
NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (TxDOT) CONTRACTS
Sealed proposals for contracts listed below will be received by TxDOT until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read. CONSTRUCTION/ MAINTENANCE/ BUILDING FACILITIES CONTRACT(S)
Dist/Div: Abilene Contract 6141-94-001 for LITTER REMOVAL in HOWARD County, etc will be opened on February 27, 2006 at 1:30 pm at the District Office for an estimate of \$62,727.00. Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/ or Dist/Div Offices listed below. If applicable, bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.dot.state.tx.us and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor. NPO:19050
State Office
Constr/ Maint. Division
200 E. Riverside Dr.
Austin, Texas 78704
Phone: 512-416-2540
Dist/ Div Office(s)
Abilene District
District Engineer
4250 N. Clark
Abilene, Texas 79604-0150
Phone: 325-676-6800
Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TxDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin. #4852 January 29 & 30, 2006

Sunday Crossword
ACROSS
1 Personal Butler and...
DOWN
1 Consists of 6...
Too bad everything can't be as easy as knowing if you qualify for the EITC
We're doing more than ever to help you find out if you're eligible for the Earned Income Tax Credit. Discover all the ways we're here to help. Call us, talk to your tax preparer, or go to www.irs.gov/etlc and have the EITC Assistant walk you through each eligibility requirement.
1.800.TAX.1040
Internal Revenue Service
www.irs.gov/etlc

ERALD 2006
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MONDAY

Table with 20 columns representing different TV channels (WFAA, KMD, UNI, KPEJ, KOSA, KYLE, KWES, WTBS, KMLM, KOCV, DISC, AMC, SPRIKE, TNT, BET, DISN, ESPN2, ESPN, SCIFI) and rows for time slots 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 AM/PM. Each cell lists the channel number, time, and program name.

DENNIS THE MENACE



"IF YOU EVER NEED A DRUMMER IN THE CHOIR... I'M YOUR MAN!"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"I'm glad people don't get too old for hugs."

HAGAR



BLONDIE



BC



WIZARD OF ID



AGNES



HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEEBLE BAILEY



This Date In History

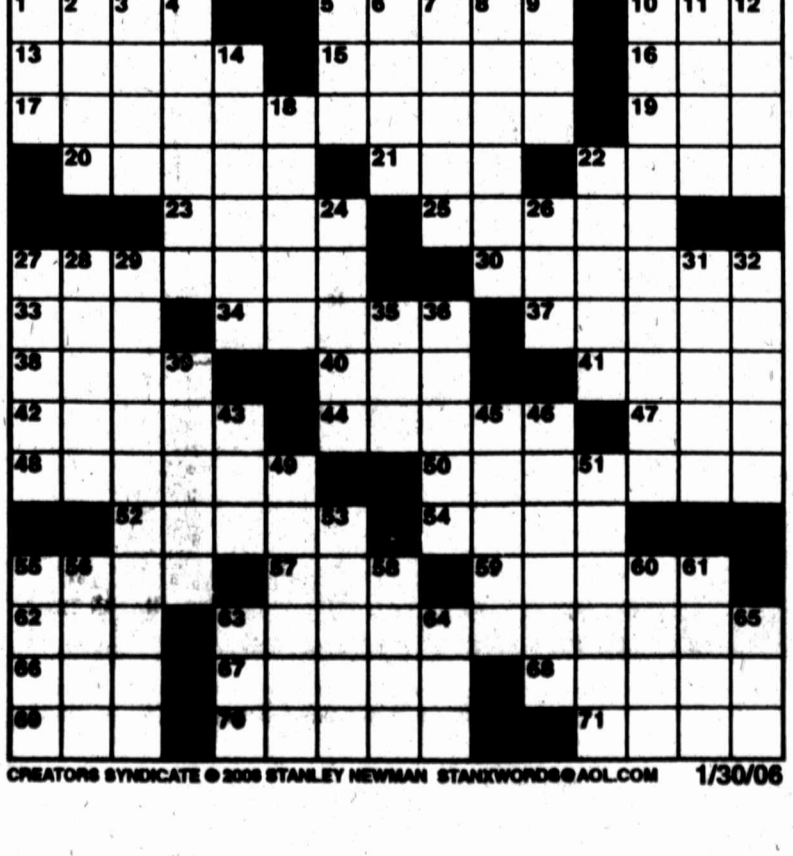
Today is Monday, Jan. 30, the 30th day of 2006. There are 335 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On Jan. 30, 1968, during the Vietnam War, the Tet Offensive began as Communist forces launched surprise attacks against South Vietnamese provincial capitals. On this date: In 1649, England's King Charles I was beheaded. In 1882, the 32nd president of the United States, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, was born in Hyde Park, N.Y. In 1933, Adolf Hitler became chancellor of Germany. In 1933, the first episode of the "Lone Ranger" radio program was broadcast on station WXYZ in Detroit. In 1948, Indian political and spiritual leader Mahatma Gandhi was murdered by a Hindu extremist. In 1962, two members of "The Flying Wallendas" high-wire act were killed when their seven-person pyramid collapsed during a performance in Detroit. In 1964, the United States launched Ranger 6, an unmanned spacecraft carrying television cameras that was to crash-land on the moon. In 1972, 13 Roman Catholic civil rights marchers were shot to death by British soldiers in Northern Ireland on what became known as "Bloody Sunday." In 1979, the civilian government of Iran announced it had decided to allow Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, who'd been living in exile in France, to return. In 1981, an estimated 2 million New Yorkers turned out for a ticker-tape parade honoring the freed American hostages from Iran. Birthdays: Comedian Dick Martin is 84. Actress Dorothy Malone is 81. Producer-director Harold Prince is 78. Actor Gene Hackman is 76. Actress Tammy Grimes is 72. Actress Vanessa Redgrave is 69. Country singer Jeanne Pruett is 69. Country singer Norma Jean is 68. Vice President Dick Cheney is 65. Rock singer Marty Balin is 64. Rhythm-and-blues musician William King (The Commodores) is 57. Singer Phil Collins is 55. Actor Charles S. Dutton is 55. Actress-comedian Brett Butler is 48. Singer Jody Watley is 47. Country singer Tammy Cochran is 34. Actor Christian Bale is 32. Actor Wilmer Valderrama is 26. Actor Jake Thomas is 16. Thought for Today: "History repeats itself in the large because human nature changes with geological leisureliness." - Will (1885-1981) and Ariel Durant (1898-1981), American historians. © 2005 The Associated Press.

Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS
1 Kindergarten basics
5 Abs exercise
10 Quart parts: Abbr.
13 Piece of land
15 Caribbean resort island
16 Go bad, as fruit
17 Physical work
19 Neighbor of Wash.
20 New __, India
21 Teachers' org.
22 Urban pollution
23 Engine noise
25 Michigan or Minnesota
27 Splash droplets on
30 Drinks noisily
33 Large coffee maker
34 Figure of speech
37 Game-show host
38 Lollobrigida of film
40 L-P link
41 Skin opening
42 Growlup
44 Copper or aluminum
47 Prepare to shoot
48 Broadcasts again
50 Bridge support
52 Cake section
54 Prefix for present
55 Six o'clock broadcast
57 Harbor boat
59 In first place
62 Gardner of Hollywood
63 Onetime NASA satellite launcher
66 Wooden pin
67 Watchful
68 Ancient Scandinavian
69 Before, in verse
70 Oregono and basil
71 Spouse
DOWN
1 24-hr. bank feature
2 Actor Pitt
3 27 Down source
4 Carve, as a statue
5 Actor Mineo
6 Teheran's country
7 Toothpaste containers
8 WWII subs
9 __ for the course
10 Painter's application
11 Fuss
12 Guys-only event
14 South Pacific island
18 Like notebook paper
22 Tree-trunk remainder
24 Fairy-tale writing brother
26 Stein contents
27 Coffee additive
28 __ and joy
29 Yearly earnings
31 Danger
32 Teacher's request
35 Afternoon hour
36 Maxim
39 Fictitious name
43 Have a go at
45 Knight suit
46 One of the Beatles
49 Come to terms
51 Cheers or Friends
53 Measuring stick
55 Back of the neck
56 Hardly __ (rarely)
58 Clothing
60 Gumbo veggie
61 Flea, e.g.
63 Sound of satisfaction
64 City roads: Abbr.
65 Golf platform

PUBLISHING 101 by Gail Grabowski Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

Answer to previous puzzle
SMILEYFACE PIUR
NOSIREEDOB ANNA
ANSELADAMS WHIM
PRUNE TIE NETS
TOES WHINNY RIP
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YOUNG MASTED
PCWORLD LAGASSE
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